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On The Bright Side Of Broken

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfcylwwnT-Y>

As I sat in the stillness before church began, I unfolded the prayer list handed out at the door. Some names were familiar; others were friends or family members of those who gather each week. With each request, my heart ached. Each one represented a story, a struggle, a hope for a miracle.

Only minutes earlier, a friend shared through tears that she had lost her second grandson this month—the first, a soldier in battle in Ukraine, and the second to a drug overdose. My own eyes filled as she spoke. I understood that kind of loss.

The flood of sorrow around me felt deep and wide. Another friend confided her battle with depression after enduring five recent health challenges. And just days before, a dear voice on the phone trembled with frustration—she'd spent two months in a rehab hospital after breaking her pelvis, not from a fall, but from simply turning in her kitchen. Now she faced going home in a wheelchair, uncertain of what life would look like next.

So many hurting hearts. So many burdens heavy to carry. And yet, as I sat there, my mind returned to the story in John 9, where Jesus and His disciples encountered a man born blind. The disciples asked whose sin caused his condition—his own, or his parents'?

But Jesus' answer pierced through centuries of misunderstanding: "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him." What a powerful reminder of God's sovereignty and His ability to bring beauty from ashes. Sometimes He allows the breaking so that His light can shine through the cracks.

There truly is a bright side to broken. I've been there many times, and each time, God has shown me that His mercy runs deepest in those shattered places.

Today's song echoes that truth: "Even in the darkest times there's always hope. What we see as a broken mess—Jesus sees a chance to be made whole. 'Cause the bright side of being broken is a heart that's busted open. With every break, the light will chase the darkness away." — MercyMe

Sometimes even the smallest frustrations become divine reminders that God is near, working in the details. On the bright side of broken, we find that surrender opens the door to blessing. When we trust that He's working—whether or not we see how—light always finds its way in.

Closing Prayer: Lord, when life feels fragile and hope seems far away, remind us that You are still at work in the broken places. Shine Your light through our cracks and help us to see Your purpose beyond our pain. Give us compassion for those who suffer, courage to trust when we cannot see, and faith to believe that every heartbreak can become a doorway for Your glory. On the bright side of broken, may Your love make us whole again. Amen.

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