

# LIFE'S HEALING CHOICES

## The SHARING Choice: Part 8

*I choose to yield myself to God to be used to bring the Good News to others,  
by both my example and by my words.*

"Blessed are the peacemakers." **Matthew 5:9** (NIV)

"God was in Christ, offering peace and forgiveness to the people of this world. And he has given us the work of sharing his message about peace."

**Corinthians 5:19** (CEV)

"I pray that God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ will be kind to you and will bless you with peace! ... The Father is a merciful God, who always gives us comfort. He comforts us when we are in trouble, so that we can share that same comfort with others in trouble. We share in the terrible sufferings of Christ, but also in the wonderful comfort he gives." **2 Corinthians 1:2-4** (CEV)

## WHAT CAN I SHARE TO HELP OTHERS?

### 1. How pain got my attention

"Sometimes it takes a painful situation to make us change our ways."

**Proverbs 20:30** (GN)

"I am glad ... not because it hurt you but because the pain turned you to God."

**2 Corinthians 7:9** (LB)

### TO HELP OTHERS I MUST BE HONEST ABOUT...

- My feelings

"We have spoken frankly to you; we have opened our hearts wide."

**2 Corinthians 6:11** (GN)

- My faults

"Each of us must bear the faults and burdens of his own. For none of us is perfect!" **Galatians 6:5** (LB)

- My failures

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the worst."

**1 Timothy 1:15** (NIV)

- My frustrations

"I have the desire to do what is right, but I cannot carry it out... I keep on doing the evil I don't want to do." **Romans 7:18b-19** (NIV)

- My fears

"I do admit that I have fears that when I come you'll disappoint me and I'll disappoint you, and in frustration with each other everything will fall to pieces..." **2 Corinthians 12:20** (MSG)

### 2. What I learned in the process...

"We were crushed and overwhelmed...and saw how powerless we were to help ourselves; but that was good, for then we put everything into the hands of God, who alone could save us... and he did help us." **2 Corinthians 1:8-10** (LB)

... to depend on God's love.

"... it was the best thing that could have happened to me, for it taught me to pay attention to your laws!" **Psalms 119:71-72** (LB)

**... to follow God's Word.**

"Remember that in God's plan men and women need each other." 1 Corinthians 11:11 (LB)

**... that I need other people.**

"Two people are better than one...If one falls down, the other can help him up. But it is bad for the person who is alone and falls, because no one is there to help." Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NCV)

**3. How God can bring good out of bad.**

"We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God..." Romans 8:28 (NLT)

"(They) intended it to harm me, but God intended it for good." Genesis 50:20 (NIV)

**4. How Jesus gives me hope**

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." 1 Peter 3:15a (NIV)

**Who will you tell?**