

DAVID'S MEN

SEEKING THE HEART OF GOD



Problem 4: Brokenness

Treasure: EXPERIENCE HEALING

Key: Service

Have you ever felt broken inside? Maybe it was from a major trauma that was obvious to everyone around you or maybe it was something that only you knew about. Sometimes God heals us in a miraculous way but often He bundles our healing with a journey. The advantage of the journey is that we may learn important things along the way and have an impact on the world as we move along our journey.

Being healed as part of a journey can have several disadvantages. First, you will likely feel alone at some point and may think that God isn't helping you. Like all of us, you want your pain to go away and you want it gone now. Second, you may get confused and think that the journey was really a process that you followed and you caused your own healing. If you think that God has abandoned you and that you're making all of the progress yourself, you have become self-centered enough that you can no longer see the reality of the situation.

God may allow you to experience a journey for many reasons. When you're on a journey you get to know your problem on a deeper level the longer you wrestle with it. The longer you deal with it the better you will understand its depth and impact on your life. You may even come to realize that its root cause isn't what you originally thought it was. When you know where you have been you can better appreciate where you are.

By healing on a journey you will gain a deeper perspective of the overall situation compared to if God just healed you and pulled you out of the pain and suffering. The journey to healing creates perseverance, character, and hope. God doesn't do this to punish you or because He is indifferent, He is building your strength and personality to endure and excel at the challenges He has planned for you. This is just like the rigorous and painful training a soldier endures as he prepares for the possible battles in his future.



Romans 5:3-4

Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

When you are on a journey there is an opportunity for others to come alongside you and participate in your healing. That has many benefits. You will know you are not alone because you can see the tangible impact of others helping you. You will also build relationships with others. These people may be short-term caregivers or they may become a long-term support system of friends. Without the journey, they wouldn't have an opportunity to help you.

We need to help each other. You're not the only one who benefits from being served. The caregiver will feel as valued as you do. They have a chance to make a positive difference in someone's life. Serving in this way can give people something meaningful to contribute to. When you allow yourself to be served you are also serving them.

The journey also prepares you to help others once you have healed enough to help support someone else on their journey. Your unique perspective and pain can serve to comfort others and provide insight and hope for someone going through the valley you have already traveled. You are in a special position to give advice and compassion.

The treasure of EXPERIENCE HEALING and its related key of service, are oriented so that the person performing the service is the one experiencing the healing, but in reality, when you serve someone you experience healing, they experience healing, and often others around you experience healing. When you are genuinely and sacrificially serving others (with no strings attached) God's love can't help but spill all over everything and where God is, wounds are being healed.

Luke 9:2 & 6 (NIV)

"...he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick."

"So they set out and went from village to village, proclaiming the good news and healing people everywhere."

Jesus wants you to go out and share the good news with others and be part of healing those around you. You are to serve Jesus and His children in whatever way He calls you to. Your unique gifts and talents along with the unique needs of your community will make the service of each person and church different from others.

Ezekiel 11:19 (NIV)

I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.





Broken people continue to break those around them. Fortunately, people who have experienced healing are able to enable healing in those around them by guiding the broken to the source of healing and helping them get into relationships that will promote further healing.

As God pours into your life and you experience healing you will be empowered to release God into those around you. Releasing God into the world drives further healing. Service is an amazing way to express your love and appreciation for God, find a use for your God-given talents and gifts, and love your neighbor as yourself.

John 13:4-5 (NIV)

...so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Jesus modeled living our service for us by His example. When He was only hours away from serving all of mankind by His sacrifice on the cross He chose to model another form of service closer to everyday experience. He performed the task of the lowest servant. He washed the dirt, sweat, and animal excrement from the feet of His disciples. Jesus broke with tradition to show each of these men they have value beyond their master's own dignity.

Matthew 23:11 (NIV)

The greatest among you will be your servant.

The disciples were busy trying to figure out which of them was the most important. Each man felt he was the right-hand man of the master. Jesus completely rocked their worlds when He let them know it wasn't about them but it was about each other.

