

The Year of Breakthrough

Bridgeway 2026

January 3-4, 2026

Introduction

- Welcome to 2026 – the **YEAR OF BREAKTHROUGH**
 - Breakthrough of/in what? – **Raise your hand if stuck or struggling!**
 - Write em down – **keep list in your Bible.**
 - What do we do? - **Jesus Christ talked about total freedom for His people in all the ways that matter.** No, He didn't talk about ease and a life of no struggle. But what **He did promise was that He broke the power of sin over us, He defeated the enemy against us, and transformed our spirits within us, so that we would walk ABOVE our circumstances and live peaceful, content, and hopeful lives.**
How will He get us there?
 - Some solved by shift in perspective – **the way that we see the world. flipping the paradigm.**
 - Some solved by process – **discipled, mentored, and trained out of patterns of living that have been destroying us for decades. We need to make necessary changes.**
 - Some solved by miracle – **Holy Spirit and His ability to do the impossible.**
 - Victory is possible – Jesus said in **John 8:36: 'who the Son sets free, will be free indeed'.** **Until we are free INDEED, we will press in for breakthrough. Amen?**
- Where will we begin as a Church? – **6 biblical series on breakthrough and learning God's perspective on how to live victoriously.**
 - **Jeremiah Series (6) – deconstructed into its natural 6 major themes. we will cover all the necessary aspects of the book. Here's why it's so valuable: failure of Israel. Refused to change. Over and over God warned them. Always things that kept them stuck. Something was always better or more interesting than God. Many of their reasons are OUR reasons today.**
 - **This kicks off next week so don't miss it!**
 - **Romans Series (27) – most important theological book in the New Testament. This will show us how Christianity is SUPPOSED to work and highlight how we may be out of alignment with God's plan and that is why we need so much breakthrough. It also gives us the practical road THROUGH this life into God's best for us.**
 - **Ruth Series (4) – talks through real life breakthrough of difficulty in real time. A young widow is left poor and outcast, but chooses to remain close to the Lord and He sees her through into a thriving life.**
 - **Holy Spirit Series (6) – Sprinkled = Holy Spirit series = there is no breakthrough without Him. We will study who He is and what He does. We'll talk about His invasion of earth and how we can partner with Him day to day.**
 - **Evangelism mini-series (2) – how to share our faith with others in a natural and winsome way. People around us need breakthrough just as much as we do and**

we would be remiss in our mission if we kept God's gift of salvation and rescue to ourselves.

Lesson

- A Biblical vision of breakthrough – some of us are stuck, lacking vision, addiction and habits, in toxic relationships, floundering to find hope. I'll use metaphor of bondage vs. freedom. It simply means something is holding us down and it shouldn't be. We should be free to pursue the Lord freely and wholeheartedly.
- Beginning with a famous story of breakthrough:
 - A Woman Healed from Hemorrhaging - Mk 5:24–34 - "And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. ²⁵ And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, ²⁶ and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. ²⁷ She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. ²⁸ For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." ²⁹ And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰ And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" ³¹ And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?' " ³² And he looked around to see who had done it. ³³ But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. ³⁴ And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."
 - The Bondage – what was the woman's problem? 12 years of internal bleeding. It hampered everything.
 - Stigma and rejection – it wasn't just a physical issue it was a social issue. She was a problem, a burden.
 - Tons of people crowding Jesus with needs – Maybe my problem isn't big enough to bother Jesus with it? Tempted to just let it go and continue needless bondage and suffering.
 - Failed by people – It's tough to keep pressing past disappointment in people.
 - Pressing past hopelessness – she tried EVERYTHING and kept losing more and more. She was getting worse!
 - She heard reports about Jesus – What should she do? Go. Try Jesus' way. There's no guarantee and it's a risk. Desperation.
 - She tried it Jesus' way – she touched His garment. How would she know this would work?
 - She was healed! – Her whole life changed in that moment.
 - Jesus calls her out = wanting to set her free in more ways than simply a physical healing.
 - Embarrassment – the stress. She falls down before Him in honor, respect, and thanks.

