# **DEPRESSION QUICK HELPS**

#### **5** Things to remember when feeling depressed:

- 1. You are loved despite your sadness.
- 2. Your discomfort won't last forever.
- 3. You aren't any less of a person because certain people can't understand what you are going through.
- 4. You are separate from this depression. This is not your identity.
- 5. You are so needed even if you feel worthless.

#### Choose today to focus on what you are, not what you are not.

What are 3 things you are proud of yourself for doing, or love about yourself right now?

#### How to refuel your emotional tank:

- 1. Tap into your inner child. Little children always have so much energy! Maybe watch a funny show that reminds you of simpler times.
- 2. Tap into familiar & secure connection: call your mom or have a dinner party with close friends.

#### Day one or one day?

How you frame statement and situations can determine what you grow in your brain and your direction. How can you reframe a statement or situation?

# SOMETIMES GROWTH AND HEALING REQUIRES US TO GO BACKWARDS BUT DEAL WITH THE PAST DIFFERENTLY.

#### Find something beautiful within each day.

It can be the smell of freshly baked bread or a cloudless sky. Just one small thing can make a world of difference.

## 6 morning reminders to help you start your day off right:

- 1. Today is a new day filled with opportunities and potential.
- 2. Progress is progress no matter how small.
- 3. You are not defined by other people's opinions.
- 4. Think about who you want to be today and not what you need to do.
- 5. You are stronger and more capable than you feel or think.
- 6. Your thoughts are not facts.

# TRUE HEALING DOESN'T MEAN ERASING THE EXISTENCE OF THE HURT. IT MEANS THE HURT NO LONGER CONTROLS YOU, YOUR EMOTIONS, AND YOUR MENTAL HEALTH.

## Thinking in extremes ("all-or-nothing" or "black-and-white") can be a major toxic thinking habit.

This sets an unreasonable rule in which any outcome less than 100% equates to 0%. Having these two extremes when evaluating your life often leads to **self-hatred**. Here's how to counter this:

- 1. Intentionally look for the "gray": what was a success? What went well?
- 2. Learn to question thoughts that trigger emotional and physical warning signals. Are they based on facts or assumptions?
- 3. Have compassion on yourself. You are human.
- 4. Work on finding the deeper reason why you struggle with this.
- 5. Talk to a therapist to gain perspective & get professional advice.

### Things to tell yourself when feeling discouraged or depressed:

- 1. This is tough, but so am I.
- 2. I haven't figured this out YET.
- 3. This challenge is here to teach me.
- 4. All I need to do right now is take one step forward and breathe.
- 5. I cannot control events, people, or circumstances, but I can control how I respond.