“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds”
Psalm 147:3

The Lord who heals the brokenhearted is also the One who counts the stars and calls them all by name (147:4). Our great and powerful God is also full of mercy. It is when we are broken for our sin that we understand God’s grace and praise Him.

The brokenhearted
There are many kinds of broken hearts. Hearts are broken through disappointment. Hearts are broken when loved ones die. Hearts are broken in many ways. But Christ is good at healing all kinds of broken hearts. “Come to me, all who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”

Christ heals those whose hearts are broken for sin. Some waste many years of their lives living without God. They forget the God who has blessed them. When our hearts are broken because of our sin, Jesus forgives and heals us. He shows the greatness of His power and wisdom by helping those who are in despair. He delights to set those who are burdened free.

It takes great wisdom to comfort a broken heart. We are unable to do it. Only God can heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds.

The Great Healer
Who is this One who heals the broken in heart? Jesus said, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.” (Luke 4:21) Jesus was sent by God to heal the brokenhearted. He left heaven to come to earth to heal the brokenhearted.

Jesus had a broken heart and so He is able to comfort us. “Scorn has broken my heart and has left me helpless. I looked for sympathy, but there was none, for comforters, but I found none.” (Psalm 69:20-21) Jesus cried from the cross, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” (Matthew 27:46) In all our distress He too was distressed (Isaiah 63:9). He was tempted in every way just as we are (Hebrews 4:15). “A man of suffering and familiar with pain” (Isaiah 53:3).

Jesus is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray. Jesus has been healing broken hearts for thousands of years! No one has ever come to Jesus and been turned away because their condition is too bad. Jesus never refuses anyone who comes to Him (John 6:37). He is mighty to save.

How does Jesus heal us? He suffered in our place on the cross. Healing comes through His death for us. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross. By His wounds we are healed (1 Peter 2:24).

Jesus knows our hidden sorrow and takes our grief away. We try our best to help others, but we cannot do it. The human heart needs more than human skill to heal it. There is only one Person who can heal our hearts and He does. He is doing this work now. Jesus is still healing the brokenhearted. His power and patience never run out. He still heals. We are never too old to be saved. No one has ever come to Jesus with a broken heart that He did not heal. We go to the doctor sometimes and they tell us there is nothing they can do for us. Some sicknesses are incurable. But Jesus is able to save completely those who come to God through Him (Hebrews 7:25).

Psalm 147 begins and ends with “Praise the LORD.” God is to be praised because He heals the brokenhearted. None of the gods of the nations were ever praised for this. They cannot heal the
brokenhearted. Only God, the Maker of all, can heal the brokenhearted. He delights to save those who seem hopeless.

What are we to do?
If Jesus is the great Healer of our broken hearts, what should we do? First, we should come to Him. If someone is told they have an incurable disease, they are willing to go anywhere to find some treatment that might help them. If we have a broken heart, we need to come to Christ. He will heal us. It doesn’t matter how old we are. Everyone has broken hearts. If we go to Jesus, He will heal us. Come to Him and find rest.

How do we go to Jesus? We go by prayer. We tell Him our need. We ask Him to take away our sin and to forgive us. He knows our hearts.

We also need to trust Him. We go to Him with our broken hearts and believe that He can heal us. We believe that He alone can heal us and we trust Him to do it. We do not look anywhere else for salvation. “Lord, I believe; help me overcome my unbelief.” (Mark 9:24) Trust Him to heal you.

When we have trusted in Him and our heart is healed, we should tell others about Him. We are to tell others what the Lord has done for us and do all we can to bring others to Him. If Christ is blessing us, we should bring others to Him to be saved. If He has healed us, we should long for Him to heal our husband or wife, our children, our friends, and our neighbors. We should never rest until we bring others to Him.

We should praise Him. If we have been healed and our sins forgiven, we should praise the Lord! We do not sing enough. We may pray every day, but do we sing every day? We should. One preacher said that it is good to pray, and even better to read the Bible and pray. But best of all is to read and pray and sing. It is easy to grumble and complain and find fault. But we should use our tongues to praise the Lord. “How good it is to sing praises to our God! How delightful and right! (147:1). We always have something to sing about. If our broken hearts have been healed, we have something to sing about now and throughout eternity. Let us praise the One who heals the brokenhearted and binds up our wounds.