

From Brokenness to "Belongingness"

Through CBSI study, a woman discovers the healing only God brings.

"When a marriage falls apart, it's hard to imagine something better is possible. The pain of betrayal goes excruciatingly deep. My sense of being shattered within, and severely insecure, resulted in near constant crying and a profound sadness. I asked God 'Why?' time and time again."



Remerie

These are the words of Remerie, a CBSI sister in the Philippines. Unfortunately, she is not the only one with this story. We all likely know many people who have said the same thing.

Perhaps this is your own story. Broken relationships can lead to other elements of brokenness and despair, which is why the Word of God and the healing comfort it brings is so very critical.

Remerie held on to God's Word through that very difficult time, saying, "I'm thankful for CBSI. **The insights and wise counsel I learned during our lessons gave me strength and motivation to move forward, even when I felt like giving up.**

"As I asked God why He would let such a thing to happen to me and my family, He assured me that He is sovereign, that He knows about my painful reality, that He is mindful and is acquainted with my brokenness."

In the midst of her pain, Remerie felt God inspiring her to serve others. Her focus shifted from her own circumstances and turned toward others in her CBSI family and support community, some of whom were dealing with similar situations.

She shares, "I was given the privilege to serve as an Assistant Small Group Leader and was able to minister to fellow wives who are in the same boat as me. And it was during this lowest point of my life I held on to 2 Corinthians 12:9, which says, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'

"The lessons we studied during CBSI classes helped me know who God is and understand God's love more

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deeply, and that His love is faithful, constant and powerful!"

Remerie is still on the journey from brokenness to healing. It's been over a year since her marital relationship came to an end. But her faith has grown through the study of God's Word, through her CBSI family and support community, and through serving others.

She concludes her testimony by sharing, **"There are days that are still difficult, but I carry with me the assurance that God loves me and He will never leave me."**

Only God and the promises He has made through His Word can bring peace and comfort in the midst of such pain and emotional chaos.

Perhaps Remerie's story is all too familiar to you. If so, draw encouragement from her journey. Go to God in prayer ... go to His Word ... find healing and comfort. Pray also for Remerie, as well as for all of those within your wider CBSI family around the world.

Finally, please consider supporting the East Asia-Pacific Region through prayer and perhaps through your financial support, so that classes like hers are able to continue the good work they are doing to serve others in need through CBSI.

With gratitude,



Keith Spartzak, International Director

God's Good Work in the Philippines

Patricia is a new Christ follower and a Filipino CBSI Member. She shares:



"As an unbeliever, I first

attended a CBSI study out of curiosity when invited by a friend. I was from a salvation-through-works church background. But through studying the book of Romans, I came to know and believe that it is only through faith are we truly justified (Romans 1:17).

"I have now accepted that the Bible is the one true source of what God has said. It no longer is a mere reference for me. Rather, it is the final say and authority – the truth."



Jaymie, a Filipino CBSI member shares:

"My spiritual journey with the Lord started in CBSI. This was where my faith

in the Lord was solidified. Getting all the love from all of the individual class participants who are beautiful women servants of God inspired me to use my faith for God's glory.

"I am still a work in progress. I will continue to attend CBSI as my way of serving the Lord. It is my venue where I feel closest to Him. It is where the Lord talks to me."

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