

18 The Lord is close to the
brokenhearted and saves those
who are crushed in spirit.

PSALM 34:18 NIV

Talking to Our Kids About Tragedy:

- **Ask** them what they have heard - clarify any misinformation.
- **Encourage** them to share what they think and how they feel without judgement.
- **Invite** them to ask questions - be okay with saying, "I don't know the answer to that."
- **Share** about God's desire for how we use our free will and yet how sometimes people choose to abuse that.
- **Remind** them that God is ever-present and near to the brokenhearted, bringing comfort.
- **Point** ahead to hope in God's redemption. Share that God's light is brighter than even the darkest circumstances.
- **Pray** with them.

Follow Jesus.

We are a family of
imperfect people
following the
perfect Savior,

Jesus.

⁷ “But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence. ⁸ They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.

JEREMIAH 17:5-6 NIV

Path of Spiritual Formation:

- **Belong** to Jesus
- **Grow** in Jesus
- **Reach** others with Jesus

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them,
“All authority in heaven and on earth has
been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the
name of the Father and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all
that I have commanded you. And behold,
I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:18-20 ESV

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them,
“All authority in heaven and on earth has
been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the
name of the Father and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to **observe all**
that I have commanded you. And behold,
I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

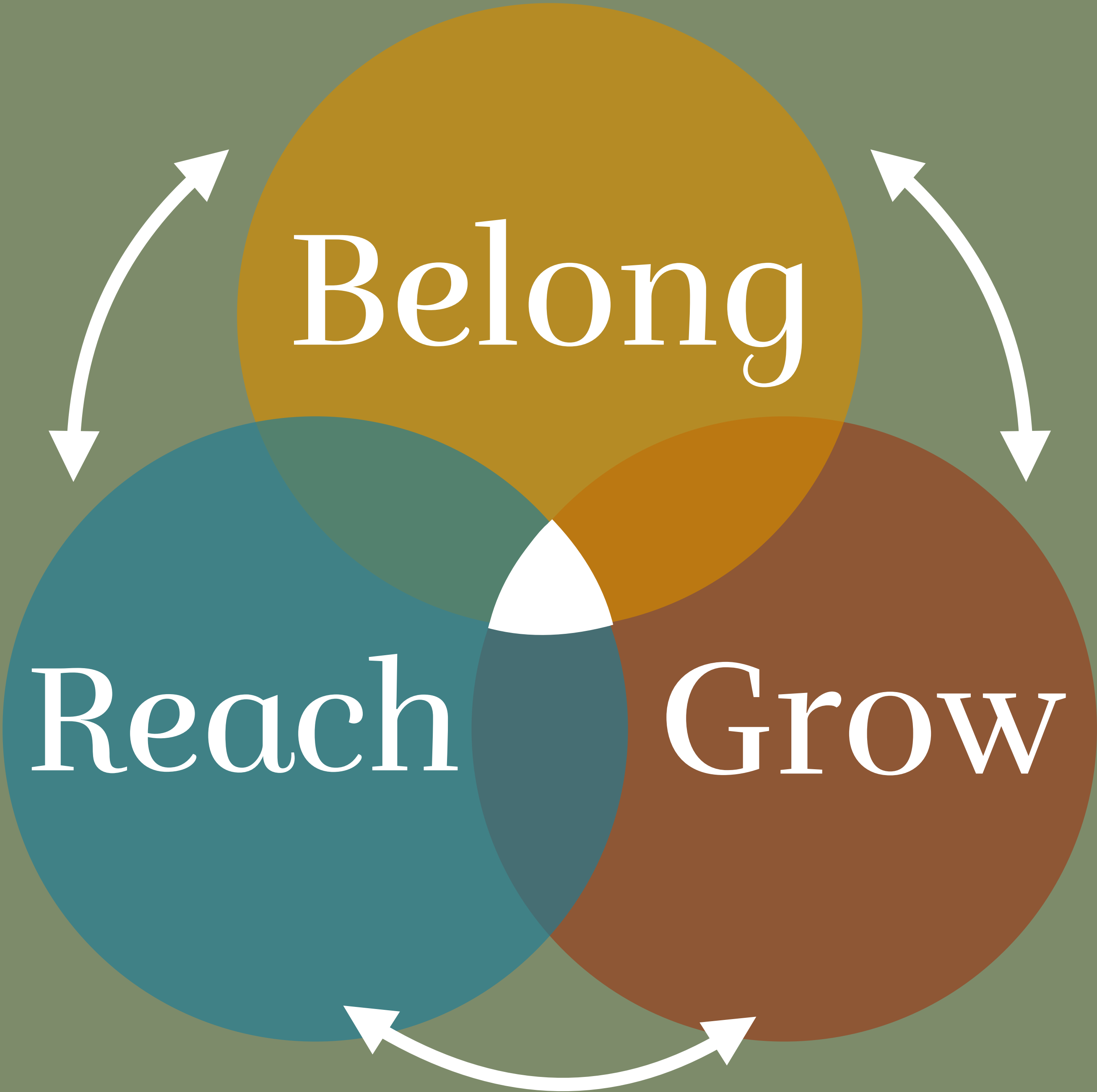
MATTHEW 28:18-20 ESV

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them,
“All authority in heaven and on earth has
been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make
disciples of **all nations**, baptizing them in the
name of the Father and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all
that I have commanded you. And behold,
I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:18-20 ESV

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them,
“All authority in heaven and on earth has
been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the
name of the Father and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all
that I have commanded you. And behold,
I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:18-20 ESV



⁴ Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. ⁵ God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

EPHESIANS 1:4-5 NIV

⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son.

EPHESIANS 1:6 NIV

¹ The book of the genealogy of
Jesus Christ, the son of David,
the son of Abraham.

MATTHEW 1:1 ESV

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:
²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

MATTHEW 1:22-23 ESV

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?

⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.

⁹ And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.

MATTHEW 3:7-9 NIV

¹⁰ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

MATTHEW 3:10 NIV

¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

MATTHEW 4:1-3 NIV

8 Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come.

1 TIMOTHY 4:8 NLT

¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

MATTHEW 4:1-3 NIV

⁴ Jesus answered, “It is written:
‘Man shall not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes
from the mouth of God.’”

MATTHEW 4:4 NIV

Desert Trials :

- **Self Reliance**

Desert Trials :

- **Self Reliance** / Submit to Jesus

⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

PROVERBS 3:5-6 NIV

¹⁸ But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

2 PETER 3:18 NIV

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.””

MATTHEW 4:5-6 NIV

Desert Trials :

- **Self Reliance** / Submit to Jesus
- **Suffering**

⁷ Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

MATTHEW 4:7 NIV

Desert Trials :

- **Self Reliance** / Submit to Jesus
- **Suffering** / Safe in Jesus

¹ Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. ² I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

PSALM 91:1-2 NIV

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

MATTHEW 4:8-9 NIV

Desert Trials :

- **Self Reliance** / Submit to Jesus
- **Suffering** / Safe in Jesus
- **Success**

¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

MATTHEW 4:10 NIV

Desert Trials :

- **Self Reliance** / Submit to Jesus
- **Suffering** / Safe in Jesus
- **Success** / Serve Jesus

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

ROMANS 12:1-2 NIV

¹ Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. ² Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory.

ROMANS 5:1-2 NLT

³ We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. ⁴ And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. ⁵ And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us

ROMANS 5:3-5 NLT

⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

1 PETER 1:6-7 NIV

⁹ “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

MATTHEW 6:9-13 NIV