



R _____ I'm not God; I admit I am powerless to control my tendency to do the wrong thing and my life is unmanageable.

E _____ believe that God exists, that I matter to Him, and that He has the power to help me recover."

C _____ choose to commit all my life and will to Christ's care and control.

O _____ examine and confess my faults to myself, to God, and to someone I trust.

V _____ submit to every change God wants to make in my life and humbly ask him to remove my character defects.

E _____ my relationships. Offering forgiveness to those who have hurt me and making amends for harm I've done to others, except when to do so would harm them or others.

R _____ a daily time with God for self-examination, Bible reading and prayer in order to know God and His will for my life and to gain the power to do it.

Y _____ myself to God to be used to bring the Good News to others by both my example and my words.

QUESTION 1: WHY DID/DOES GOD ALLOW ME TO HURT MYSELF?

1. To give me freedom of _____.

Today I am giving you a choice. You may choose the blessing or the curse. ²⁷ You will get the blessing if you listen and obey... Deuteronomy 11:26, 27 ERV

2. To get my _____.

Sometimes it takes a painful situation to make us change. Proverbs 20:30 GNB

I am glad I sent it, not because it hurt you, but because the pain caused you to have remorse and change your ways. 2 Corinthians 7:9 TLB

Before I suffered, I did wrong, but now I obey your word. Psalms 119: 67 NCV

3. To teach me _____.

My friends, I want you to know what a hard time we had in Asia. Our sufferings were so horrible and so unbearable that death seemed certain. ⁹ In fact, we felt sure that we were going to die. But this made us stop trusting in ourselves and start trusting God... 2 Corinthians 1:8-10 CEV

4. To Give Me a _____.

Why does God do this? So that when others are troubled, needing our sympathy and encouragement, we can pass on to them the same help and comfort God has given us. 2 Corinthians 1:4 TLB

You tried to harm me, but God made it turn out for the best, so that he could save all these people, as he is now doing. Genesis 50:20 CEV

QUESTION 2: HOW CAN I USE MY HURT TO HELP OTHERS?

• Two Effectively Bringing the Good News Suggestions

Suggestion 1: I need to remain _____.

As I was traveling...near Damascus, about midday a bright light from the sky flashed suddenly around me. ⁷ I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul! Why do you persecute me?' ⁸ 'Who are you, Lord?' I asked. 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you persecute,' he said to me. Acts 22: 6-8 NIV

▪ I remain humble because I have not _____.

I asked, 'What shall I do, Lord?' and the Lord said to me, 'Get up and go into Damascus... and there you will be told everything that God has determined for you to do.' Acts 22: 10a NIV

▪ I remain humble because I still need _____.

I was blinded by the intense light and had to be led by the hand to Damascus by my companions. ¹² A man named Ananias lived there. He was a godly man, deeply devoted... and well regarded by all the Jews of Damascus. ¹³ He came and stood beside me and said, 'Brother Saul, regain your sight.' And that very moment I could see him! Acts 22:11-13 NLT

▪ I remain humble because I have been saved by _____.

...So what are you waiting for? Get up and call on his name. Be baptized. Have your sins washed away.' Acts 22:6-16 NIV

...he saved us—not because we were good enough to be saved but because of his kindness and pity—by washing away our sins and giving us the new joy of the indwelling Holy Spirit, Titus 3:5 TLB

Suggestion 2: _____ and _____ my story often.

Then he told me, 'The God of our fathers has chosen you to know his will and to see the Messiah and hear him speak. ¹⁵ You are to take his message everywhere, telling what you have seen and heard. Acts 22:14, 15 TLB

This is a true saying, to be completely accepted and believed: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I am the worst of them, ¹⁶ but God was merciful to me in order that Christ Jesus might show his full patience in dealing with me, the worst of sinners, as an example for all those who would later believe in him and receive eternal life. 1 Timothy 1:15, 16 GNB

Notes:

Reflecting on today's message...

What touched my heart?

What is God asking me to do?

What should I change this week?

Who else needs to hear this message?