- Greater unintended freedom – in that moment of embarrassment, the very thing she was trying to avoid, Jesus brought her social restoration with the society. He called her out publicly and proclaimed her as officially healed and clean.
 - Your faith has made you well – The trust to do it Jesus' way led to her healing and breakthrough in many ways.
 - Our Lesson – it will be our FAITH/TRUST in Jesus and to draw near to Him and cling to Him and do what He says, that will lead to our freedom and healing. It will be the Holy Spirit that does the work to set us free.
 - The rest of her freedom began – all that she had lost in 12 years had to be rebuilt and it didn't happen overnight: friends, family relationships, job, trust, etc. But Jesus got her on the right trajectory and now it was time for her to walk out her freedom and build her life.
- Bondage vs. Freedom - If you are a note-taker, I'm going to lay out a series of areas of UNNECESSARY BONDAGE and some areas of APPROPRIATE FREEDOM AND VICTORY.
 - Unnecessary bondage – 3 of the most common TYPES:
 - 1.) Prisons of our minds – wrong thinking.
 - The Truth will set you free - Jn 8:31–32 – *“So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples,³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*
 - Example of mind prisons
 - Idolatry – Anything that is more valuable than God to us.
 - Distractions – we simply forget. Too busy
 - Isolation – no support network of friends or family.
 - Lack of confidence & poor self-esteem – how we view ourselves is out of alignment with how God views us.
 - Selfishness – We have put our desires ahead of God's desires.
 - Boredom with God stuff – Most of us live a boring Christian life. But if we lived with the Holy Spirit...
 - 2.) Prisons of our bodies – bad choices and habits we have adopted and made in this life that continue to hijack our victory.
 - Trapped by the Flesh - Ga 5:16–17, 24 – *“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do...²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”*
 - Examples of body prisons:
 - Addictions – anything that you HAVE TO DO in order to feel normal or better. drinking, smoking, drugs, shopping, attention, porn,

gambling, caffeine, social media, food, etc. By definition **addictions OWN US.**

- Habit patterns – **current ingrained habit patterns.** Can't read, pray, see needs until a new way of living.
 - Lifestyle demands – **are we living lifestyles that don't allow us to follow the Lord well? Are we in jobs that demand too much? Are we in busyness and hurry?** Have we put ourselves in a place (maybe through debt load) **where we MUST live a certain way?**
 - Avoidable health issues – many of us physically can't do the work of the ministry **because we have let our bodies go.**
 - Laziness – **we have trained ourselves to be lazy.** Our will begins to atrophy.
 - Lack of Discipline – **do we not have enough control over our bodies to do the things of the Lord when we want to?**
 - Example: Peter's Promise vs. Reality (denial)
 - Falling asleep in Gethsemane – spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.
- 3.) Prisons through people – **unhealthy relational connections.**
- Examples of people prisons
 - Toxic relationships – **any relationships that are not life-giving, bring harm to you, or hold you back from pursuing the Lord.** someone who is **overly controlling or excessively jealous, manipulates you, puts you down** constantly, makes you **feel unsafe** at times, someone **overly selfish** or **extremely needy, high drama and emotional roller coasters, constant negativity,** someone who **only uses you,** and certainly anyone that **abuses you,** etc.
 - The goal - **not to drop and run but to install health and boundaries and see what God can do.**
 - Unresolved or unhealed trauma – **if someone has done something to us that wrecked us, that is on them. But if we remain in that broken place and do not allow the healing of Christ in our lives, and the help of God's people around us to lift us back up, that's on us.**
 - Neglected marriages – **those not built and those neglected.**
 - Compromise to belong – **joining for acceptance and love.**
- Appropriate freedom and victory – **3 basic and common aspects of freedom and victory that the Bible says every Christian should be walking in** because of what Jesus Christ has done for us.
- 1. Peace & Hope – **when we know that Christ had done all that is needed for us to be connected to God, that allows us deep down to have a hope for the present and the future. The result is that we have a peace that goes beyond circumstances.**

- Perfect peace - Is 26:3 – *“You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.”*
- Rest for our souls - Mt 11:28–30 – *“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*
- 2. Joy – based on the big picture. Although things are difficult for a time there will ultimate be good.
 - Hopeful joy - Heb 12:1–2 – *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”*
- 3. Power & Authority – Power and authority = practical outcomes of being sons and daughters of the Almighty King. When we fused with Christ His resources came to us. As His Body on earth we operate in His power and authority. We are not victims, but victors.
 - Supernatural power - 2 Co 10:4–5 - *“For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵ We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,…”*

Conclusion

- The goal for this year is freedom for everyone in Christ!
- Prayer that God would reveal the stuck points and lead us to Victory.