

Breathe Again Series
Where Others Know Your Name

Introduction - **FRIENDSHIP** is born at that moment when one person says to another “What! You too? I thought I was the only one!”

Example: pastor in China

I. Trapped by the **PAST**

- Terah’s painful loss - Genesis 11:27-28
- Died in Haran - Genesis 11:31-32; He couldn’t let go of his pain, grief and hurt to embrace the joy ahead
- Warning: “When hurt, we’re not very smart.” Pain causes blindness, obstructs objectivity and common sense
- Our baggage affects others - (Genesis 12); Abram was separated

II. **ALONE** No More - 2 Timothy 1:16 TLB

- A community can make trials bearable and our triumphs worth celebrating - Hebrews 10:25
- Alone? - Ecclesiastes 4:8; Why??
 - Naivete - The way life is, go at it alone
 - Temperament - Others won’t understand us or accept us
 - Fear - I have been burned... Example: Three guys
 - Busyness - I don’t have time to unplug and relax

III. **CHEERS**

- A longing for connection, friendship and relationship is foundational to every human being

- Should be more acceptance, safety and encouragement in our relationships with believers than elsewhere - Romans 12:5 NLT
- Mask problems - 2 Corinthians 4:2 MSG; James 5:16 NLT
- Seeing the blind spots - Proverbs 27:6 NKJV

Conclusion - May Gilead be a place of **TRUE** friendship. - Proverbs 18:24