

Suggestions for Using the “Broken” Diagrams

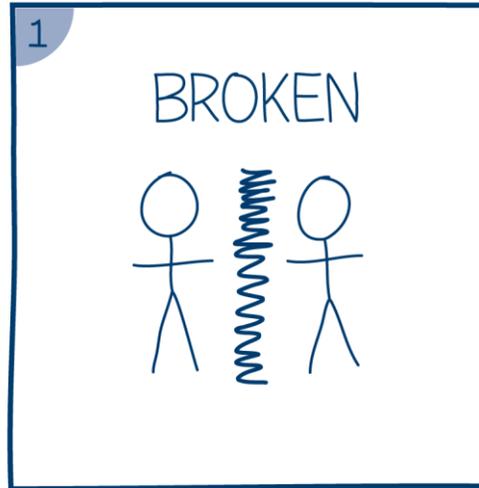
By Katie J. Rawson

These diagrams and suggested script are taken from *Crossing Cultures with Jesus: Sharing Good News with Sensitivity and Grace* by Katie J. Rawson (InterVarsity Press, 2015). Chapter six of that book describes the honor-shame, innocence-guilt and power-fear value systems to which the diagrams appeal. Chapter ten contains additional suggestions for their use, Bible discussion material for each frame and ideas on adapting them to various groups.

If using the diagrams in a large or small group, the incomplete set above may be shared as a handout so that people can follow along and draw in the missing parts as you explain them. With a large group the diagrams may be placed on PowerPoint slides and presented as you speak. When sharing one-to-one, the filled in diagrams on the last page of this document may be given to your friend to help him or her remember the points you have made and keep the invitations in mind.

Present the diagrams in the form of a story, and fit the story to your audience. The words in italics capture the main point of each diagram. If sharing with one friend or in a small group, use the questions provided at the end of some frames to develop a dialogue.

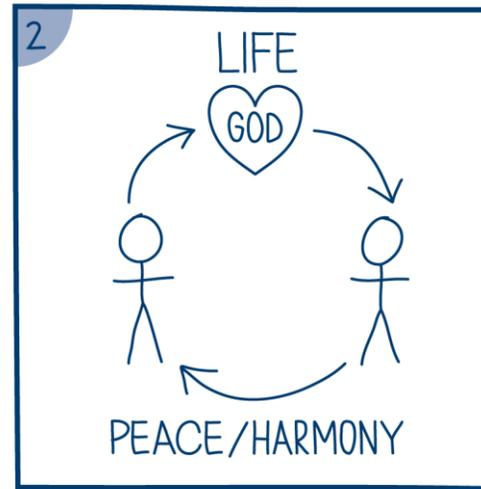
Frame 1: Broken



Make the following points:

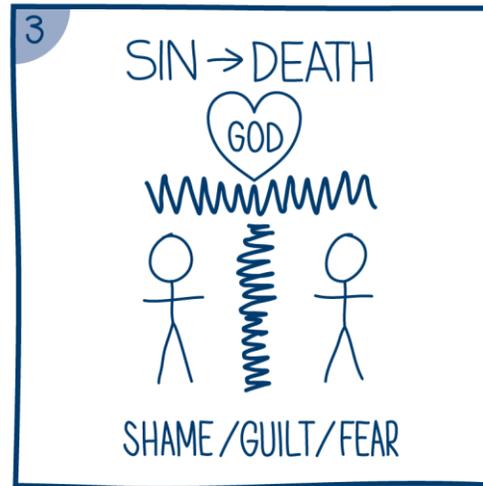
- *When we look around the world we see broken relationships everywhere:* between nations, people groups, families, friends, inside ourselves and even with the earth.
- Where have you seen examples of broken relationships in the world?
- What do you think a world without broken relationships would be like?

