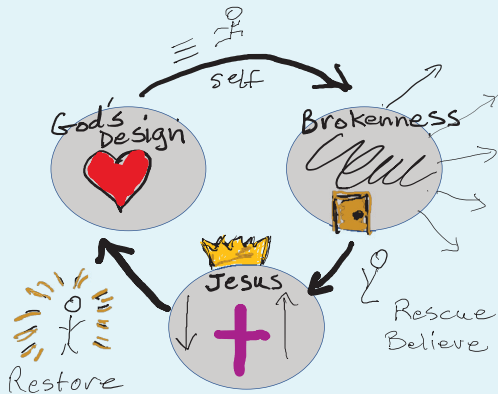


GOOD NEWS **ABOUT JUSTICE**



We live in a world that is broken.

The world is full of unfairness and injustice. Everyone is impacted by this brokenness in some shape or form.

Do you ever feel like God isn't listening to you in your suffering?

Brokenness



"How long, O Lord, must I call for help? But you do not listen! 'Violence is everywhere!' I cry, but you do not come to save. Must I forever see these evil deeds? Why must I watch all this misery? Wherever I look, I see destruction and violence. I am surrounded by people who love to argue and fight. The law has become paralyzed, and there is no justice in the courts." (Habakkuk 1:2-3)

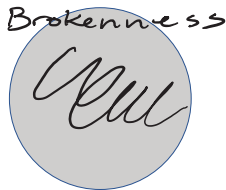
God did not create the world to be like this!

God created all people in His image
with equal rights, value, and dignity.
He cares deeply for you.



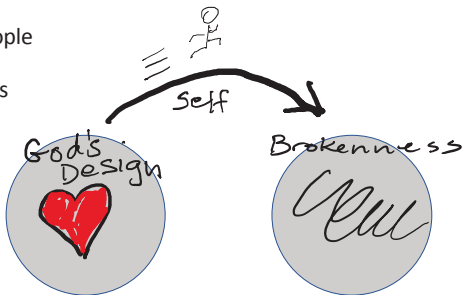
***You are highly valued
and deeply loved by God.***

*"I have made you and I will carry you;
I will sustain you, and I will rescue you."
(Isaiah 46:4)*



What happened to cause injustice and brokenness?

We did. Throughout time people have put their own interest ahead of others. This happens personally, in families, communities, and even entire civilizations. This striving for power and control causes injustice and oppression in the world.

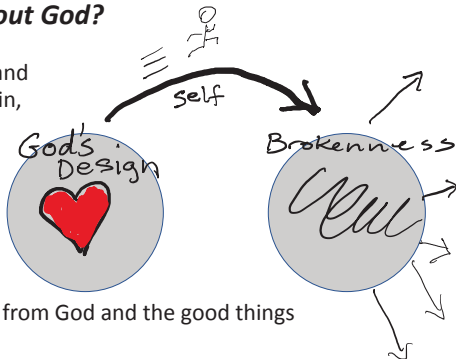


We believe we know better than God. Our rebellion from God's perfect design causes injustice.

"Listen! The Lord's arm is not too weak to save you, nor is his ear too deaf to hear you call. It's your sins that have cut you off from God." (Isaiah 59:1-2)

What happens when we try to live in this unjust and broken world without God?

We live with selfish motives and intent, which can result in pain, hurt, and injustice. Isolated and alone, we cry out for rescue. God wants to rescue us, but He doesn't force His ways on anyone. So, when we continue to reject Him, we move further and further from God and the good things He has planned for us.



We can get stuck in our brokenness without hope of being fully restored by God. That's an awful place to be!

"Oh what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 7:24-25a)

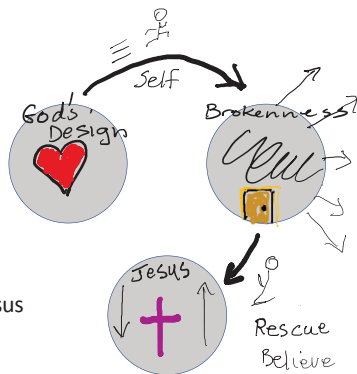
But there is hope!

***God came into the world
as a man named Jesus.***

Jesus was righteous and just. He lived a perfect life. Yet, He was called a criminal and put to death. Jesus suffered injustice so He could provide true justice for those who believed He died for them. Jesus died because we are not perfect. We are selfish. We deserve to die. But Jesus took our place on the cross because of His great love for us. Three days after His death, He rose from the grave, proving He is God, and defeating death, sin, and all evil in the world.

