



## healing the six broken places

### SERIES OVERVIEW

This will be our seventh year in a row doing Hope Month as a church, where we focus on one of the six broken places of our world. Since we have now covered each broken place with a month of its own, we will use this year's Hope Month to explore *all six* broken places. Some of the passages & general ideas will be repeats from past Hope Month sermons, but we will have mostly new speakers giving each message, so they should still be fresh.

The overall focus of the series is on the ways this world is broken and how God is in the business of *healing* that brokenness (thus the hope!). Each week we will learn not only how God is currently working through the body of Christ to bring healing, but how we can find our purpose and destiny by joining him in that healing work.

### WEEK 1 - SEPARATION FROM GOD OVERVIEW

Humans were created to dwell in God's presence, experiencing his love and abundance as we lead all of creation in worship. However, in our selfishness, humans have chosen to rebel against God's intentions, exiling ourselves from the presence of our Creator. Because of this separation from God, we corrupt this good world with injustice, isolation, pain, decay, and hatred.

Thankfully, that's not the end of the story. Because of his great love for us, God sent his son, Jesus, to bring us back into his presence. Through his sacrifice and resurrection, Christ has *permanently* opened the door to a new way to be human, reconciled with our Creator and transformed to become the forces of healing and life we were always created to be.

*Indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God  
that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**Romans 8:39**

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to be separated from God?
2. How do the six broken places frame the story of God's redemption?
3. Read [Romans 1:28-31](#). Who are the two kinds of people we see over and over again in a broken world?
4. Read [Romans 5:8-11](#).
  - a. What is the invitation of Jesus?
  - b. What is required of someone who accepts this invitation?
  - c. What truth stands out to you the most from this passage?
5. Barry gave us three challenges to consider: deepen your faith, stay committed to your "one", and come home. Which of these do you feel called to work on at this time?
6. Close your time by reading [Romans 8:38-39](#). How does this passage make you feel?