

Dig Deeper

Welcome to Encounter 2010! We are excited that at the start of the year you have chosen to study the scriptures. We want you to get the maximum benefit out of your investment. Therefore, we want to encourage you at the beginning to **share what you learn with somebody else**. You do not have to be an expert. You do not have to have all the answers, but if you really want to grow this year, it starts with that one simple decision: share what you learn with somebody else. This is the year for you to “dig deeper.”

Each week, we will prepare this GPS (Grow, Pray, Serve) guide to help you “dig deeper.” It is designed for you to use with a small group (5 or 6 people) and takes no more than an hour to share.

Lesson Summary: Spirits' Release

1. THE _____ FOR BROKENNESS

(1 Thessalonians 5:23)

a. Our _____ Requires Brokenness
(Genesis 2:7, John 4:24)

b. Our _____ Requires Brokenness
(1 Corinthians 15:22, Ephesians 2:1)

c. Our _____ Requires Brokenness
(1 John 3:9, Colossians 2:10)

d. Our _____ Requires Brokenness
(1 Corinthians 9:25-27, Hebrews 4:12-13, 1 Peter 3:3-4, Hebrews 4:12, 2 Corinthians 4:6)

2. THE _____ OF BROKENNESS

(Galatians 2:20)

a. The Holy Spirit is the _____
(1 Corinthians 2:9-12)

b. The Holy Spirit is the _____
(Romans 1:9, Galatians 5:16, John 4:24, Philippians 4:13)

3. THE _____ OF BROKENNESS

(Hebrews 4:12-13)

a. The Holy Spirit Uses the _____ to break us.

b. The Holy Spirit Uses _____ to break us.
(James 1:2-3)

c. The Holy Spirit is leading us to _____
(Romans 12:1)

4. THE _____ OF BROKENNESS
(1 Corinthians 2:15, John 2:25)

5. THE _____ OF BROKENNESS
(Genesis 32)

Group Discussion Guide

Group Prayer: Gracious God, thank you for the power we have living inside us. Give us the courage now to partner with you so that we become who you created us to be. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Icebreaker: Have you ever broken something on purpose? Why?

Group Discussion: Brokenness is a tool in the hands of Almighty God. God breaks us so that God can make us into who God created us to be. Remember that as you go through and grow through the experiences of your life. Nothing is accidental.

1. Maybe you're saying, "I really don't see any need to be broken. I'm OK." If that is your position, I strongly suggest that you change your position by dropping to your knees and asking God to show you yourself as you really are. Describe a time of brokenness in your life. How did you feel going through it? Share it with your group.
2. Imagine a surgeon rushing through an operation because he wants to finish before the ball game starts: that's how a lot of us handle our Bibles. The Holy Spirit is a skilled surgeon and the Word is sharp, but it takes more than a few hurried minutes for the Word to do its work. How much time is in your schedule for the Word? Share honestly with your group.
3. Nobody enjoys being disciplined, but discipline is one way God breaks us. Have you ever tried to avoid a difficult person or circumstance that God was trying to use to teach you something? Share with your group a time when that happened.

Challenge: Maybe you're still dragging around something from the old life, and it's pulling you down. Go somewhere alone and allow the Holy Spirit to release you from everything that could be holding you back from your destiny.

Group Takeway: How is God breaking us as a group in order to make us as a group? Pray about it.