Servolution

The title of this month's book is "*Servolution: Starting a Church Revolution through Serving*". In this book Dino Rizzo recounts his journey pastoring Healing Place Church. Dino and his wife DeLynn felt that the church they were starting needed to be based on serving others. God told Dino that if the church took care of the people outside the walls then God would take care of making sure there were people inside the walls.

Dino walks the reader through the earliest events in the church's beginnings that created a foundation of service. He discusses things they did right and things that didn't work so good. The tone of the book isn't a recipe or a program but instead gives stories of how God used their talents to serve their unique community. He then shares the insights that they learned along the way. Their church started off with having a garage sale that led to them just giving everything away for free, that opened a door to hand out a truckload of rat poison, that led to more opportunities, which taught them the lessons needed to become the church they are today.



During Hurricane Katrina, they had developed their service programs to the point that they were in a unique position to be on of the first relief efforts on-scene. Healing Church's no-strings-attached service allowed them to be the hands and feet of Jesus in ways they had never considered.

HEALING IN *SERVOLUTION*

Here are some of the ways you may see healing in action while reading *Servolution*:

- By serving individuals you enable healing for you and for them. By changing individual lives one at a time you are slowly changing the world.
- If those you serve also chose to serve others, your initial efforts are vastly multiplied.
- As you serve others you will experience healing. You should expect to see a positive personal change in your own life.
- As you serve others you will gain experience. This will enable you to better recognize future service opportunities and to be more effective at serving in the future.
- No matter how much you want to serve others, there are more needs than you can you can meet. You need to work with your church and other organizations to create an effective network of community servants.
- Your community and sphere of influence are unique. Your talents are unique. God has a plan to use you in a special way to uniquely serve in a way only you can.
- If you are unwilling to step out and serve, if you are unwilling to take a risk, if you are unwilling to use some of your resources then you will never have the opportunity to be part of God's work in serving others.
- When you step out and start serving others it can be challenging and difficult but you will set an excellent example of being like Jesus. Other Christians who aren't interested in being challenged may push back and discourage you from making an impact.
- When you serve others you are serving the Kingdom, you are challenging the adversary, and likely snatching people from his grasp. Expect that he will push back. Serving has a cost. Considered what serving you cost Jesus.
- Serving together with other church members builds strong bonds and you can expect to develop a sense of extended family within your church.

As you read through *Servolution* Dino Rizzo will be recounting many of his personal experiences and stories. It is likely that you will be reminded of similar situations in your life. Take time to write down any experiences in your life that come to mind. Be prepared to share them with the group.



Current Month Assignments

- Read *Servolution* by Dino Rizzo and prepare a book summary to share with the group. We will do this for each book.
 - The summary should be one page with the following info:
 - List the big ideas.
 - List your key takeaways.
 - List how you will apply to your life now.
 - Provide a copy for each guy at the meeting.
- Complete the **Healing Word Challenge**.
 - As you read *Servolution* underline every “healing word” (heal, heals, healing, healed healer, and healing) that you find (pgs. 17 - 164).
 - **EXCEPTIONS:** Do not include the proper names “Healing Place Church”, “Healing Place”, or “Healing Place School of Ministry”
 - Using the included Healing Word Challenge Worksheet write down the healing word, the page (or Kindle location) you find the word on.
 - Consider the word in the context of how the author is using it. Can you see how this instance of the word relates to the treasure of EXPERIENCE HEALING? Write any comments or insights in the comments column.
 - During the meeting, the actual number will be revealed. The man who is closest to the correct number will be the challenge winner.
- Memorize the three scripture passages under Topical Memory Verses. Be prepared to quote topic – reference – verse – and brief context.
- Meet with one other guy in the group. This would be a great opportunity to practice saying your verses.

Topical Memory Verses

Luke 9:2 (NIV)

...he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

2 Corinthians 4:7 (NIV)

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

Ezekiel 11:19 (NIV)

I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.



NOTES: