

“Achy Breaky Heart” by Billy Ray Cyrus
Psalm 147:3, Philippians 2:1-7

Psalm 147:3, God heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.

A. Love guarantees heartbreak.

Love hurts. Lot’s and lot’s of songs deal with that very subject. Let’s see how bad it’s gotten in Billy Ray Cyrus’ song ... [Snippet 1]

You can tell the world you never was my girl
You can burn my clothes when I’m gone
Or you can tell your friends just what a fool I’ve been
And laugh and joke about me on the phone

- She was his girl, but no more.
- They were together, now she wants to burn his clothes!
- She’s trash-talking him among her friends.
- He’s nothing but a bad joke to her now.

If I love someone, they WILL break my heart. The only way to avoid heartbreak is to avoid love.

Jesus is the perfect example of the ultimate lover. We’re encouraged to follow His example for living, and loving. Here’s how He expressed His love for us:

Philippians 2:5-7, You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. [6] Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. [7] Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being ...

-- The problem with serving others is that quite soon they will disappoint you.
-- Remember you are pouring yourself into someone who’s prone to spring a leak!
-- Heartbreak is an occupational hazard of friendship, dating, and of course, marriage.

The alternative is bleak ... withdrawing love, closing yourself off to others. You’re heart doesn’t break ... it just grows weaker and weaker.

B. Love never happens in a vacuum.

Listen for some of the character woven into their relationship: [Snippet 2]

“her friends”

“her Ma”

“her dog”

“her brother Cliff”

“her aunt Louise”

Happiness and harmony must be navigated among the thorns and thistles of life.

Ephesians 5:31-32, As the Scriptures say, “A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.” [32] This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one.

Christ set the example, leaving His father and establishing his own family (the church) here on earth.

You leave family of origin to create your own. Many problems, much heartbreak, happens when a couple fails to “leave & cleave.”

BONUS: Read Henry Cloud’s excellent book, “Boundaries.”

C. Love involves the whole person.

Look at everything in the song Billy Ray talks about ...

“my arms”

“my feet”

“my lips”

“my fingertips”

“my heart”

“my achy breaky heart”

“this man”

“my leg”

“my eyes”

“my mind”

The missing ingredient? The Spiritual ... love is designed as a triangle: Him, her, Christ.

Philippians 2:1-4, Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? [2] Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. [3] Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of

others as better than yourselves. [4] Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

D. Heartbreak isn't the end.

It certainly seems like it's the end, when you're heartbroken.

[Snippet 3]

“And if you tell my heart, my achy breaky heart
He might blow up and kill this man”

Thank goodness for God's intervention in our lives! Psalm 147:3, God heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.

God's healing may involve:

- Renewed commitment to Christ's plan and purpose for your life.
- Taking a fearless self-examination to see how you might improve.
- Deciding that Christ is the One who can fill your emptiness.
- Experiencing to supernatural care of the Holy Spirit.

If you're heartbroken today, the closing prayer is just for you ...

A closing prayer ... “Dear God, we would ask You to bring healing to the brokenhearted among us today. Bandage our hearts. Amen.”

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You can tell the world you never was my girl
You can burn my clothes when I'm gone
Or you can tell your friends just what a fool I've been
And laugh and joke about me on the phone

You can tell my arms, go back onto the phone
You can tell my feet to hit the floor
Or you can tell my lips to tell my fingertips
They won't be reaching out for you no more

But don't tell my heart, my achy breaky heart
I just don't think it'd understand
And if you tell my heart, my achy breaky heart
He might blow up and kill this man

You can tell your Ma I moved to Arkansas
You can tell your dog to bite my leg
Or tell your brother Cliff who's fist can tell my lips
He never really liked me anyway

Oh tell your aunt Louise, tell anything you please
Myself already knows that I'm not okay
Oh you can tell my eyes to watch out for my mind
It might be walking out on me today

Don't tell my heart, my achy breaky heart
I just don't think it'd understand
And if you tell my heart, my achy breaky heart
He might blow up and kill this man

Don't tell my heart, my achy breaky heart
I just don't think it'd understand
And if you tell my heart, my achy breaky heart
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He might blow up and kill this man