

# UNBROKEN

## PATH TO REDEMPTION

SERMON OUTLINES

By Will Graham



Four sermon outlines based on themes and topics found in the new movie **UNBROKEN: PATH TO REDEMPTION**, opening in theaters September 14.



## WEEK 1

### TITLE

Brokenness

### TEXT

Genesis 3:1-15; Romans 3:23

### MAIN IDEA

Brokenness is a universal condition caused by sin

### OPENING ILLUSTRATION

When World War II ended with the surrender of the Empire of Japan to Allied Forces, the POWs, some of whom had been held captive for years, were finally released. Celebrations broke out all over the free world. Men thought to be dead returned to their families. The war was finally over. Yet, when many of these men returned home, what they had seen and experienced in war followed them home. Louis Zamperini was one such man. Before the war, he had been a track and field champion and Olympian. During the war, he distinguished himself with meritorious service and an unbreakable will to survive in the brutal and inhumane conditions where he served as a prisoner of war. His memories weren't liberated when he was. The war wasn't over; it followed him home. The brokenness from the war crept into his soul and began to overtake his everyday life.

**Point 1:** Brokenness is a universal condition (Romans 3:23; Genesis 3:1-6)

**Point 2:** Brokenness brings consequences (Genesis 3:7-14)

**Point 3:** God has a plan to deal with our brokenness (Genesis 3:15)

### CONCLUSION

Brokenness is a problem we all have—and one with which we must deal. Even though we live in a world that has been broken by sin, God has promised to help heal our brokenness when we turn it over to Him.



## WEEK 2

### TITLE

Misplaced Hope

### TEXT

Mark 10:17-27

### MAIN IDEA

Where we find our hope sets the direction for our lives

### OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Like many soldiers from World War II, when Louis Zamperini returned home, he had a hard time adjusting. Despite regaining his freedom and meeting the love of his life, he could not shake the hurt and brokenness from war. He believed if he could return to his former glory as a track star, then everything would fall back into place. Louis believed if he could get back to the Olympics, if he could do what he was “born to do,” then his troubles would cease. This hope was ultimately misplaced.

**Point 1:** Our hope is not found in what we do or who we are (vv. 17-20)

**Point 2:** Hope in anything or anyone other than Jesus is misplaced (vv. 21-22)

**Point 3:** Jesus is waiting for us when our hope fails (vv. 23-27)

### CONCLUSION

Any hope other than Jesus is ultimately misplaced. We need to come to Jesus with all of our hurt and struggles. When we try to treat our brokenness with man-made hope, we are tackling the symptom, not the disease.



## WEEK 3

### TITLE

Redemption

### TEXT

2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 5:17-20

### MAIN IDEA

The greatest need of all people is to be made new in Jesus Christ

### OPENING ILLUSTRATION

In the years after he returned home from World War II, Louis Zamperini struggled with what we would now call Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). He was haunted by images and memories of "The Bird," his chief tormentor from his time in a Japanese POW camp. As he failed in his post-war career efforts, Louis descended deeper and deeper into darkness. Alcohol began to take over his life, and he made plans to return to Japan to kill the man who caused him so much hurt. By the fall of 1949, Louis' marriage was on the brink. He reluctantly attended a Billy Graham Crusade at the request of his wife. There, Louis finally met the only One who could truly help him: Jesus Christ.

**Point 1:** God sees our hurt and brokenness (2 Corinthians 1:3-8)

**Point 2:** God takes our brokenness and makes us new (2 Corinthians 5:17)

**Point 3:** God uses our brokenness to share His hope with others (2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

### CONCLUSION

What Louis discovered from Billy Graham is that the Bible says we all need to be reborn. When we come to Jesus, we are no longer people defined by our successes or our failures; instead, we are entirely new creations who are defined by Christ's sacrifice on our behalf. At the cross we lay down all of our hopes and our darkness in exchange for true freedom and a new life!



## WEEK 4

### TITLE

Forgiveness

### TEXT

Matthew 6:14

### MAIN IDEA

The forgiveness we have received from Jesus changes the way we live

### OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Louis Zamperini's life was haunted by memories of World War II. But when he gave his life to Jesus, he experienced total transformation. After meeting Jesus Christ at the 1949 Billy Graham Crusade in Los Angeles, Louis never had another drop of alcohol and he was able to forgive. In fact, Louis returned to Japan to meet his former Japanese captors and forgive all of them. Jesus so transformed him, Louis was able to forgive what many would consider unforgiveable.

**Point 1:** All of us are offenders

**Point 2:** All of us can be forgiven by Jesus

**Point 3:** All who are forgiven by Jesus extend forgiveness to others

### CONCLUSION

The Spirit's work in our lives leads us forgive others as we have been forgiven!