

Heaven Came Down  
“Near The Hurting”  
12/3/17

-Intro:

-New Series: “Heaven Came Down”

-What a wonderful description of Christmastime.

-“Heaven Came Down”

-Because that’s exactly what happened so long ago in the person of Jesus.

-Heaven Came Down.

-Quote by Max Lucado in his book “**God Came Near**” talking about Jesus:

*“His Majesty. The Emperor of Judah. The soaring Eagle of Eternity. The Noble Admirable of the Kingdom. All the splendor of Heaven revealed in a human body. For a period ever so brief, the doors to the throne room were open and God came near. His majesty was seen. Heaven touched earth and, as a result, earth can know Heaven. In astounding tandem, a human body housed divinity. Holiness and earthliness intertwined.”* (p15)

-The Scriptures tell it like this:

-**John 1:1-4** (NIV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning.

<sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

<sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

-**John 1:14** (NIV) The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

-**Galatians 4:4-5-7** (NLT) But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law.

<sup>5</sup> God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children.

<sup>6</sup> And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.”

<sup>7</sup> Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.

-Aren’t you glad that instead of us having to go up, Heaven Came Down!

-----  
-What does His coming mean for us today?

-In this new series, we are going to be talking about 4 things.

(1) He is Near the Hurting

(2) He Satisfies the Hungry

(3) He Gives Hope to the Hopeless

(4) He Gives Help to the Helpless

-Let's talk about the HURTING.

-God is near to the hurting.

-Do you know that Jesus came not only to forgive our sins but also to heal our broken hearts?

-**Isaiah 61:1** (NLT) The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is upon me, for the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed.

-600 years before Jesus came, Isaiah announced that this would be the ministry of Jesus.

-Bringing comfort and healing to the brokenhearted.

-**Luke 4:16-21** (NKJV) So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.

<sup>17</sup> And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed;

<sup>19</sup> To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

<sup>20</sup> Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him.

<sup>21</sup> And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

-He said, "These things are available to you today."

-----  
-What causes hurts in our lives?

(1) **Pain From Our Past**

-Rejection: Someone that should have loved you, did not love you.

-Abuse: Someone that should have protected you, instead violated you.

-Neglect: Someone that should have cared for you, neglected you.

-Personal Failures: Choices made that you can't undo and you have to just live with.

-Guilt and pain.

(2) **Pain From Present Circumstances**

-Death of a Loved One: Why? Live with that loss and deal with the pain.

-Wayward Children: Living in opposition from how they were brought up.

-Divorce/Relationship Difficulties: Wounds received

-Financial Woes: Struggling, Laid Off

-Health Issues: You can't understand why.

(3) **Pain From Future Perspective**

-Dead Ends and Delayed Dreams

-Although many of us walk around smiling on the outside, many of us are hurting on the inside.

-----

-What do you do with your hurt?

(1) **Jesus Knows What It Means To Hurt**

- The Bible, in the book of Isaiah, refers to Jesus as the “man of sorrows.”
- Jesus was rejected by the very people He came to rescue and is still being rejected by them.

-**John 3:19** (NLT) **And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil.**

- God's Light came but people loved the darkness more than the light.
- Don't you know that breaks His heart?

-On the cross, He experienced the pain of rejection (His followers, those who were beating Him, the religious leaders, and His Father. (My God, My God why have You forsaken Me?))

-Jesus knows what it means to experience hurt.

-----

(2) **Jesus Is Near Hurting People**

- John 11 records the story of Lazarus.
- Described in that passage as a personal friend of Jesus and someone that Jesus loved.

-**John 11:21** (NIV) “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

-**John 11:32-35** (NIV) When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.

<sup>34</sup> “Where have you laid him?” he asked. “Come and see, Lord,” they replied.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.

- Jesus saw their hurt and He wept with them.
- Did He know that He was about to raise Lazarus from the dead? YES
- But there He is in that moment, weeping with them.

-In Mark 5, you have the intersection of these two desperate, hurting lives and Jesus is in the middle.

- Jairus, the leader of the synagogue comes to Jesus and asks Him to come to his house and heal his daughter who is deathly ill.
- Jesus agrees to go with him.

-But then you have this woman with the issue of blood for 12 years that is unwelcomed in every circle of life, a societal outcast, a perpetually unclean nuisance, who is financially broke trying to medically fix her illness to no avail.

- She reaches out to take hold of some part of Jesus, any part.
- She is immediately healed when she does it.

-It stops Jesus cold in His tracks.

**-Mark 5:34 (NLT) And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over."**

-Jairus, who's patiently waiting, receives news that his little girl has died.

**-Mark 5:35-36 (NLT) While he was still speaking to her, messengers arrived from the home of Jairus, the leader of the synagogue. They told him, "Your daughter is dead. There's no use troubling the Teacher now."**

**<sup>36</sup> But Jesus overheard them and said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid. Just have faith."**

- Jesus is near to hurting people.
  - Including you, today.
- 

### (3) **Jesus Invites The Hurting To Himself**

- Jesus never calls you to stay in your hurt.
- He always invites you to Himself.

-You have to do this or you will never heal.

-How do you come to Jesus?

#### **-Come in Faith**

- Believing that He can heal you.

#### **-Come in Obedience**

- You come ready to obey whatever He asks you to do.
- Forgiveness for the person who hurt you (and it may be yourself)

-Pain from your past: Where is Jesus in that part of your life?

- Rejection: Someone that should have loved you, did not love you.
- Abuse: Someone that should have protected you, instead violated you.
- Neglect: Someone that should have cared for you, neglected you.
- Personal Failures: Choices made that you can't undo and you have to just live with.
- Guilt and pain.

-Pain from present circumstances:

- Death of a Loved One: Why? Live with that loss and deal with the pain.
- Wayward Children: Living in opposition from how they were brought up.
- Divorce/Relationship Difficulties: Wounds received
- Financial Woes: Struggling, Laid Off
- Health Issues: You can't understand why.

-Pain from future perspectives

- Losing Hope because of Dead Ends and Delayed Dreams
-

-Pray

-Bridge Group Questions:

(1) What stood out to you about this week's message?

(2) Heaven came down to heal our hurting hearts. Has your heart gone through hurt? Can you share about it with the group?

(3) Jesus knows about a hurting heart, He's near to those who are hurting, and He invites the hurting to come to Him. Do you believe these statements? Do you feel like Jesus is near you as you hurt? Explain.

(4) Pastor Matt talked about forgiving the person(s) (even yourself) who hurt you. Have you done that? Why or why not?