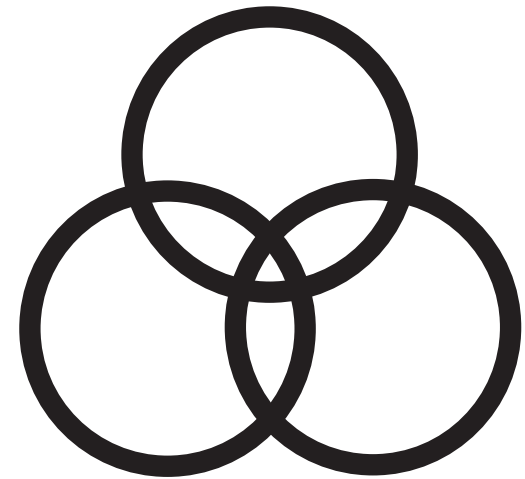


**40 Day Journey**

**Spring 2007**

**Engaging in the  
Brokenness of the  
World**



**TREVECCA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY**  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37210-2877  
615-248-1378 • [www.trevecca.edu](http://www.trevecca.edu)

**Daily Scripture Reading  
& Journaling**





## MERGE (Small Groups)



### What is MERGE?

It is a small group of people:  
 Learning to know, love and follow Jesus  
 Developing close, honest relationships with each other  
 Impacting the world through service  
 Creating true, spiritual community where they live

### Why MERGE?

Intimate connection with God and others is the foundation for spiritual growth.  
 We were created to live in community with God and others.

### Who can be a part of MERGE?

Anyone who desires to be connected more closely with God and others.

### How do I join a MERGE group?

See a Resident Assistant or go to:  
[www.trevecca.edu/spiritualformation/merge](http://www.trevecca.edu/spiritualformation/merge)

### Who can answer my questions about MERGE?

Brent Tallman at 248-1217 or [btallman@trevecca.edu](mailto:btallman@trevecca.edu)



Dear Friends,

We, as a Christian university, are intimately intertwined with the church, and through this close bond, we find our spiritual bearings, values and mission. As a part of the “body of Christ,” we are in the midst of the pre-Easter season known as Lent.

When we think of Lent, we often think of prayer and fasting. We may think of giving up something to remember our dependence on a Savior who was and is Jesus Christ. We focus on our neediness and our total reliance on Jesus’ sacrifice; otherwise we would be dead in our sins, symbolized by the ashes worn on Ash Wednesday. But there is another aspect of the Lenten season which is often neglected or forgotten. Traditionally, this aspect was called “almsgiving.” We may better understand it as charity or caring for the needy.

So not only are we to focus on our own neediness during this important period of the church year, but we are to engage in the neediness of others. Prayers are an important part of this engagement, but equally important is engagement in service to others. We not only confess our own brokenness and sin, but knowing that we are a part of a broken and hurting world, we confess the brokenness and sin of the world in which we live. So as a part of this reflection and confession for the purpose of action, for 40 days we will concentrate on the brokenness of our world and the restoring work of God that is so evident in Scripture.

As we travel on this journey together, read, reflect, confess and engage.

Your fellow traveler,

Brent Tallman

Director of Campus Spiritual Formation



**A word about this workbook:**

It contains 40 daily devotional readings. I have provided some guidance on how to approach these readings on page 3.

Each day also has some journaling space where you can write down the things you learn and the actions you will take as a result of the daily readings. These will be great insights to share with your friends or MERGE group. If you haven't joined a MERGE group yet, there is some information on page 44 about how to become a part of a small group.

The opportunities to engage in and serve the broken world around us are limitless. I would like to encourage you to serve as an important part of this 40 Day Journey. We have provided a listing on the Spiritual Formation website of some ministry opportunities in our community.

[www.trevecca.edu/spiritualformation/service](http://www.trevecca.edu/spiritualformation/service)

I would love to hear your testimonies and see your service project photos; you can share those on the Spiritual Formation Website, under "40 Day Journeys."

[www.trevecca.edu/spiritualformation/testimony.photo](http://www.trevecca.edu/spiritualformation/testimony.photo)



**Day 40 (Sunday, April 22)**

**Habakkuk 1:1-5 (New International Version)**

The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet received.

**Habakkuk's Complaint**

How long, O LORD, must I call for help,  
but you do not listen?  
Or cry out to you, "Violence!"  
but you do not save?

Why do you make me look at injustice?  
Why do you tolerate wrong?  
Destruction and violence are before me;  
there is strife, and conflict abounds.

Therefore the law is paralyzed,  
and justice never prevails.  
The wicked hem in the righteous,  
so that justice is perverted.

**The Lord 's Answer**

"Look at the nations and watch—  
and be utterly amazed.  
For I am going to do something in your days  
that you would not believe,  
even if you were told."

*What have I heard from God? How will I live out what I've heard?*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---































Day 25 (Saturday, April 7)

Isaiah 53:10-12 (New International Version)

Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

What have I heard from God? How will I live out what I've heard?

Horizontal lines for writing reflections.



Day 14 (Tuesday, March 27)

Psalms 31:9-12 (New International Version)

Be merciful to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and my body with grief.

My life is consumed by anguish and my years by groaning; my strength fails because of my affliction, and my bones grow weak.

Because of all my enemies, I am the utter contempt of my neighbors; I am a dread to my friends— those who see me on the street flee from me.

I am forgotten by them as though I were dead; I have become like broken pottery.

What have I heard from God? How will I live out what I've heard?

Horizontal lines for writing reflections.







Day 17 (Friday, March 30)

Romans 8:18-21 (New International Version)

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

What have I heard from God? How will I live out what I've heard?

Horizontal lines for journaling



Day 22 (Wednesday, April 4)

Isaiah 53:1-3 (New International Version)

Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

What have I heard from God? How will I live out what I've heard?

Horizontal lines for journaling



