

SHARED PART TWO

9:00-9:30 AM

- **SLIDE 1** Flickering Candles
- **SLIDE 2** Good Morning
 - I hope everyone is well rested
 - Today we are one day closer to Christmas
 - Recap: the world was groaning in darkness and in need of a Savior
 - So are we
 - In a miraculous event God fulfilled His promises of Old and a lowly virgin girl gave birth to our Savior
- **SLIDE 3** That Savior who died for us, but only after leaving Himself with us in the form of bread and wine, is coming again.
 - But before He arrives He is calling you and I to give birth to Him in the world.
 - He is calling us to become Eucharist for a starving world.
 - He has sent us out to all the ends of the earth to share the good news

- That good news is that we were/are broken but he loves us any how.
- Are we going to remain chained to our brokenness or answer his call to live sincerely in Christian community as we shout out the good news of our salvation?
- Our Savior has come!
- Now comes the hard part.
 - Are we will to reveal our wounds to others , if doing so can bring honor and glory to Christ?

- **SLIDE 4** If we are to be Eucharist for others then we need to become Wounded Healers

- **SLIDE 5** Pope Francis: ***“The more conscious we are of our wretchedness and our sins, the more we experience the love and infinite mercy of God among us, then the more capable we are of looking upon the many “wounded” we meet along the way with acceptance and mercy.”***
 - Jesus was His most effective when He was most broken.

- **SLIDE 6 MOON GLOW**

- The moon although nothing more than space junk reflects the sun and is beautiful.
- We do more than just reflect the SON OF GOD, he actually resides in us. Our challenge is to radiate his glow to others.

- **SLIDE 7 A BROKEN DOOR**

- A broken door can still allow entry to someone who once inside might encounter the perfect do of Jesus Christ.

- **SLIDE 8 ENCOUNTERING CHRIST IN OUR VULNERABILITY**

- We are chosen to be effective evangelizers
- We tell others we are broken not to boast of our brokenness but to boast of Jesus' mercy.
- Will you remain Scared or will you for the sake of Jesus Christ
 - shed your pride,
 - become vulnerable
 - share your brokenness and/or wounded self and your need for Jesus Christ with others?

- My brokenness has turned out to be a great blessing in my life. It kept me grounded in Christ. Maybe yours will too.

SLIDE 9 Two Heroes to today's story

- **SLIDE 10 BOB**

- **1 year later** I still had not told my entire story
- Dylewski story (travel from Charlotte)
 - Bob the Greater
 - Bob the lessor
- Bob the Greater exhibited
 - True Christian friendship
 - The concept of being an encourager.
- My healing miracle open after 43 years

SLIDE 11 Mary Beth (my wife)

- Often travels with me: Sits at the soundboard.
- But she truly is a hero in today's retreat.
- How to respond with mercy
- I clearly did not want to reveal my brokenness.
- I told you that my brokenness was lust and unchaste behavior.
- My wife is the love of my life.
- God put it on my heart in that silent retreat that I needed to be open and honest about my brokenness
- I knew that I had to explain my actions to my wife, and I did as soon as the silent retreat concluded.
- Keep in mind that even prior to our marriage my wife was the only one that knew what happened to me as a child.
- That meant ***for me*** not only telling her but telling my children, my pastor, my friends, my board of directors, and having it published in the book **THE BROKEN DOOR**.

- **SLIDE 12** Mary's quote: *"If part of you is broken, then I love that part too, because I love all of you".*
- **SLIDE 13** God's Quote: *"If part of you is broken, then I love that part too, because I love all of you".*
- **NO SLIDE** Healing just begins when we open up, it's not over!
- **SLIDE 14** In the Magnificat Mary says she is of "low estate." **Certainly, if Mary was of low estate then we are of low estate on steroids.** Yet through Mary, God brought forth the Savior of the world. **In what ways do you consider yourself of "low estate"** (brokenness) Luke 1:48-50
- **SLIDE 15** Psalm 136:23-24 **"The Lord remembered us in our low estate, for his mercy endures forever; Freed us from our foes, for his mercy endures forever; And gives bread to all flesh, for his mercy endures forever."**
- **SLIDE 16** Throughout Luke's Gospel, **"the poor"** refers to a wide range of people, including the blind, the lame, the deaf and the lepers, as well as those burdened by social-political injustices such as oppressed, "the captive," the persecuted and the

