



I. INTRO

- A. Humpty Dumpty had a great fall!
- B. We live in a society where trust in every major institution has been broken

Judges 17:6 (NLT) In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.

- C. All of this leads to broken people

Psalms 34:18 (NIRV) The Lord is close to those whose hearts have been broken. He saves those whose spirits have been crushed.

II. GOD HAS ALWAYS HAD A PLAN

- A. God and His word are the final authority and the absolute standard of truth
 - Our feelings are not a safe standard, neither is our culture nor society
- B. God's purpose
 - Everything in creation has an assignment

Genesis 1:27 (NIV) So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

- God created them male and female—to “image” and “represent” Himself

Genesis 1:28 (NIV) God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

- C. Sin broke the mold

Genesis 5:1-3 (NIV) This is the written account of Adam's family line. When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. ² He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them “Mankind” when they were created. ³ When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth.

- The purpose of creation and humanity was for God to reveal Himself

- D. Of all the “broken” things, the greatest casualty is the family



III. FATHERLESSNESS

A. The role of a father is irreplaceable

- **63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes**
— 5 times the average. (US Dept. Of Health/Census)
- **90% of all homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes**
— 32 times the average. (US D.H.H.S., Bureau of the Census)
- **85% of all children who show behavioral disorders come from fatherless homes**
— 20 times the average. (Center for Disease Control)
- **80% of rapists with anger problems come from fatherless homes**
— 14 times the average. (Justice & Behavior, Vol 14, p. 403-26)
- **71% of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes**
— 9 times the average. (National Principals Association Report)
- **70% of youths in state-operated institutions come from fatherless homes**
— 9 times the average. (U.S. Dept. of Justice, Sept. 1988)
- **85% of all youths in prison come from fatherless homes**
— 20 times the average. (Fulton Co. Georgia, Texas Dept. of Correction)

B. Hope for the broken

Psalm 68:5-6 (NLT) ⁵ Father to the fatherless, defender of widows—this is God, whose dwelling is holy. ⁶ God places the lonely in families; he sets the prisoners free and gives them joy. But he makes the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.

Joel 2:28-29 (NIV) ²⁸ “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. ²⁹ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

Joshua 24:15 (NKJV) And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”