Pray This When You Suffer A Broken Relationship

Ephesians 3:14-21

Introduction: Few things disrupt our lives and our faith like a broken relationship

Question: What do you pray when you suffer a broken relationship?

Answer: Pray Ephesians 3:14-21

Why: Because it's God's prescription for the pain of a broken relationship.

The context:

Ephesians 2-3

- There's a big broken relationship between God and man, with hostility, death, and evil.
- There's conflict, division, and hatred of Jew and Gentile.
- God made Paul an ambassador for forgiveness to pull these two groups together.
- This happened in a wealthy port city with trade, commerce, power, political pressure, and the Temple of Artemis.
- Brand-new Christians had broken relationships in families, culture, and political persuasions because some Jews followed Jesus and some didn't.
- Many were discouraged because Paul was in prison.

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14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. 20 Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, 21 to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21

What to do when you suffer a broken relationship:

1. **_____ to the Father.** Ephesians 3:14-15

   _____ is our passport into God's perspective. Jeremiah 33:3

2. **Ask God for the inner strength to _____ rather than _____ His work in your life.** Ephesians 3:16-17a

3. **Ask God to help you intimately know and _____ His love in your life.** Ephesians 3:17b-19

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Discussion Questions:

1. What broken relationship has been the most painful in your life?

2. Why is it important to talk honestly and openly with God about the pain of your broken relationships?

3. What does it mean to allow Christ to “be at home” or have dominion in your heart? Why does it take such inner strength to yield control to Him when you are experiencing the pain and anger of a broken relationship?

4. Why is allowing Jesus to have total control over “every room” of your life a prerequisite to truly experiencing the vastness of His love?

5. What hope or promise from God in today’s message was most helpful for you? What would it look like to trust Him in your life and relationships right now?

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