hungry. **OUR PURPLE PAPER REVEALS OUR LOW ESTATE**

- **NO SLIDE** God in His mercy remembers the oppressed and will gather them into the kingdom of His Son, while the proud, the mighty and the rich, who oppress God's people, are about to be cast down. Which line are you standing in?
- **SLIDE 17** Luke mentions the **Roman census four times** to bring attention to the reality that the **Jews were forced into submission of the Romans**. They were oppressed by Roman rule. **We are under the submission to and captive to sin**. Now we must decide will we out of pride remain captive to our sin or break our pride and tear down the walls of shame and submit to only our Savior and King of the World.
- **SLIDE 18** We look inward first
 - But we can't stop there
 - Paralysis of analysis (Naval Gazing)
 - As I stated earlier, to be effective with others we must be introspective first
 - **INWARD-UPWARD-OUTWARD**

- **SLIDE 19** Once we have an encounter with Christ He calls us to go out to others
 - Fishermen: Tax collector: Prostitutes
 - Samaritan woman at well
- **SLIDE 20** Outward focused (maybe you think you have my message figured out.
 - I have been talking about your purple paper all day, now I want you to look around.
- **SLIDE 21** Look around----Sea of purple all around us.
 - Everyone here has their paper too?
 - Remember others wear masks as well as we do
 - You are called to help others reveal their purple!
- **SLIDE 22** Brokenness is hard to spot
 - A mother who lost her son to suicide said:
 - **“It’s hard to heal wounds you cannot see”**
- **NO SLIDE** Going forth in a sea of purple
 - Had it not have been for Bob I might not have told anyone. I might still be chained to my sin.
 - Are you ready to break someone else's chains?

- **SLIDE 23 You and I as EUCHARIST/COMMUNION**
 - Did I just make up this idea that we are called to be Eucharist to a starving world?
- **SLIDE 24 Pope Benedict XVI**
 - Exhortation SACRAMENTUM CARITATIS
 - “...the Eucharist thus compels all who believe in him to become "bread that is broken" for others,
 - “...Each of us is truly called, together with Jesus, to be bread broken for the life of the world.”
- **SLIDE 25 St. Irenaeus**
 - *When we drink the cup at the Eucharist, in which wine has become Christ’s blood, his blood mixes with our blood, and they become one. Equally when we eat the bread, which has become the body of Christ, his body mixes with our body, and they become one.’*

Wine as the **BLOOD OF CHRIST**

- **SLIDE 26 CAN YOU DRINK THE CUP** by Henri J. M. Nouwen
- Holding the cup--Lifting the cup--Drinking the cup
- **SLIDE 27 HOLDING OUR CUP**
 - Looking critically at our life
 - It takes Courage
 - Sorrow and Joy
 - Varieties of wines and a variety of lives
 - You only get one! You can't drink the cup of another:
 - We must say: "this is my cup that was given to me"

SLIDE 28 LIFTING OUR CUP

- **SLIDE 29** L'chaim.....To Life
- Together we drink our cup
 - *"The wounds of our individual lives, which seemed intolerable when lived alone, become sources of healing when we live them as part of a fellowship of mutual care."*

- **SLIDE 30 DRINK OUR CUP**
 - “Why do I have to be this person?” I didn’t ask for it and I don’t want it.
- **SLIDE 31** As we gradually come to befriend our own reality, to look with compassion at our own sorrows and joys, and as we are able to discover the unique potential of our way of being in the world, we can move beyond our protest, put the cup of our life to our lips and drink it, slowly, carefully but fully. Drink to **the dregs!**
- Yes we are called to be communion to others. We are called to be the body and blood of Christ. Are you ready?
- **SLIDE 32 Bishop Robert Barron**
 - Letter to a Suffering Church
 - *“When we consume the Eucharist, we are taking the whole Christ – body, blood soul, and divinity – into ourselves, becoming thereby conformed to him in the most literal sense. Through this great sacrament, we are Christified, eternalized, deified, made ready for life on high with God.”*

- **SLIDE 33-39 SONG: Spirit and Grace by David Haas**

9:30 AM

- **SLIDE 40 EVALUATION FORMS**
- **SLIDE 41 Discussion 30 Minutes**
 - What does “BEING EUCHARIST” mean to you?
 - What can you do to focus more on “being Eucharist” during Advent?

10:15 Wrap up talk