

CHAIN BREAKERS

May 10, 2020 ser3934 – God Made Me That Way, Pt2
A Mother's Day Sermon

Good Morning and Happy Mother's Day.

Slide: Happy Mother's Day background

Slide: Chain Breakers Recovery

My name is Angelina Moore and I serve here at Gloucester County Community Church as an usher and ministry leader of our addictions recovery group, Chain Breakers. I'm excited and feel humbled and honored to have been asked to speak today.

Slide: Broken shine

Let me start by saying that I'm not qualified to be up here by what the "world's" qualifications would be. I haven't been to bible school; I barely got through high school, and failed out of college. The only thing I have that qualifies me is going through the school of life and the power of the Holy Spirit that lives in me and works through me.

I'm not a preacher; I am just another believer like you. There is nothing special about me except for He who lives in me. AND He who lives in me, GAVE ME A REVELATION, and the realization of who I am in Him, what I have in Him, to be who He made me to be, and who He called me to be. It was that revelation, which brought release, power and deliverance into my life. Jesus Christ broke that chain of addiction that was holding me back, and I'm here to tell you that He can

break the chains in your life too. I feel a change and a breakthrough coming through here today church!!!

Slide: play invitation pray video from last week during pray

Let us pray... "Father God, I thank you for the opportunity to speak to the church today. I thank you for Your presence among us and for what You are about to do. I pray for all the mothers that are listening today that You would bless them, Lord, and show them Your great favor. I pray that You would give all of us mothers and parents wisdom and strength to train up our children in a Godly way that brings glory to You. Please speak through me and let me deliver the message you want Your people to hear today. I pray and declare that chains would be broken today and strongholds would come down. I pray for the church, God, that You would meet our needs and help us to meet the needs of others. I pray all of this in name of your son, Jesus Christ, Amen!"

Slide: Topic

The topic for this month is "God made me that way."///
What I want to focus on today is Overcoming generational sins and becoming who God called me to be. My message title is CHAIN BREAKER!//

Slide: Broken shine medium

When Pastor Bruce asked me to speak today//, of course I was a little nervous being that I have never spoken on a platform like this before. However, after he told me what the topic for the month was it gave me some ease being that I have a lot of "life experience" with this and figured I could talk on this topic for a little while. lol. ///

So, just what is generational sin?///

Generational sin defined is:

SLIDE: DEFINITION ON SCREEN

“Weaknesses or tendencies that are handed down to us through the generations, from parents or members of our families. These sins can involve behavioral patterns and ways of thinking that keep us trapped in the past. Even though sin can be passed down through the generations, each person is responsible for his or her personal sins against the LORD.”

Generational sins can have many patterns. Once a sin pattern begins in a family, it can continue and multiply among the family members. It can last for generations and can become a stronghold and a stumbling block for the whole family.

SLIDE: Scripture on screen

Exodus 20:4-6 says

4 “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, 6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Slide: Scripture on screen

Moses says this again in ***Deuteronomy 7:9,***

Therefore, know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.

Slide: Basic background- your choice

So here is the great and hopeful point of this verse, the sin can go through 3-4 generations, “But showing mercy to **thousands**, to those who love Me and keep My commandments” (**Exodus 20:6**). You see, His mercy far outweighs the sin. And, thank God for the love and grace of Jesus Christ that can break that chain of sin that gets passed down in our families.

Paul reminds us who we are in Christ, which allows us to be able to break the curse of generational sins.

Slide with scripture

2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! //*

Slide with scripture

And David reminds us in: **// Psalm 2:3** *Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles./*

You see we can break the chains through Christ Jesus!

A few months ago, I was listening to a sermon TD Jakes did and it really stuck and resonated with me. He said, “Have you ever noticed when you go to the doctor the first thing they ask you is your family history.” And, I thought, YES they do! He went on to say, “That is because there is a link there in

your bloodline. So if Grandmom had cancer you are susceptible to have cancer. If Dad had mental illness, you could have mental illness. If Mom was depressed you are susceptible to being depressed.”//

Slide: Broken chains without words

You see so there is a link there and a chain through your family. And I am here to tell you that we can break that chain. **We can be CHAIN BREAKERS!** And the church said, “You betcha!”

Slide: Generic your choice

When I was born I had the cards stacked against me. The generational sins, or curses I should say, were many, both on my Mother’s and Father’s side. On my Father’s side of the family was alcoholism, suicide and murder. On my Mother’s side was drug addiction, alcoholism, depression and anxiety. If a doctor was looking at my family history, he would probably have me committed right there saying “She doesn’t have a chance.” LOL.