Frame 2: Peace/ Harmony



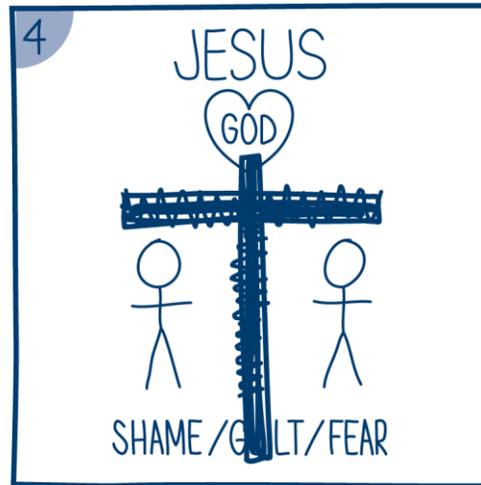
- We deeply desire that world without broken relationships; we yearn for peace and harmony. The fact that we can imagine this world and yearn for it is a clue that we were made for it. In fact the Bible teaches that there is a *God of love at the heart of the universe and that he made human beings for relationships of peace and harmony with him and each other.*
- Human beings received life directly from God; relationship with God gave them life.
- God honored them by giving them an intimate relationship with him and making them rulers over the world he had created. The Bible tells us that Adam and Eve, the first man and woman, were naked and yet not ashamed. Although they wore no physical clothes, they were clothed with the honor of God. They honored God with their hearts and they honored him by living in perfect obedience to him. So they both received honor from God and gave honor to God and to each other. Relationships between the couple and God, between husband and wife, inside their hearts and with the earth were filled with peace and harmony.

Frame 3: Sin and Death



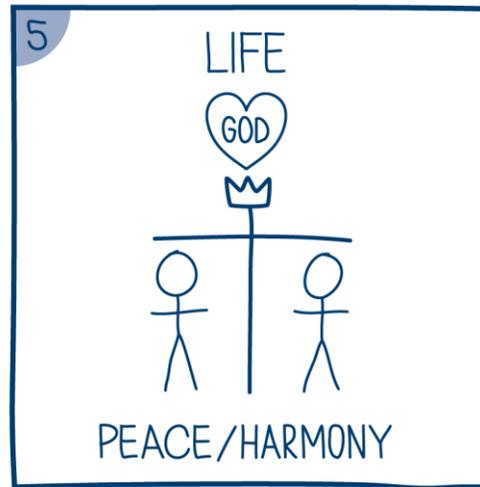
- But the peace and harmony the woman and man enjoyed were broken. When they disobeyed and dishonored God, relationship with him was broken, and soon the relationship between the two of them was broken as well.
- When the relationship with God was lost, the man and woman also lost the honor they had received from God; they realized they were naked and hid from God, feeling shame, guilt and fear.
- Since then, human beings continually dishonor and break relationship with God and with each other. The Bible's word for this dishonoring is *sin*. *Sin is the heart attitude that puts self first, thus dishonoring and breaking relationship with God and people.* From this heart attitude come the individual thoughts and acts that are "sins."
- Through sin Adam and Eve lost life; they were sent away from God's presence and learned that they would die.

Frame 4: Jesus



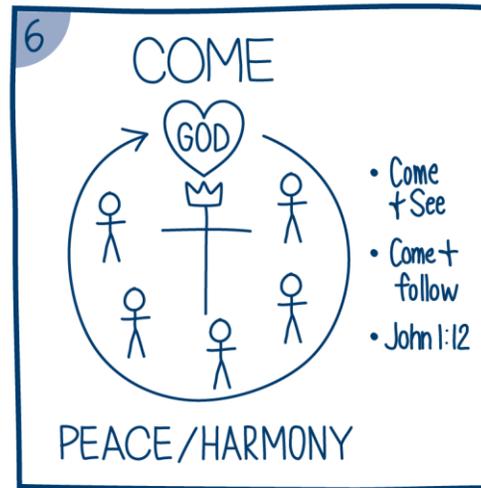
- Ever since Adam and Eve dishonored God, human beings owe a debt of honor to God that we cannot pay. Only God can make the relationship right again and set us free from shame, guilt and fear.
- In families in some parts of the world, the older brother is responsible for the younger brothers and sisters and must seek them if they are lost. *Jesus became a human being to be like an elder brother: to seek after people and reunite them with God the Father.*
- Jesus humbled (shamed) himself to become a human being and *lived a life of perfect obedience* to the Father, paying the honor debt people owe to God.
- *In dying on the cross for human beings Jesus revealed God's character as holy and loving, restoring the honor God lost when Adam and Eve sinned.* He took our *shame, guilt, fear* and *pain* on himself.

Frame 5: Life



- But Jesus did not remain dead. *The Father honored Jesus' obedience* by raising him from death to life. We place a crown over the cross to represent the honor Jesus received when he rose to life.
- In the cross and resurrection Jesus triumphed over all God's enemies, including death, and he is now reigning with the Father in heaven.
- Jesus offers life to everyone who will follow him and become part of God's family. *When we commit ourselves to Jesus, he gives us honor for shame, forgiveness for guilt, peace for fear, and harmony instead of broken relationships.* He sends the Holy Spirit to live inside us and help us honor God. The Spirit also begins to heal our relationship with ourselves, others and the earth.
- This is the main message of the Bible. What questions do you have?

