

“Each heart knows its own bitterness, and no one else can fully share its joy.” Proverbs 14:10 NLT

## [lectio] // PROVERBS 14:10-16

Prayer for my brother: “Just thinking about you and more importantly PRAYING with you. I may not know all the sorrows in your life and I certainly can’t fix the stuff that weighs on you BUT, I can pray! My heart stands with you as I go before God on your behalf this morning.” ALERT! I cannot fix anyone. I cannot make anyone do right, think right or change their life. But I can stand, in sorrow or joy, with them. I can weep, grieve, laugh or cheer right alongside them. I used to believe that my involvement, my intervention, my words, even my love was enough to change the course of someone’s life - it is NOT true, I cannot. I have been given some things that I can give them, I can do. I can give my time and my heart to them and give my prayer for them to God. I can be a friend, I can bear sorrow, I can hear good news and celebrate. I can weep with them when they are demoted and cheer when they are promoted. I have been low and survived, I have been overjoyed and boasted. I can BE in their space, with them in spirit, without having the responsibility of solving, fixing or healing them. It is only God that fixes, transforms and redeems. Psalm 40 and the mud-pit. I can go in, but only God can pull us out.

## [oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

Thank you for a constant reminder that I am not God or a savior. I can not control, nor can I repair - that is all you! I can be that friend that listens and carries them to you. This is the most important lesson in this season of my life. I was not built to carry the load of savior, but I was wired to bear with the burden of another. “If we all pull together, how happy we’ll be.”

## [contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root