



Revive Our Hearts™

Event Toolkit

10-DAY HEART PREP

In the midst of the planning and preparation for your event, you have prayed for the women who will attend. Your desire is for God to reveal His presence and His glory to each one. You long for God to *rekindle their devotion, rebuild their lives, and revive their hearts*.

Help your women prepare their hearts to hear from the Lord.

- Ten days before the event begins, send the first email to attendees.
- Send the remaining emails in the days leading up to the event.
- You can also print the PDF version if hardcopies are preferred.

The psalmist said, “You who seek God, let your hearts revive” (Ps. 69:32). As you seek Him in the days ahead, may He move mightily in each of your lives.

DAY 1: HEART HEALTH

I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and will give you a heart of flesh. —Ezekiel 36:26

Over and over again, Jesus looked the most religious men of His day in the eye and confronted them concerning their obsession with putting on a good appearance and performance while their hearts were empty and corrupt. It didn't matter if they circumcised their bodies and tithed everything they owned, down to the herbs; or if they washed their hands every time they ate and could quote the Law from beginning to end; or if they scrupulously observed every feast day, fast day, and Sabbath day; or even if everyone else respected them as devout believers. If their hearts weren't right, *they* weren't right. And if ours aren't right, neither are we.

The medical profession stresses the importance of regular checkups. Anyone with a family history of heart disease is encouraged to get his cholesterol measured. We don't assume that just because we look fine outwardly, we have nothing to worry about. If our heart is not functioning properly or we have a blockage in our arteries, we want to know about it so we can do whatever is necessary to deal with the situation.

Should we be any less concerned about our *spiritual* heart condition—when we all have a family history of “heart disease”? We should be regular and diligent in letting Him diagnose conditions we may be unable to see in ourselves. For the good news of the gospel is that the Great Physician has made available a cure for our deceived, diseased hearts. Jesus came to do radical heart surgery—to cleanse and transform us from the inside out.

If you held your heart up to the light today, what would you see? What would you like to see there instead?

Excerpted from [*The Quiet Place*](#), by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth

DAY 2: THE WAY BACK

Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, who do his just commands; seek righteousness; seek humility. —Zephaniah 2:3

God wants to reveal His presence and His glory to His people today. He wants to fill our hearts, homes, churches, and ministries with His love and His Spirit. He wants to pour out His grace on the dry, thirsty ground of our lives. He wants to restore our “first love” for Jesus, rekindle the fire of devotion that once burned brightly in our hearts, reconcile broken relationships, and rebuild the parts of our lives that are in a state of disrepair.

In short, He wants to revive our hearts.

And it all begins with brokenness and humility. No exceptions, shortcuts, or substitutes.

Brokenness is God’s prescription for nearly every condition that ails human hearts and lives, because *pride* in one form or another is almost always at the root of our most difficult issues—fear, sinful bondages, fragmented relationships, communication barriers, generation gaps, unresolved conflicts, guilt, shame, self-absorption, addictions, hypocrisy, even insecurities and excessive shyness. You may have resigned yourself to one or more of these realities; you may be hiding behind their high, thick walls, not wanting to relinquish control or admit weakness. But every one of those walls can crumble through genuine brokenness and humility.

Do you need a fresh infusion of God’s grace today? Do you long to experience abundant life, to live in the realm of the supernatural, to enjoy the free flow of His Spirit? Do you want to be set free from those selfish, sinful patterns that plague your walk and poison your relationships? Do you want to find fullness of joy?

Then I challenge you to a radically new way of thinking and living, in which the way up is down, in which death brings life. Brokenness and humility are truly the pathway to your wholeness.

What might happen if you abandoned your pride and relinquished your hold on your rights? What do you really stand to lose? What do you stand to gain?

Excerpted from [*The Quiet Place*](#), by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth

DAY 3: PRIDE ON YOUR SIDE?