Frame 6: Come



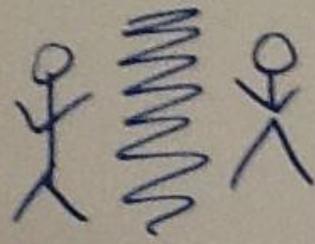
- Today there is a worldwide family connected to God and each other. *Members of that family are working to bring peace and harmony to the many broken relationships in our world.*

Jesus offers two invitations:

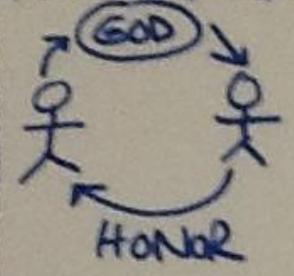
- *Come and see*: Learn about Jesus through reading the Bible, praying, doing what he says, and spending time with his people. Become a sincere seeker after God.
- *Come and follow*: Join Jesus and his family in bringing harmony to this broken world. Give your allegiance, your loyalty, to Jesus and become a child of Father God. John 1:12 tells us how: "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" (NIV). To "receive" Jesus means to welcome him into your life as King and Teacher. To "believe in his name" means to trust in him deeply.
- *Jesus is making these invitations today...* Are you ready to answer one of them or do you need some more time to think about it?

- Friends who are ready to answer one of the invitations should be encouraged to speak directly to God in their heart languages.
- Suggest that friends who are not ready to answer an invitation continue investigating Jesus in some way. You could also ask “Is there any one of these frames that you really liked or really had trouble with?” Answers to those questions will help you know how to pray and continue pointing your friend to Jesus.
- In a large or small group setting you may allow a time of silence for people to consider the invitations and hear the voice of God. If appropriate, share the handout on the last page of this document.
- Former InterVarsity staff Beth Lindahl shares the following *adaptation for Chinese*;
 - In frame 3, emphasize the fear and weakness that lead to slavery to shame, guilt, sin and death.
 - In frame 4, speak about the reconciliation and harmony that Jesus came to bring. The word in *Pinyin*, the Chinese phonetic spelling system, is *he2 jie3* (see photo below, which uses an older version of the diagrams, for tonal markings).
 - In frame 5, speak of the freedom from shame, guilt, fear, sin and death that the resurrected Jesus offers. The word for freedom is *zi you2* (see photo below). Emphasizing reconciliation and freedom should speak powerfully to many Chinese.
- Longtime minister E. W. Stephens suggests emphasizing the fear/ power elements when sharing with Hindu friends. Speak of the cross as the final blood sacrifice for our debt of karma and the body of Christ as the true temple where God lives through his Spirit.
- With Muslims, emphasize the peace (both personal and with others) and freedom from fear that Jesus offers.
- Remember to pray for protection for the seeds planted in people’s hearts as you shared the diagrams and for new seekers and believers.

