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<https://www.wevideo.com/view/1641590130>

Living in a broken world isn't an image that brings peace to our souls. Neither does listening to the news.

And accepting perhaps the most obvious truth of all; there is so much we don't know and in these days in particular there is so much that has been put on hold, postponed, and cancelled and with so much time at hand it is even easier to get lost in a maze of media coverage.

Maybe that is how you feel like your world is expanding to a point where you have no reference point, or you feel like stuck in an elevator.

Even before I'd heard of COVID-19, I'd been in places of hopelessness more times than I can count, because we indeed live in a broken world, among broken people and more often than not we ourselves carry a brokenness with us. The difference with me, and I hope with you as well, is that I do not carry my brokenness on my own, by myself but Christ does.

The current pandemic that has become a worldwide crisis will at some point, move on. Either the media will give us something new to think and fear or a personal crisis will take its place. After all, we are living in a broken world, often in a bubble of denial.

Whether it's the "normalcy" of life lived in a broken world with its relentlessness of suffering and pain, whether it is the "new normalcy" of living in a broken world raddled by the pandemic, the question remains the same. What are we meant to do when fear and uncertainty fuel anxiety?

I wish I could tell you a trick, an escape route that actually leads to life. Many will try a multiple Step Fail Safe...alcohol, bench watching, circumventing, denial, evasion and the alphabet of escaping goes on.

Indeed, God doesn't offer us a fail-safe formula that links our lives to comfort and ease of living. Our surrounding has lead us to think of faith matters in the same mechanical way we think of the rest of life. If our car or computer or smartphone or even our body is broken, we know what to do. We run diagnostics until we find out what isn't right, and then we fix it. We take out the broken part and insert the proper one. Then everything is supposed to work, the world is back to "normalcy!" But is it?

What are we meant to do? All, you and I can do is stop and breath.

*Breath in Christ who is the truth, and breath out our own version.*

*Breath in Christ who is peace, and breath out anxiety that stifles.*

*Breath in Christ who is joy, and breath out sorrow that suffocates.*

*Breath in Christ and his hope, and breath out false hope we cling to.*

*Breath in Christ and his power, and breath out angst and self-doubt which covers us.*

*Breath in Christ and his blessings, and breath out blessings.*

*Breath in Christ and his word, and breath out truth.*

*Breath in Christ and his comfort, and breath out encouragement.*

*Breath in Christ and his peace, and become a peacemaker in a broken world.*

*Breath in Christ and his mission, and become a fisher of men and women in a lost world.*

*Breath in Christ and His life and be a child of God.*

If we want to be alive, truly alive, living in this broken world which is relentlessly flooded with half-truth, fake news, uninformed opinions, and denial we must breath again, in the rhythm of the Christian life. Breathing in the One who is the very breath of life and breathing out hope and comfort and an alternative to life many people have not heard of before.

"I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have

overcome the world.” Jh, 16:33 And that brings us to truth which we hope might just change your life

[Matthew 21:18-45](#) [Matthew 22](#) [Matthew 23](#) [Matthew 24](#)

Two days after Jesus rode into Jerusalem marked some crazy times. Conspiracies abounded; Judas put in motion his betrayal; Jesus laid out in a series of parables how desperately we need Him now and until the end of times. The burden of what was to come grew heavier. Imagine that you were one of His disciples at that time, listening to His intensity and trying to understand what He was saying about His future, and about your part in it. Would you be confused? Excited? Sad? Distressed? How about all of that, and a little more?

[More Like Jesus](#)

Let's Pray: Lord, we have no idea how hard the days were for You leading up to Your betrayal and crucifixion. What we do know is that when You were under more pressure than any of us could have handled, You spent Your time teaching us about what it means to walk besides You and to love those around us. Help us to keep Your sacrifice at the front of our days; help us to love as You loved; help us to worship You who gave everything, for us. Bless us today as we live with You behind us, with us, and before us. Amen.

Your friends Debbie Smeaton and Manfred Boller