

A Place for the Weary

Life can sometimes kick us around – injuries from an accident, a burglary, death of a close friend. The list can go on and on.

Minister and author Max Lucado, in his book *Grace for the Moment*, likens us to a bruised reed when untoward events hit us. He writes:

Is there anything more frail than a bruised reed? Look at the bruised reed at the water's edge. A once slender and tall stalk of sturdy river grass, it is now bowed and bent. Are you a bruised reed? Was it long ago that you stood so tall, so proud? Then something happened. You were bruised ...

- *By harsh words.*
- *By a friend's anger.*
- *By a spouse's betrayal.*

The bruised reed ... Society knows what to do with you ... The world will break you off; the world will snuff you out.

But the artists of Scripture proclaim that God won't. Painted on canvas after canvas is the tender touch of a Creator who has a special place for the bruised and weary of the world. A God who is the friend of the wounded heart.

Let Lucado's words bring some comfort and encouragement to you today.

And as associates who work in health care, we must understand that we minister to bruised reeds. That's our calling. We daily find ourselves confronted by people struggling with physical, emotional or spiritual issues – bruised, bowed and bent by life's circumstances.

We become God's hands to touch and heal.

Do not lose the courage you had in the past, which has a great reward (Hebrews 10:35 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter