"As you mindfully allow Jesus to control your heart, He will feed you with soul food."

A Broken Heart

The heart is essential to our life, pumping oxygenated blood throughout our body. But it is more than just a pump. It also the place where we experience many of our feelings — from a quickening beat when we see our loved one after a long separation, to a painful pause that happens when we hear bad news. It is to be determined which reacts first to situations causing emotions and reactions: the mind or the heart. The mind normally looks at events or things logically and rationally. But at times, there is something that overrides our mind and makes us think, feel and respond in an emotional and at times illogical way.

Even the Bible relates emotions and the will of man to the heart. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matt 6:21 "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts." Matt 15:19, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jer 17:9

"The first known depiction of a heart as a symbol of romantic love dates to the 1250s. It occurs in a miniature decorating a capital 'S' in a manuscript of the French Roman de la poire. The "scalloped" shape of the now-familiar heart symbol, with a small dent in its base, arises in the early 14th century, in the miniatures in Francesco Barberino's Documenti d'amore. The modern indented heart has been used on playing cards since the late 15th century. Since the 19th century, the symbol has often been used on Valentine's Day cards, candy boxes, and similar popular culture artifacts as a symbol of romantic love. "wikipedia.org/wiki/Heart (symbol)

At this time of year, many hearts will be given out on Valentine's Day cards. A show of love will be everywhere. (I asked Susan to marry me on February 14, 1982. I was also born on that day 2/14/1956.) It can be a hard time for many whose hearts are broken from stress, loss of loved ones and relationships.

"Takotsubo cardiomyopathy is a weakening of the left ventricle, the heart's main pumping chamber, usually as the result of severe emotional or physical stress, such as a sudden illness, the loss of a loved one, a serious accident, or a natural disaster. That's why the condition is also called stress-induced cardiomyopathy, or broken-heart syndrome." health.harvard.edu/heart-health/takotsubo\_It can be fatal.

All of us have had a broken heart, maybe several times in our life. The good news is that Jesus can heal our broken hearts. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel ... He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted." Luke 4:18 "He healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds." Ps 147:3 "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart." Ps 34:18

However, for those who have never allowed Jesus to come into their heart, they cannot know that peace and strength which passes all understanding. The good news is that He can do a free non-surgical heart transplant for you. "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh." Ez 36:26

This Valentine season seek the Lord with all of your heart (emotions), soul (devotion) and mind (will).

Also, look for those who may have a broken heart. Show them that you care.



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