

Christmas Treasure

By Reverend Joan Hart

Let me ask you a question, how do you get the good life that is in you out to reach others?

II Corinthians 4:7 says, “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.” NKJV

The Bible says we have a treasure within us. We are called an earthen vessel. Earthen vessels are weak and fragile. Yet we can be an instrument of the power of God. It’s amazing!

If a vessel is broken whatever was in it, spills out. It can affect everything around it. When a glass of milk is spilled during dinner, it can get under every plate or dish on the table.

The vessel released the treasure it held. The milk was the treasure inside.

We as people are not able to let the treasure that is inside of us get out to others, unless we are broken. **Brokenness releases the treasure within us.**

Do you have a treasure within you? If you have invited the Lord Jesus Christ into your life, you have the Holy Spirit living within you and He is a Treasure.

You are a valuable vessel with the power of God inside of you. There are ways in which the Treasure within you can come out and reach those around you.

The best way is through brokenness.

When we have gone through something in our life where God has helped and guided us so that we come out in victory, we want to share it.

When the story comes from a broken vessel through the spirit, it touches someone else's spiritual death. It wakes them up. But spirit won't touch spirit if you are not broken first.

Others will not be ministered to by what you say, because what you say comes all mixed in with your own thoughts and emotions rather than being led by the Holy Spirit.

If you wanted to lead someone to Jesus so they could make Him the Lord of their life, how would you do it?

If you have not been broken, you might just be sort of hard-hearted, or rough about the way you talk to them. “Hey, don’t you know you need Jesus? What is the matter with you, don’t you know you will have a better life with Him?” Phew!

That is not tempered with love and it will be hard for the person to receive from you.

Maybe the person you are talking to is hurting so bad on the inside and now you come along with your strong fleshly thoughts acting angry at them. They are not touched by what you say. They are hurting inside and do not respond to your lack of compassion.

On the other hand, when someone has been through stuff as they say, and have been broken, they are more sensitive to others and their needs. They might talk sweeter letting that person know Jesus cares about their problems and He can help them through whatever they are going through. Maybe they would gently offer to pray for them, meeting their need first and then they can lead them to Jesus.

The Treasure that was within that broken (vessel) person spilled out onto someone who needed to be touched by that Treasure.

When spiritual life touches spiritual death, it brings life. But spirit won't touch spirit if you are not broken first.

Jesus always had the right words to say to people, because He knew men's hearts.

Have you ever had a time in your life when you were so low and needed to hear from the Lord, yet He didn't seem to hear you, or answer? Finally, you cried and cried in His Presence until you felt totally empty, or broken. That's when you finally hear His voice. You had spent time in His presence and when there was nothing left inside of you, then you could hear Him.

Flesh needs to get out of the way and allow the Holy Spirit to take over. Of course that is true of every situation in your life.

When you are broken, your discernment is really good. You have great insight! You are more sensitive to the needs of others and their spiritual condition.

But when you are not broken, you can be full of distracting preoccupations.

We all want the spirit of the Lord to rise up within us when we pray for someone. I believe that if we are broken we will be able to discern what is going on with them, because the word will rise up inside of a broken person. The Spirit is released according to the degree of our brokenness.

Our brokenness is a state of heart.

If you decide to make excuses for yourself, you are deprived of spiritual sensitivity and the supply you need to help others.

I want a supply of God's power, love, compassion and mercy to be within me so I can help others, or reach them.

When you pray for someone who really needs help, you don't want to pray for them out of your head knowledge and hope you reach them. You want to be so connected to the Holy Spirit that He can change the direction you seem to want to go, then He can touch their heart. We have to get self out of the way.

When people come up for prayer and they break and cry, I know it is the power of the Lord breaking through to touch them. But if I am haughty and think, "Wow, look what I did" or "Look what I can do", it is wrong! There is no way I can do anything!

People are only ministered to, when the Holy Spirit directs it. It takes the Spirit of the Lord to touch a soul.

It is good to pray in the Holy Spirit and ask Him to take over and then listen inside as you pray for people. He might bring a Scripture to your thinking besides exactly the words the person needs to hear.

Remember, it is not about you, it is all about others. We have to be able to reach out to others with the Treasure that is inside of us. We need to meet others where they are, not where we want them to be, or think they should be.

Did you ever pray for a stranger and get embarrassed or insecure about praying for them? It won't happen if you get your eyes off of self and begin to rely on the Lord. He will take over if you let Him. Then that old fear of man will leave.

If you are never broken before the Lord, nothing will touch their spirit. It always has to be spirit to spirit. Not flesh to flesh. **When your spirit touches another spirit, God will quicken the spirit that has darkness in it.**

They might choose to harden their heart, but it will be a fight on their part to stay that way, because the compassionate love of the Lord, **through your brokenness, will touch them.** Not because you are pouring out your old sob story to them, but because you have been in the Presence of the Lord and He has broken you. It changes your spirit and will touch another spirit.

I have had people sit across from me in my office and it seemed as if their heart was a stone. They were not going to budge an inch. We would talk a few minutes and suddenly they would begin to cry. I would ask why they were crying, but they really couldn't tell me.

I've learned that because of the brokenness that's inside of me, (the power of God, the Anointing, and the Treasure) it is able to spill over and touch them.

Some have run from the office because they couldn't stand it and didn't want to deal with the change they knew they would make if they stayed. It was not through anything that was said between us, but the Treasure in me touched them.

Some come in the office and say, they just feel better when they come in. Of course they do, because the Treasure within spills out onto them.

God will meet you where ever you are. You don't have to go sit in a pastor's office to feel better to receive help. Reach out to the Lord Jesus Christ. He came to earth as a baby and then He died for you. He is the greatest Treasure you will ever have. He is the Christmas Treasure you will have forever.

It is a free Gift just for you.

He desires to set you free of all those things you go through. Allow Jesus to touch your spirit today and see the change that takes place. **You will feel His peace, joy and contentment that can only come from Him.**

Maybe you hunger after something and you can't figure out why you feel a craving yet nothing seems to satisfy you. Only the Lord can fill that void and satisfy that craving. Invite Jesus into your heart today and give Him free course in your life to change you and your circumstances. Allow the ministry of healing to take place through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Receive Jesus as your Christmas Treasure right now. Say, "Jesus, I believe that You are the Son of God. You came that I might have eternal life. Forgive me of all the things I have said, thought or done wrong. I invite You to come into my heart and live with me. Thank You for saving my soul. Fill me up to overflowing with Your Holy Spirit that I might be guided through my life. Thank You Lord for loving me." Amen!

If you prayed that prayer for the first time, write or call to receive a free booklet about your new life in Christ.

You could e-mail at: revjhart@sbcglobal.net