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. —James 4:10

A missionary to a certain region in Africa—a man who had been greatly used by God as an instrument of revival—recalled that when he would mention (even as a passing reference) the name of another Christian to any of the national believers, they would often ask, “Is he a broken Christian?” Not, “Is he committed?” or “knowledgeable?” or “hardworking?”

“Is he broken . . . ?”

How can you tell if you’re a broken Christian? One way is to consider the difference between a *broken* person and a *proud* person:

- *Proud people* desire to be known as a success. *Broken people* are motivated to be faithful and to make others successful.
- *Proud people* are elated by praise and deflated by criticism. *Broken people* know that any praise for their accomplishments belongs to the Lord, and that criticism can help them become more like Christ.
- *Proud people* keep others at arm’s length. *Broken people* are willing to take the risk of getting close to others.
- *Proud people* are concerned about the consequences and problems caused by their sin. *Broken people* are more concerned about how their sin has grieved and dishonored a holy God.
- *Proud people* feel worthy of respect. *Broken people* feel a desperate need for God’s mercy.

If statements like these reveal the presence of pride in your heart, don’t despair; God has been merciful to show you your need. The first step of brokenness and humility is to get honest about these things, to acknowledge the true condition of your heart. Don’t try to cover up, justify, rationalize, compare yourself with others, or pretend you’re better off than you really are. The riches and blessings of God’s grace belong to those who recognize their spiritual poverty.

If someone were to ask your friends or family members of you, “Is she/he a broken Christian?” what would the response be?

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DAY 4: PLIABLE IN HIS HANDS

*I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. —Psalm 121:1–2*

Spiritual brokenness in a believer is meant to be an ongoing way of life, not just an occasional, crisis experience.

Yes, true brokenness is a lifestyle. Moment by moment. Agreeing with God about the true condition of your heart—not as everyone else sees you or thinks you to be but as *He* knows you to be. Helpless. Unable. Poor and needy. Totally dependent upon His grace working in you and through you. Further, brokenness is not primarily a feeling or emotion that we wait for to overwhelm us.

While our emotions will be involved, true brokenness involves a choice, an act of the will. It is our response of humility and obedience to the authority of His Word and the conviction of His Spirit.

Brokenness means saying “Yes, Lord,” responding to Him in complete surrender, yielding to His desires without chafing, stubbornness, or complaint. It means allowing God to soften the soil of your heart, breaking up any clods of resistance that keep the seed of His Word from penetrating and taking root. It means being soft and pliable in the Artist’s hands, like wax or clay, not hardening yourself against whatever tools or circumstances He chooses to shape and refine you. It means the shattering of your self-will so the life of Christ can be released through you.

This is brokenness. This is living out the heart of Christ who was broken for you. And this may be what is standing between you and a life that looks more like Christ’s steadfast ability and less like your stumbling inability. In choosing the pathway of humility and brokenness, by His divine grace, He will lift you up and the pieces of your life will come together in one God-glorifying whole.

Are there aspects of your will that keep rearing up and pushing back against His will? Choose the pathway of brokenness, for that is the (only) place of true blessedness.

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DAY 5: MARBLES OR GRAPES?

*Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone;
but if it dies, it bears much fruit. —John 12:24*

Years ago, when I was a college student, I heard Pastor Ray Ortlund say, “Most churches are like a bag of *marbles*—*all* hard and clanging up against one another. Instead, we ought to be like a bag of *grapes*—*squished* together so that the juice of His Spirit may flow out through us.” True Christian community is something few believers ever experience because it requires that each individual let go of self and allow his life to be poured out on behalf of others.

A seed has to go into the ground and *die* in order to produce fruit. What does that kind of “death” mean for us? It means a willingness to die to our own interests, our own reputation, our own rights, our own way of doing things, our own comfort, convenience, hopes, dreams, and aspirations. To die means to lay it all down. To give it all up. To let it all go.

This may seem difficult, perhaps even unthinkable, to our self-protective, individualistic, rights-oriented minds. But as Jesus went on to tell His disciples in this passage, “Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life” (John 12:25).