Slide: Committed “Stan find funny sound”

Slide: Generic

Thank God I know the best Doctor that can cure anything and anyone and His name is Jesus Christ, and that’s exactly what He did for me. I’m here to tell you, today, that God is bigger than your problem, He is bigger than your finances, He is bigger than your addiction, than the depression, and He is bigger than the diagnosis! He will help you break the chain!

I grew up in Washington Township. I didn’t have a perfect childhood. On the outside everything looked good. We had a

nice house and never had to want for anything materially. However, on the inside was a lot of strife. My parents fought all the time and there was a feeling of walking around on eggshells constantly. This left me worried all the time, which translated into an anxious condition. I always felt like there was a void within me. I didn't know it at the time, but I now know that void was being separated from God and having a personal relationship with him through Jesus Christ.

A personal relationship with God is the only thing that has been able to fill that void. I never felt like I was good enough. I had been brought up to believe in Jesus. I would call out foxhole prayers to Him every once in a while. What I didn't know at the time was that I had a head knowledge of who he was but not a heartfelt relationship with Him. I did not understand that there was a difference between Religion and Relationship.

When I was 18 my parents went through a terrible divorce. I turned to prescription pills to deal with the stress. It gave me a false sense of peace. I wasn't worried or anxious when I was using, and really didn't care about anything. This quickly escalated and by the age of 21 I was totally addicted and landed my first arrest, finding myself in my first treatment center. *I had blown through a \$300,000 trust fund in under 2 years on pills. **Maybe I should repeat that.*** That's how quickly addiction became a stronghold for me. While I was in that treatment center, I learned from other patients that I was wasting money on pills and that heroin gave the same effect for a fraction of the price. After leaving treatment I was only able to stay clean for about a week: I then moved on to heroin. I don't have the time to get into all the horrible

things I went through in 2 years, but there were arrests; and, I totaled 5 cars. Most of the time I was alone and depressed. Wanting and hoping for a different life but unable to stop. I tried many times on my own and found myself right back in the same boat, doing the same thing over and over again.

There were many times I was hungry. Every day I woke up I wanted to die. There were a few times I tried to overdose but that didn't even work. I would wake up and cry feeling even more like a failure that I couldn't even kill myself. I didn't know it at the time, but God had another plan for my life. // Plans to prosper me and give me a hope and a future beyond my wildest dreams. I have no doubt that it was God and only God that had a hedge of protection over me.

Within about a year and a half I overdosed 8x. I was in the grips of addiction and bound by the chains of the generational sin that were passed down in my family. Each time I would wake up and realize where I was ... in the hospital AGAIN. I would cry my eyes out that they had brought me back. ////So after the last overdose, I signed a DNR so that they couldn't bring me back. I saw no way out. **Romans 7** explains exactly where I was in that time of my life:

ROMANS 7:14-25

(Slide: SCRIPTURE ONLY ON SCREEN NOT MY NOTES, verse by verse)

14 We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin.

(Let me give you the definition of slave here so we get a full understanding of what Paul is trying to convey. A slave is a

person who is controlled by something or someone. So for me, I was a slave to the chains of addiction. Maybe for you, you've become a slave to depression and it's controlling your life, the chains of poverty, the chains of anxiety, the chains of sickness or disease. These things take a hold of us and control every aspect in our lives. You can insert whatever it is that you struggle with here. BACK TO VERSE 15)

15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do (I wanted to stay sober and change my life but I couldn't)

but what I hate I do (And this is because I was bound to the sin of addiction that was passed down in my family)

16 And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. 17 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me (So we become powerless to stop it).

18 For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out (So we want to stop being depressed, stop people pleasing and stop overspending. We want to end the poverty that has been in our family, but we don't know how and we don't have the power to carry it out...ON OUR OWN. BACK TO VERSE 19)

19 For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.

(This is a great example of generational sin. I can't tell you how many people I know personally who's mom or dad was an addict or alcoholic or poor or depressed. We swear we will

never grow up to be like our parents and end up to doing the same things they did. That is because this negative, or evil as it says here, sin or spirit is in your bloodline and has a hold of your family. NOW LET'S GO BACK TO VERSE 20.)

20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

21 So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. 24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? 25 Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So, who will save us? Jesus Christ our Lord. He did it for me and he'll do it for you. There is no problem that is too big for God; there is no sin or curse he cannot break. There is no disease He won't cure or stronghold He won't tear down, WHEN we surrender it ALL to Him. This battle belongs to LORD, we just have to let go and give it to Him.

Jesus Christ will save us.

