

Broken

March 3 – 6

Broken: having been fractured or damaged and no longer in one piece or in working order; having given up all hope; despairing.

One way to look at sin is that it leaves us broken. This brokenness is personal, caused by the pain and shame of our bad choices or behavior. This brokenness is also relational when our selfish words or actions hurt others, causing us to no longer be united with each other or with God. This brokenness can indeed lead to despair. Part of the work of repentance is to recognize what is broken in our lives and to seek to be made whole through God's love and grace in Christ.

As the Apostle Paul declares in the 6th Chapter of Romans: *“What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ... Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present yourselves to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present yourselves wholly to God as instruments of righteousness.”*

As you REthink how sin has caused brokenness in your life and in the world, contemplate how you can find help, hope, and healing from the brokenness of sin through a growing relationship of faith in Jesus. How might you, through your loving words and graceful acts, help heal the brokenness of this world?

#REthinkILC Lent Photo for this week: Inspired by the word **“BROKEN”**, take a photo and either put it on your social media with **#REthinkILC** or email it to kelly@immanuel.us by noon on Saturday, March 6.

REnew52 action for this week: TALK. Take time this week to renew relationships that have been damaged or broken and seek to make amends for any harm you may have caused. Offer forgiveness for those whose words or actions have caused you hurt.