

1. Readiness to minister:
  - a. Abiding in Christ.

John 15:4-5 *Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.*

<sup>5</sup>*"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.*

Galatians 6:1-5 *Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. <sup>2</sup>Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup>For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. <sup>4</sup>But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. <sup>5</sup>For each one shall bear his own load.*

- b. Partner with others for accountability and support.

2. What is a crisis?
  - a. Crises are inevitable. Why?

- b. Definitions:

3. Change causes crisis.

What are some crises that you have experienced or you have seen other people experience?

4. What we will study:

5. Questions to examine:

Matthew 7:24 *"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:*

<sup>25</sup>and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

<sup>26</sup>“But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: <sup>27</sup>and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

6. The course a crisis takes depends on choices.

7. Coping strategies:

The fork in the road presents itself, one leading to greater brokenness and the other to wholeness.

These coping strategies do not work and lead to greater brokenness:

Taking the road to greater wholeness:

8. Ministry to people in crisis means to:

Summary of the equilibrium handout:

Other questions and discussion.

Next week: Listening to people, empathy versus sympathy only, and setting healthy boundaries.

