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# On Broken Pieces

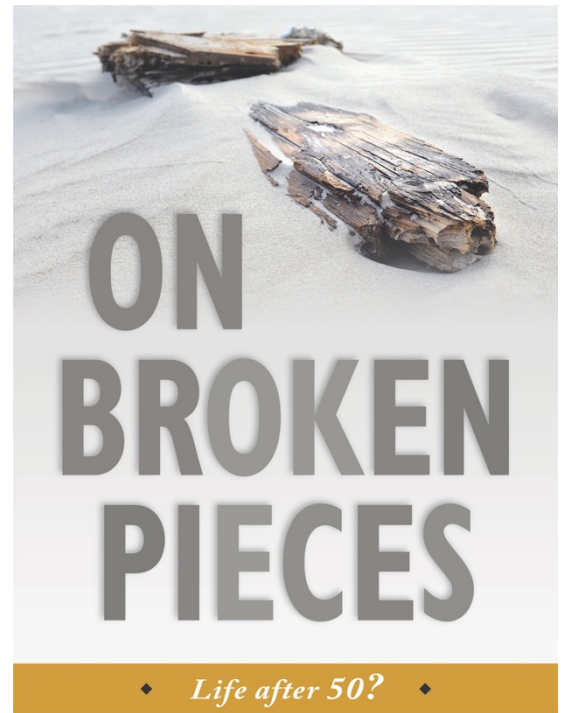
Joshua A. McClure

In the 27<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts, Luke describes how the apostle Paul and his shipmates endure a storm-tossed shipboard voyage to Rome. They commit the ship to the sea and themselves into the hands of God. The ship is broken into pieces—not to destroy them, but to save them, for some reached the safety of shore on planks and debris from the broken ship. They came in *on broken pieces*.

Award-winning author Joshua A. McClure was compelled by a vision from God to share encouraging words with all who desire release from their prisons of despair to the land of hope and freedom. Here he shares 32 years of transforming messages from the Pleasant Street Baptist Church pulpit after frequent encounters with a loving, caring God. The sermons collected within these pages are simple, clear, and personal. It is Joshua's hope and prayer that God will use these simple words to resurrect the hearts of those who have been waiting and longing for him.

Throughout the ages, multitudes have found strength, beauty, hope, and encouragement in the 150 songs of praise we know as the Book of Psalms. This book is divided into four parts. Each part contains five uplifting sermon messages and is headed by an excerpt from the Psalms to meditate upon throughout the reading of that part of the book. Seek out a quiet place; take time to absorb the wisdom of the Psalms; reflect on their promise of hope and comfort. Be enthralled by their remedies for life, while giving thanks with your whole heart to God for his unfailing love and faithfulness.

Many are asking, "Is there life after 50?" This book will inspire you to discover just how amazing life in Jesus can be, at any age.



JOSHUA A. McCLURE

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*Deep River*  
B O O K S



# About the Author

## **Joshua A. McClure**

Joshua A. McClure served 27 years as Senior Pastor at The Pleasant Street Baptist Church, Westerly, Rhode Island. He was a successful businessman until December 1976, when God revealed His "vision of ministry" to him. Joshua

returned to school, graduating with a BA in Biblical Studies from Barrington College, receiving the school's Biblical studies award. He later studied at Andover Newton Theological School and received a Certificate of Advanced Theological Studies. In 2010 he received the First Annual Heroes of Faith Life Achievement Award, by the Rhode Island State Council of Churches. Joshua has been awarded Doctor of Theology and Doctor of Christian Education degrees by the Evangelical Theological College of Africa, Ibadan Nigeria.

He has authored six books, *Can These Bones Live?*, *Almost Persuaded: Now To Believe*, *The Crimson Thread of the Bible*, *Who Do You Say I AM?*, *Made for Glory: in the Image and Likeness of God*, and his latest book, *On Broken Pieces*. His seventh book, *On Holy Ground*, will follow by the end of 2017.

Joshua lives in Bradford, Rhode Island, with his wife Ida.

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# *What Others Are Saying About* **On Broken Pieces**

*For many today, life is an uncharted, unsafe sea and too often we find ourselves trying to make it ashore with only broken pieces to cling to. In his book On Broken Pieces, Pastor Joshua A. McClure conveys God-given, soul-saving words to encourage and ensure we arrive safely on our journey to be with God. Readers will discover how to live with peace and joy in the midst of affliction, pain, and loss. . . . Pastor McClure offers some inspiring insights on the meanings of certain biblical events that help us understand that God's love for us is ever-present in the midst of trial.*

—**Thomas A. O'Connell, Westerly, RI Historian, Author of *Faith and Vision: The Pleasant Street Baptist Church History [1874-2009]*; *Westerly's Gold...Her People*; *In and About Westerly*; and *Fair Westerly***

*From the moment of a transformative vision in 1976, the Reverend Joshua McClure has been compelled and inspired by God to reach out and help those who suffer from loneliness and isolation. In this book, On Broken Pieces, McClure touches those souls in his vision, providing messages of hope and compassion found in his own sermons. This book is his loving and inspirational gift to all who turn to the Word for comfort.*

— **Leslie Tryon, ALA Notable Author-Illustrator of the *Albert* series of children's books; Illustrator of the *Dear Peter Rabbit* series, authored by Alma Flor Ada; and new in 2017 — Author of *The Thumbtack Dancer*, illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist**

*In his book On Broken Pieces, Reverend Joshua McClure calls upon over a quarter century of pastoring, ministering, and community leadership to follow his vision of God encouraging him to deliver hope, strength, and peace, especially to those in the latter years of their life on earth who may be suffering from any variety of [affliction]: illness, despair, loneliness, hopelessness.*

*McClure's oft-quoted verses from the "Book of Psalms," together with his personal experiences and wisdom, make this book a beacon of light and cloth of comfort to so many in need. I can personally attest to the enlightenment and peace he brings to the sick as I witnessed firsthand the comfort he brought to my wife of 42 years during the last year of her life. On Broken Pieces is a guide to living and dying that will not disappoint.*

— **Ray Uzasas, Author, *Odyssey of a Wayward Traveler*; *True Grits: Tough Times, Tough People*; *The Modern People of the Ancient Silk Road*; *Faces and Places of the Deep South***

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# Suggested Interview Questions

For Joshua A. McClure, author of  
*On Broken Pieces*

**Q: Why write a book to such a specialized audience as the elderly and infirmed?**

**A:** As a member of the older group, I have come to realize there are few books addressed to the particular needs that come with age.

**Q: Why write a book about pain and suffering?**

**A:** My personal experiences have led me to share with those desiring release from the prison of despair to the land of hope and freedom.

**Q: Now that you are over 50, has your view of suffering and dying changed?**

**A:** I feel the same way as I did when I first met Jesus. The cross does answer all the important questions for me. Nothing has changed in how I feel about death and dying because nothing has changed in how I feel about Jesus.

**Q: When we enter the golden period of life, what is our chief contribution to society?**

**A:** Wisdom. Do not fix your eyes on what is seen. Fix your eyes on what cannot be seen, for the things we cannot see will last forever.

**Q: What encouraging words would you offer to widows, widowers, those dealing with pain and loss, the chronically ill, the despondent, and the dying?**

**A:** Never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day, in preparation for eternal life with Jesus. Hold on to the cross, hold on to the shed blood of Christ, and you will make it through. God will be with you until the end.

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