

1. The Reality of Loneliness

1. The Loneliness of the Savior

John 1:11 (NKJV)

He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

Matthew 26:56 (NIV)

But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.

Mark 15:34 (NIV)

And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” which is translated, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

2. The Loneliness of Solitude

Psalms 102:4-7 (NLT)

My heart is sick, withered like grass, and I have lost my appetite. Because of my groaning, I am reduced to skin and bones.

Psalms 102:4-7 (NLT)

I am like an owl in the desert, like a little owl in a far-off wilderness. I lie awake, lonely as a solitary bird on the roof.

3. The Loneliness of Selfishness

Ecclesiastes 4:8 (NLT)

This is the case of a man who is all alone, without a child or a brother, yet who works hard to gain as much wealth as he can.

Ecclesiastes 4:8 (NLT)

But then he asks himself, “Who am I working for? Why am I giving up so much pleasure now?” It is all so meaningless and depressing.

4. The Loneliness of Suffering

Psalms 38:11 (NIV)

My friends and companions avoid me because of my wounds, my neighbors stay far away.

5. The Loneliness of Sin

Isaiah 59:1-2 (NKJV)

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear.

Isaiah 59:1-2 (NKJV)

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

6. The Loneliness of Separation

II. The Road to Reconciliation

Romans 12:18 (NIV)

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

1. I will get back to, not get back at.

John 3:16 (NKJV)

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

John 3:17 (NKJV)

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

2 Cor. 5:18 (NLT)

And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

2 Cor. 5:19 (NLT)

For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

2. I will own my slice of the blame pie.

Matthew 7:3 (NLT)

"And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own?

Matthew 7:4 (NLT)

How can you think of saying to your friend, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye?

Matthew 7:5 (NLT)

Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye.

3. I will make the first move regardless of who moved away first.

Matthew 5:23 (NLT)

Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

Matthew 5:24 (NLT)

leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

4. I will keep the door open and the welcome mat out.

Luke 15:20 (NLT)

"So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him."

Luke 15:21 (NLT)

His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.'

Luke 15:22 (NLT)

"But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began.

Luke 15:23-24 (NLT)

Psalms 27:10 (NLT)

Even if my father and mother abandon me, the Lord will hold me close.

Psalms 68:5-6 (NIV)

Even if my father and mother abandon me, the Lord will hold me close.