

## Bringing Healing to the Wounded Soul 2-5-10

**The Good Samaritan** – a story that demonstrates love, grace and mercy

**Luke 10:25-37**

<sup>25</sup> And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

<sup>26</sup> He said to him, “What is written in the law? What is your reading *of it?*”

<sup>27</sup> So he answered and said, “‘*You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,*’ and ‘*your neighbour as yourself.*’”

<sup>28</sup> And He said to him, “You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.”

Then Jesus answered and said: “A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead.

<sup>31</sup> Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. <sup>34</sup>

So he went to *him* and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>

On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave *them* to the innkeeper, and said to him, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’ <sup>36</sup> So which of these three do you think was neighbour to him who fell among the thieves?”

And he said, “He who showed mercy on him.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

- Seeing Jesus as the Good Samaritan
- Seeing this as a message to us to be Good Samaritan’s
- Seeing what we need as the wounded
- We should not be ignorant of the battle raging and the spiritual war in which we are involved – whether we like it or not!
- Need to know how to fight in the battle using God’s weapons; how to defend ourselves with God’s armour; how to liberate the captives and bring healing to their lives; and teach them what we know.
- Often forgotten or often poorly done is our ability to bring healing to those of us who are wounded in the battle.

**The wounded need someone to come and help them**

- All three saw – but saw differently - Only 1 not focused on himself and his own business, reputation, security and priorities
- Had compassion (heart reached out)
- Went to him (love in action)

### **To pour “oil and wine” into the wound;**

- Oil softened the flesh (Grace / not works / Holy Spirit)
- Wine outstanding antiseptic (joy)
- The ministry of the Holy Spirit
- We all need “oil and oil” poured into our wounded souls
- **Bandage the wounds** – Cover the wounds – **love covers a multitude of sins**
  - Cleaned/ministered to /covered
  - Protect don't gossip about
  - Don't keep taking the covering off – talking to everyone about the problem
- **Set him on his own animal**
  - Put the wounded man before himself
- **Help him get to a place of safety and a place where recovery can take place.**
  - Should be the church – the family
  - Often hurt people leave the church – isolated
  - Often people are wound in the church
- **Took money to help**
  - God's grace, love and mercy cost Him dearly
  - One can never earn the love and grace and mercy of God
  - The wounded man did not earn the Samaritan's grace
  - He received the mercy of man who was loving and gracious
- **Demonstrated MERCY**
  - Mercy is when you don't receive what you deserve.
  - Closely allied to grace – receiving what you don't deserve
  - Samaritans were despised by Jews

### **A person whose wound is healed has the potential for much good.**

- They come from a place of *humility* – required help
- They have gained *wisdom* that may help another person avoid injury or recover more quickly
- They have will probably have *compassion* for those who have similar wounds

- They offer others *hope* for full recovery

**A wounded person** is not only *less* capable of living well and fighting in the battle, but **can be dangerous to him-self and others**

- A soldier who is “battle-fatigued” – a danger to self and others
  - Slowness of thought
  - The slowing of reaction time
  - Difficulty prioritising tasks
  - Preoccupation with minor issues and familiar tasks
  - Difficulty initiating routine tasks
  - Indecision and lack of concentration
  - Loss of initiative with fatigue
  - Exhaustion

**The law of attraction** – wounded people tend to flock together to discuss their wounds

You know a person is healed when **you can press the scar and it gives no pain**

If it is not healed **watch for emotional reaction**

- Mention the name of someone or that type of wound and see what happens
- They **react** - becoming agitated, angry, stressed
- It becomes a **“hobby horse”** or **“a room”** where they always go
- They can set up an **unbalanced theology** to support their complaint
  - A gang of a few
  - **Example of people in a cult** where they have been hurt, “cut-off” or abused

**Peter’s Wound** - as a result of pride he says that he will never deny the Lord

- He does and is heart-broken – regret, shame, condemnation, sorrow
- Jesus says – when you are converted strengthen the brethren
- Peter’s humility is obvious
- **Humility** – leads to exaltation – Acts 2 – **he is a scarred but healed**
  - Humility is a tremendously important part of being healed
  - Many, naturally speaking, **because of fear and pride** don’t want to admit they are “sick” or wounded
    - They try to treat themselves – self help
    - Often stay away and get worse and suffer in silence
    - By the time they are ready to come they are far more serious

- What was relatively minor can become life threatening
- The scars of battle wounds that have healed become an evidence of God's grace and our willingness to submit to His healing power.

We can be wounded in the battle and be **too proud** to admit our problem and ask for help.

We can **cover up** and hide behind all types of excuses.

We then can end up **infecting, affecting** and **damaging** many others

It can be a tremendous source of shame (real men/good Christians have it all together).

- “A front as big as Myer”
- The inner-self is dying, while the outer-self is smiling
- Remember we are to live from the inside out
- John Eldridge calls the “poser” – the false self

**We are in a battle and we do get wounded.**

- Purple-heart – a medal for the wounded
- The need for R and R
- Rehabilitation Hospitals
- Aim to get them back into the battle – because they are the most experienced

When our injuries are serious, gaping, infected, and hurting wounds they render us incapable of normal combat and **may require us to withdraw from the battle and receive healing.**

### **Salvation Past, Present and Future**

We were all mortally wounded.

When we came to Christ we are reconnected to God and saved (spiritually); however there is still a part of us that is wounded and can be wounded (the soul and body).

We can be confident that **every wound can be healed** because of what Jesus did on the cross!

- **Isaiah 53 / Isaiah 61** – God's desire for wholeness at the centre of His coming and his ministry
- **Romans 8:28** All things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to His purpose