Slide: Intervention title

After my family found out about the DNR my sister reached out to the A&E television show *Intervention*. Millions of people write this show every year trying to get their loved ones on it. It is only by Gods amazing grace and DIVINE INTERVENTION that I got on this show. I am so grateful that while we were sinners Christ still loved us. I'm so grateful for

second and third chances, and with me it's more like 9 or 10. lol.

Slide: Generic your pick

When my family intervened for me on national television, I realized it was the show *Intervention* and I didn't even care at the point. I was completely broken and sick and tired of being sick and tired. Living in sin is exhausting and I was exhausted. That day was September 28, 2008; it was the last day I used heroin.

I moved out to California and surrendered to God. I worked the 12 steps and was heavily involved in a 12-step program. After living a sober life in California for 4 years, life circumstances and a divorce from my ex-husband brought me back home to the east coast. Life got really busy when I moved home. I had a new job, and it was stressful going through the divorce. I slowly stopped praying, going to my meetings, helping others and working my steps. The devil is a liar and planted the idea in my head that since my problem was with drugs I could drink. I thought, "I'm in my thirties now and I'm sophisticated, I can have a glass of wine." So after almost 5 years of sobriety I began drinking. I was so ashamed for drinking that I totally stopped talking to God. I thought, "If I don't talk to Him, He won't see me. lol."

During this time I met the love of my life, and we have two children, together. On August 4, 2018, I made the decision to stop drinking. I knew what I had to do.

**Slide: ADD PICTURE OR VIDEO OF MY BAPTISM
DECEMBER 2018**

I re-committed my life to Christ and I started attending Gloucester County Community Church. I was baptized here in December of 2018.

I had given my life to Christ, but I believe I was born-again after coming to GCCC.

Slide: Generic your pick

I now live my life for Christ. I am no longer worried or stressed out. I don't worry about my children's medical conditions because I know that they are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Jesus has totally restored my life and redeemed me. I don't even regret what I've been through. God took what was meant for harm and is using it now for good. God took the point of my pain and gave me a purpose and platform to help other people. I don't regret it, and wouldn't take back my past if I could because I know that I am a better person now than I ever would've been had I not gone through it.

Slide background: God made me that way

I am finally becoming who God called and designed me to be. I have peace because He who lives in me is the Prince of Peace. I have joy because He who lives in me is joy.

Slide: generic your pick

When we accept Jesus into our hearts, we have access to all that He is. There is power in the presence of God. I want to encourage everyone watching, whatever you are struggling with in your life, whatever sin has plagued your family for generations, invite Jesus into your heart, surrender to Him,

spend time in His presence and watch those chains begin to fall.

Slide: broken chains with cross background

Surrender today. A lot of people associate surrendering with losing, but this is about surrendering to win. I made a decision. The chains are broken with me. Addiction can't have my daughter; addiction can't have my son; the generational sin in my family stops with me in the name and by the authority of Jesus Christ! God works through faith not through doubt and fear. Faith is confidence that God is who he says He is and will do everything He has promised to do.

God did not cause your problems, but he is the answer to your problems. It doesn't matter how you started in life, what matters is how you finish. I'm a new creation in Christ Jesus and He continues to change me from glory to glory because I gave the battle to Him.

When you are a baby you look like your parents, but when you die you look like the choices you have made. If I had not made a decision to give my life to Jesus, I would not be standing here before you today. *"Oh wretched man that I am, who will save me, Jesus Christ our Lord."* Make the right choice today to get saved. Victory begins with a decision. If you have never made the decision to give your life to Christ, I want to invite you to do that here with me today.

Maybe you are saved, but you are struggling with a particular sin or stronghold that is holding you back, I invite you today to place that at the foot of the cross. As you can see from my testimony, you can break the curse of

generational sin, but it's only through Christ// that we can do that!

Here at Gloucester County Community Church, we believe the way to salvation is as easy as ABC:

Slide: ABC slides

A- Admit the truth about ourselves, that we are sinners, that we've made mistakes

B- Believe that Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for your sin. All of your sins, past, present, and future

C- Commit yourself to God, invite Jesus into your heart, and make him your Lord and Savior

D- Do it today, tomorrow is never promised and we see that more now than ever with this corona virus.

If you would like to do that today, please say this prayer with me:

Slide: tithe prayer video from last week

"Father God, I admit that I am sinner that I have done things wrong and I'm sorry. I believe that Jesus did something about when He died on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins. Jesus come into my heart, I give you my life, I make you my Lord and Savior."

For those of you who prayed with me, I'd love for you to let me know:

**Text "PRAY" to 62488 or
Email bruce@gcccpray.com**

(Let me give that to you again.)

**Text "PRAY" to 62488 or
Email bruce@gcccpray.com**

And now, here's Pastor Bruce to tell you how to get your
"What's Next" *gift*.