Jesus, out of deep love for each of us, paid the penalty for our rebellion by giving His life.

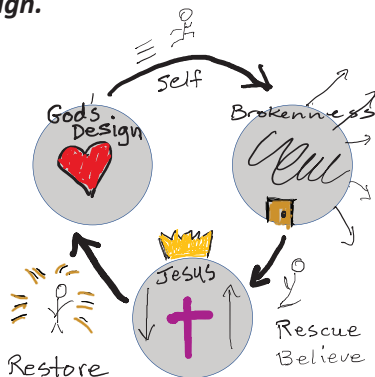
"For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people." (1 Timothy 2:5-6)



If we choose to follow Jesus and make Him King of our lives, God promises to heal our brokenness by restoring us to His perfect design.

God does not want us to stay in our broken states. His mission is to restore and heal His entire creation. God is doing that now, and He invites us to join Him. He is inviting you to a restored life through His son, Jesus.

Friend, you can be a part of God's mission of restoration. You can be forgiven and restored by Jesus. It begins with your response to God's loving invitation.



The reality is each of us are in one of two places.

We put our interests first and try to fix things ourselves.

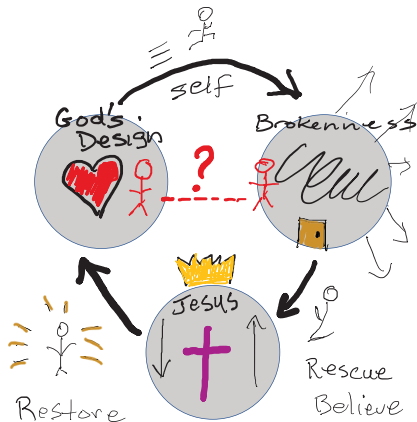
OR

We recognize we can't do it on our own and allow God to take over our lives by trusting in Jesus.

Where are you?

Where do you want to be?

How will you respond?



Placing your trust and hope in Jesus is a whole-person response to God's Good News About Justice.

Acknowledging in your MIND that:

- Jesus is God's son
- We are fallen, rebellious people who deserve punishment and cannot save ourselves
- Jesus' death and resurrection paid for our sins and proved His power over death, rebellion, and all evil of the world.

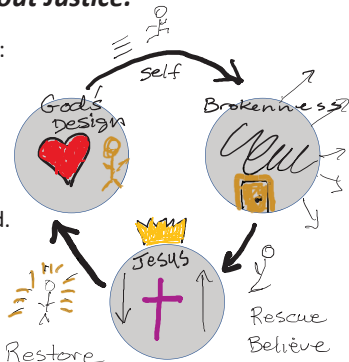
Surrendering your HEART:

We must renounce our rebellious ways and embrace Jesus – wanting Him more than our sin and selfishness.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

Setting aside your WILL: We must surrender to Jesus as King.

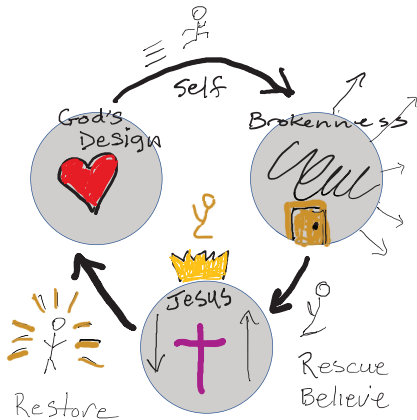
"If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9)



You can put your faith in Jesus as you pray the following:

“God, I have not lived my life according to your design. My life is broken, and I recognize it’s because of my sin. I need you. Please forgive me for pushing you away. God, I surrender my mind, heart, and will to you.

“I believe Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead to pay the penalty of my rebellion. God, even when life gets really hard and unfair, I will trust in you, your love, and restoring power in my life.



In Jesus' name, Amen.”

What's next?

- **Get to know God better.** He wrote you a letter – the Bible. Start with the book of Luke which tells the story of Jesus.
- **Get to know other people of faith.** You are part of a big family now, and they can help you in many ways. Look for a good church.
- **Get to know the new you.** God is changing you. Talk to Him through prayer. Love Him with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength, AND love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:37-40). Loving neighbors means helping them. Find a place to serve others. You will learn to care about what God cares about and that includes justice.
- **Share your new hope with others.** The world remains full of injustice and evil, but Jesus told us to fear not because He has overcome the world (John 16:33). Write us a note at mystory@gji.org.