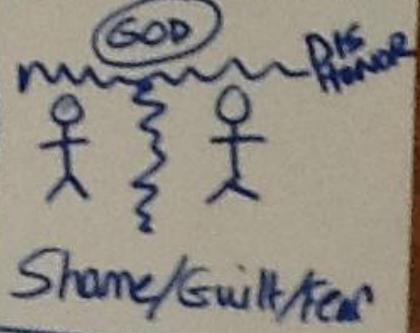
BROKEN



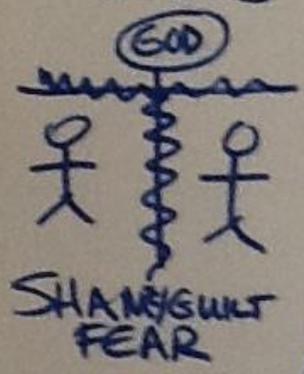
HARMONY/LIFE



SIN → DEATH



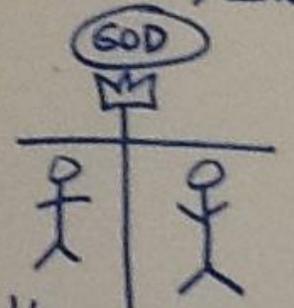
JESUS



SHAME/GUILT
FEAR

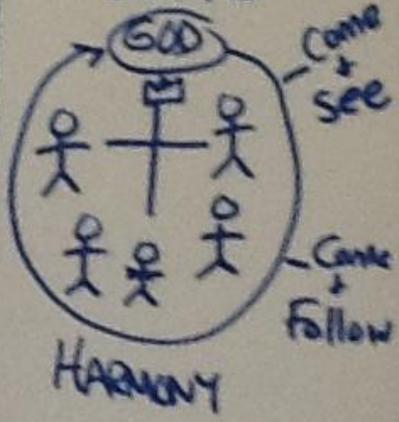
hé jiè
Reconciliation
↓
Peace

Resurrection/Life

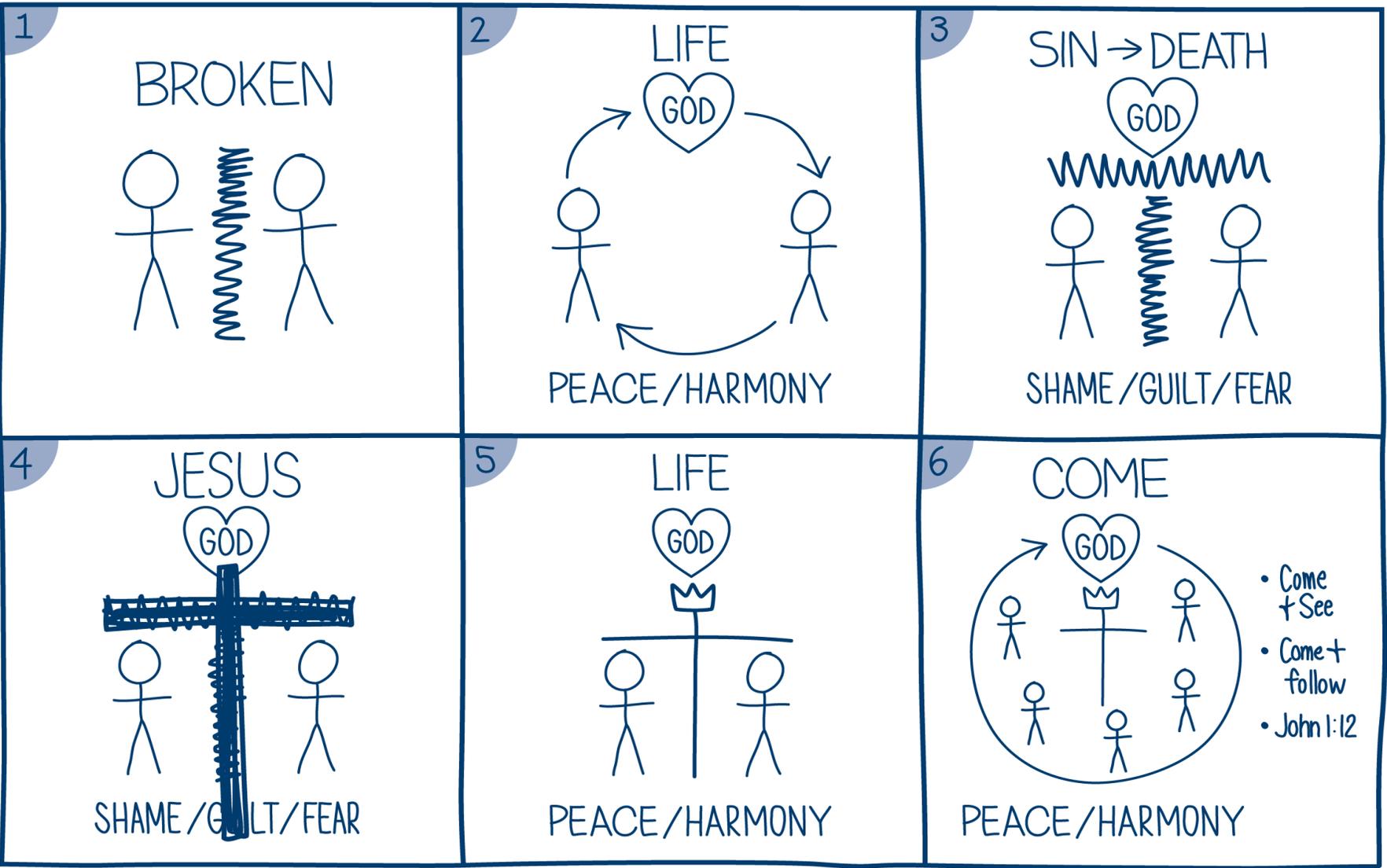


HONOR/
FORGIVENESS
↓
FREEDOM
zì yóu

COME



HARMONY



1
BROKEN

2
LIFE
GOD
PEACE/HARMONY

3
SIN → DEATH
GOD
SHAME/GUILT/FEAR

4
JESUS
GOD
SHAME/GUILT/FEAR

5
LIFE
GOD
PEACE/HARMONY

6
COME
GOD
PEACE/HARMONY

- Come + See
- Come + follow
- John 1:12