**INTRODUCTION/WELCOME**

**IMAGE**: My story. Until I finally did two of the bravest things I have ever done. Confess and Come to Re:Gen

**NEED:** I want to give us a dose of encouragement to keep going.

**SUBJECT:** Tonight, I want to remind us how God responds to us when we are broken.

**PREVIEW**: I want to remind us how God rescues us in our brokenness, how He continually renews along the journey, and ultimately restores us to usefulness. In order to help us do these things, I want to look at the nation of Israel from its time in Egypt all the way up to when it nears the Promised Land.

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**I. God Rescues Us in Our Brokenness**

**SUBJECT:** Back story of Israel.Egypt. People of God cry out for deliverance from their bondage, their brokenness.

**EXODUS 3:7-8:** God meets us at our worst moments. Here He is coming down to rescue His people. Amidst the rubble.

**IMAGE EXAMPLE**

**NEED:** The adulterous woman in John 8. He stooped down to her level. His word is true. He’s not mad at us but He calls us to live in a manner worthy of His rescue.

**TRANSITION:** Well, how do you do that? How do you get well?

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**II. God Renews the Journey for the Broken**

**SUBJECT:** Centuries of bondage are staring down the Israelites. The entire Egyptian army is bearing down on them. Can’t go that way. But this direction, there’s a Red Sea.

**EXODUS 14:11**

**NEED:** I can relate. On hand it’s utter foolishness from the Israelites. And yet, the question resonates with me. Probably because I’ve asked it myself. Where are you taking me, God? I don’t get it.

**EXODUS 14:15-16,** If you walk with Him, there’s always a road that leads to freedom. As the songwriter, Ellie Holcomb wrote, there’s always a Red Sea Road.

**JEREMIAH 6:16**

There’s a road that thieves, such as me, can walk and find freedom. Trust me. I’ve found an ancient road which liars and deceivers can walk, reset their life and renew their journey. There’s a road for those who have participated in an abortion. They can walk it and find restoration. God always makes a path. He makes a path for adulterers. Ask David. He makes a path for the angry. Ask Moses. He makes a path for the fearful. Ask Peter. For the faithless. Ask Thomas. There’s always a Red Sea Road.

The sweetest part of the journey is that you won’t be alone. You have others here at re:generation.

Jesus walked into the grave – not because of His sin but because of my sin. And please trust me when I say this – He knows the way out. He knows how to leave the grave behind. He knows the way from death back to life. He’s walked it Himself. Ancient paths that have been walked before. If you haven’t started down the path, will you come with me? It is not always an easy walk. But it’s a beautiful journey.

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**III. God Restores the Broken to Usefulness**

**NEED:** Promised Land. This close to being restored to usefulness. Joshua 3:5: Consecrate yourselves [today], for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.

**IMAGE:** Kintsugi | Kintsukuroi - Japanese Pottery

Image – Japanese pottery. Broken vessels are more valuable to them than unbroken vessels.

Your brokenness does not make you less valuable to Christ. Your brokenness is what makes you valuable to Him.  For it speaks of His grace, His glory, His ability to rescue, renew, and restore.

Your brokenness does not disqualify you from service to Christ. Your brokenness is what qualifies you to serve Him.

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**CONCLUSION**

**IMAGE EXAMPLE**

**Three things I know:**

**(1) You’ve got some bruises from running the race.**

**(2) You will be remembered for how you finish.**

**(3) If you’ve got breath in your lungs, you’re still in the race.**

**Your start may not be good, but your finish still can be.**

Proverbs 24:16. Psalm 116:15

My name is Jeff Parker. I have a new life in Christ and I’m recovering from gambling and fear of man.