What was Jesus saying? The only way to gain your life is to give it up. The only way to win it is to lose it. We think we are giving up so much by dying. But in reality, those who refuse to die are the ones who are giving up everything that really matters. When we choose the pathway of brokenness and humility, we are choosing to receive new life—His supernatural, abundant life—flowing in us and through us.

Is there some area of your life where you are clinging to your rights? According to John 12:24–25, what is the cost of holding on to your life, and what are the rewards of laying it all down?

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DAY 6: WHEN REPENTERS REPENT

*Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline,
so be zealous and repent. —Revelation 3:19*

For over twenty years, the people of Romania suffered under the iron-fisted, Communist rule of Nicolae Ceausescu. Christians were especially targeted by the regime and were subjected to intense intimidation and relentless harassment. They were ridiculed and were referred to in derision as “repenters.”

In the early 1970s—in the midst of such adversity—a pastor in the town of Oradea began to preach an unusual message. Burdened that many Christians had become conformed to the culture rather than to Christ, he insisted that “the repenters must repent.” He was straightforward in pointing out specific sins that he felt were hindering the church from experiencing true revival.

Many in the congregation responded to his call—the repenters repented. They began to take holiness seriously; they turned from everything they believed was displeasing to God.

When they did, God visited that congregation in revival. Lives were transformed, lost people began to come to faith in Christ, and the church exploded in growth.

The revival could not be contained within a single church. It spread to other churches in the surrounding area and ultimately its impact was felt throughout the entire nation. The revived believers were infused with courage and began to stand up for their convictions. Many believe that this movement of the Spirit was one of the factors that ultimately led to the overthrow of the Ceausescu regime some fifteen years later.

The first message of Jesus’ earthly ministry was “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matt. 4:17). His last message to the church recorded in the pages of Scripture was “be zealous and repent.” Imagine what might happen in our day if the “repenters” were truly to repent.

Are you living and walking as a “repenter”? What evidence of true repentance has there been in your life in recent months?

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DAY 7: A PASSION FOR HOLINESS

*And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD,
when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. —Ezekiel 36:23*

Despite churning out a lot of religious activity, many people who call themselves believers today have rewritten the law of God, prostituting His grace, turning it into a license to sin. Lust, greed, materialism, anger, selfishness, pride, sensuality, divorce, deceit, ungodly entertainment, worldly philosophies—little by little, we’ve let down our guard, cultivated a relationship with these sworn enemies of holiness, and in many cases, welcomed them into our churches and given them a home there.

Where are the men and women who love God supremely, who fear nothing and no one but Him? Where are the saints who live like saints, whose lives are above reproach in their homes, their work, their speech, their habits, their attitudes, their finances, their relationships?

Where are the children of God whose eyes are filled with tears, whose knees are sore from pleading with God to grant the gift of repentance, whose hearts ache when they see an unholy church entertaining herself to death?

Where are the Christian leaders with the compassion and courage to call the church to be clean before God? Where are the moms and dads and young people willing to deal thoroughly and decisively with any and every unholy thing in their hearts and their homes?

The church has been waiting for the world to get right with God. When will we realize that the world is waiting for the *church* to get right with God? It is time for us to repent, to pursue holiness by His grace and for His glory. We can scarcely imagine the impact that will be felt in our world when the holiness of Christ is seen in and through His people.

Has the Spirit identified anything unholy in your heart, home, habits, or relationships? What is keeping you from dealing with it?

What difference might it make if our world could see a reflection of a holy God in those of us who are called by His name?

Excerpted from [*The Quiet Place*](#), by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth

DAY 8: WHATEVER HE SAYS

*My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me;
nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will. —Matthew 26:39*

One of the sweet by-products of spending time alone with God in His Word and prayer is that our lives are brought into submission to God and His will. Yes, *submission*. Now I'll be the first to admit that the "S" word is not one of the most popular in our free-spirited era. The idea of submitting to the control or will of another is utterly contrary to our sinful human nature.

