

The Broken Life

“The sacrifices of God are a **broken** spirit;
a **broken** and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.”
(Psalm 51:17)

Proud People . . .	Broken People . . .
1. Focus on the failures of others	1. Are overwhelmed with a sense of their own spiritual need
2. Are self-righteous; have a critical, fault-finding spirit; look at everyone else's faults with a microscope but their own with a telescope; look down on others	2. Are compassionate; can forgive much because they know how much they have been forgiven
3. Have an independent, self-sufficient spirit	3. Have a dependent spirit; recognize their need for others
4. Have to prove that they are right	4. Are willing to yield the right to be right
5. Claim rights; have a demanding spirit	5. Yield their rights; have a meek spirit
6. Are self-protective of their time, their rights, and their reputation	6. Are self-denying
7. Desire to be served	7. Are motivated to serve others
8. Desire to be a success	8. Are motivated to be faithful and to make others a success
9. Desire self-advancement	9. Desire to promote others
10. Have a drive to be recognized, to be appreciated; are wounded when others are promoted and they are overlooked	10. Have a sense of their own unworthiness; are thrilled that God would use them at all in any ministry; are eager for others to get the credit, and rejoice when others are lifted up

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| 11. Have a subconscious feeling, "This ministry is privileged to have me and my gifts"; think of what they can do for God | 11. Have a heart attitude that says, "I don't deserve to have any part in this ministry"; know that they have nothing to offer God except the life of Jesus flowing through their broken lives |
| 12. Feel confident in how much they know | 12. Are humbled by how very much they have to learn |
| 13. Are self-conscious | 13. Are not concerned with self at all |
| 14. Keep others at arm's length | 14. Are willing to risk getting close to others and to take risks of loving intimately |
| 15. Are quick to blame others | 15. Accept personal responsibility and can see where they are wrong in a situation |
| 16. Are unapproachable | 16. Are easy to be entreated |
| 17. Are defensive when criticized | 17. Receive criticism with a humble, open spirit |
| 18. Are concerned with being respectable, with what others think; work to protect their own image and reputation | 18. Are concerned with being real; what they care about and what matters to them is not what others think but what God knows; are willing to die to their own reputation |
| 19. Find it difficult to share their spiritual needs with others | 19. Are willing to be open and transparent with others as God directs |
| 20. Want to be sure that no one finds out when they have sinned; instinct is to cover up | 20. Once broken, don't care who knows or who finds out; are willing to be exposed because they have nothing to lose |
| 21. Have a hard time saying, "I was wrong; will you please forgive me?" | 21. Are quick to admit failure and to seek forgiveness when necessary |
| 22. Tend to deal in generalities when confessing sin | 22. Under the conviction of God's Spirit, are able to acknowledge specifics when confessing their sin |
| 23. Are concerned about the consequences of their sin | 23. Are grieved over the cause, the root of their sin |

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| 24. Are remorseful over their sin, sorry that they got found out or caught | 24. Are truly, genuinely repentant over their sin, which is evidenced in the fact that they forsake that sin |
| 25. Wait for the other to come and ask forgiveness when there is a misunderstanding or conflict in relationships | 25. Take the initiative to be reconciled when there is a misunderstanding or conflict in a relationship; race to the cross; see if they can get there first, no matter how wrong the other may have been |
| 26. Compare themselves with others and feel worthy of honor | 26. Compare themselves to the holiness of God and feel a desperate need for His mercy |
| 27. Are blind to their true heart condition | 27. Walk in the light |
| 28. Don't think they have anything to repent of | 28. Realize they have need of a continual heart attitude of repentance |
| 29. Don't think they need revival, but are sure that everyone else does | 29. Continually sense their need for a fresh encounter with God and for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit |