

Brenda Amodea

To be brave enough to put yourself in a vulnerable position to draw near to God, you need to believe the truth that you are worthy of love and belonging.

Brenda's stories and vulnerability open you up to that hard truth.

Since 1981 Brenda has been a youth minister. Yes, she loves teenagers—still. She believes in teenagers who do grow up to be pretty awesome adults.

Brenda is also a wife and mom. The mom part though is not a normal story. Brenda and her husband have raised several teens as their own. The raising of their kids has definitely formed Brenda the most as a pastor and a human. Prison is a part of their lives now, and other such stories. These stories belong to their now grown kids, whom are still very much in the midst of these stories. These stories are not for public sharing. The impact this love has had on Brenda though is very much a part of her storytelling. And she is not above showing pictures of the grandkids!

Brenda has been married to John Amodea since 1997. John is a worship leader, career musician, and song writer. He has written music that heals the soul as music can. John is also available to travel with Brenda. They have a back-and-forth style which adds more truth through music. John is also available to lead worship or lead a worship team for an event.

Brenda has written the book, *I Wish I Could Take Away Your Pain*. This is the book for those who have had their pain dismissed or their pain compared to others or had their pain lessened because this vulnerable moment became more about them not feeling comfortable with it than about you in the pain. This book is a true story about the brave compassion some people have done to carry Brenda through her pain. It is word and art and inspiration.

“You have had a significant influence on how I view brokenness, forgiveness, and the role God plays through all of that through a very difficult time in my life. Since that year at CRC, I have taken significant steps to getting bitterness out of my heart... You have had a significant impact on my life. I really do not think I would be the woman I am today if it were not for the lessons you taught me. You are a strong instrument of God and his word.” –Sara, former camp counselor and now inner-city missionary

“I want to thank you again for coming out last night and sharing your heart and story. Not only did you talk about being brave but you modeled bravery in such a way that those present can never look at our journeys the same. I also want to express a personal thought about last night. Most of the stories people share are safe because they know how the story ended. Just as you promised your story is current, fresh and raw trusting Jesus for an end.” –Margaret, Centreville Baptist Church