When we became children of God, however, we received a new nature, one that recognizes God's right to rule over us. Yet even though our *spirit* now wants to obey Him, our *flesh* (our natural inclination) wars against our spirit and still wants to have its own way.

As a result, there are times when we resent, resist, or run from what God has brought into our lives. We view difficult, annoying people and circumstances as a problem, resenting the pressure they place upon us. In so doing, we end up pushing against God Himself, resisting His sovereign choices and purposes for our lives.

But when we place ourselves under the ministry and microscope of His Word, our resistance is exposed. We see the wise hand of God that is acting for our good. We realize the folly of trying to "box" with God.

Whether the problem is earth-shattering or a mere blip on the radar screen, the real issue often comes down to this: "Do I trust that God is wise and good? And will I submit to His hand and purposes in my life?"

Is there an issue (big or small) in your life where your flesh is resisting the will of God? As you meet with Him, ask Him to bring you to a place of wholehearted submission and trust, until you can say, "Yes, Lord! Not as I will, but as You will."

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DAY 9: YOURS FOR LIFE

*His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness,
through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence.*

—2 Peter 1:3

When I hear that word “granted,” I think of someone who receives a scholarship to help lower the cost of his college education. It’s a gift. He doesn’t have to pay it back. Or I think of a researcher applying to a foundation for funding on a potential project. If the request is approved, he is issued a grant to be used in the pursuit of that program or endeavor. And though the foundation will want to know how the money is used, they do not consider their investment a loan.

It’s a gift—a grant.

God has “granted” magnificent gifts to us, His redeemed people, by virtue of “His divine power.” He possesses the full ability and resources to do this. And unlike a college scholarship or charitable grant, which might not be enough to cover the entirety of a person’s need, God’s gracious gift has already provided us “all things” that are necessary for pursuing a godly life, for worshiping Him well and applying His Word.

We now have *all* we need for salvation, *all* we need for sanctification, *all* we need for every step, every season, every struggle and strain of life.

You say you need the power to be more patient and disciplined? *You have it.* You need the desire to be more caring and thoughtful? *You have it.* You need the resources and enablement to keep you from being overcome by fear, discouragement, and doubt? *You have it.* These have all been “granted” to you so that “you may become [a partaker] of the divine nature” (2 Peter 1:4).

How would you approach your day differently if you really believed that God had already granted you all you need to overcome yourself and your sin? Thank Him for His divine power and grace!

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DAY 10: HEAVENLY SUNLIGHT

*Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence! —Isaiah 64:1*

I was sitting in a condo overlooking Lake Michigan, the gracious gift of a friend who had invited me to stay there as I worked on a message for an upcoming conference. On this particular day, the sky was unusually dark and dreary, with rain falling steadily throughout the day, making the mood even more dismal.

Then shortly before dusk, the rain subsided. A shaft of sunlight in the western sky began to burn through the heavy, low-lying clouds, glimmering on the surface of the water. Over the next few minutes, I watched as the sun burst through the dark clouds in a glorious display of light. Even though much of the early evening sky remained dark and foreboding, the window opened by the sun's rays painted a picture for me of what I believe God wants to do in our day.

Spiritually speaking, the weather outside is dark and dreary—with signs of even more rain in the forecast. There are many days when it is difficult to see evidence of God's presence in our land, even in our own lives. But beyond the ominous clouds, beyond the darkness, God's rule and reign are as sure as the morning. Conditions may seem hard, cold, and steely gray at the moment, but the One who made the heavens and the earth lives forever. And He will have the final word.

As I sat there that evening and watched the setting sun dominate the forbidding clouds, I found myself praying, "O Lord, may Your glory and the light of Your presence shine through my life and through Your people and dispel the darkness of our land." With all my heart, I believe God desires and is able to do just that!

Ask God to break through the darkness of your day (or of your life) and shine through with the glory of His presence.

Excerpted from [*The Quiet Place*](#), by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth