

October Newsletter 2025/Inspirational Reading

We're all a little broken; but the last time I checked, broken crayons still color.

~Unknown

Julia was a world-renown pianist who traveled all over the globe playing the piano for special events and recitals. Playing the piano was her passion. It was a dream of hers from childhood. When things in her career seemed to have been at its peak, she developed rheumatoid arthritis. One day she woke up and looked at her hands; they looked as if they had been broken into pieces.

She sat on the edge of her bed, held her head and wondered, "What do I do now?"

She could no longer play the piano. She felt as if someone had ripped her heart out of her chest. Sometime later, while lying on her back, in her bed, in the dark, gazing up at the ceiling; she had a flashback--to a time when she was a little girl in grade school. She was sitting at her desk, coloring a picture when her crayon broke. Little Julia was visibly distraught.

Her teacher walked over to her, with a smile on her face, knelt, looked into her eyes and said, "Julia? You know, even broken crayons still work."

The sound of her teacher's voice years prior, seemed to echo and beat off the walls of her bedroom—then leap into her chest, serving as a healing balm to her broken heart.

As she was lying there on her back still gazing at the ceiling, she thought to herself, "Since my hands look like they've been broken into pieces. And since I can no longer play the piano. I will teach and coach and listen to others as they play the piano."

And that's exactly what she did. She began traveling all over the globe, again, this time coaching and serving as a mentor to other pianists. And being a coach to other young pianist brought her a different kind of fulfillment in her later years. She discovered two things: First, that one season had passed, and a new season was on the horizons. Second, even though she was left with what appeared to be broken pieces, she still had immense value.

Pastor Michael L. Sloan