

Sharpen Your Faith

Week 7, Healing, Reconciliation, & Restoration

Paul T. Quelet, October 22, 2006

I. We all have brokenness Read Psalm 34:17-19.

- If emotions are not resolved, it is not honest which leads to _____ peace.
- Unresolved feelings are often dampened with _____ and _____ behavior.

"It doesn't take a major assault like sexual abuse to create a broken heart, by the way...The bottom line is, Jesus speaks as though we are all the brokenhearted. We would do well to trust His perspective on this."

—John Eldredge¹

II. Preprogrammed Bondage See Lamentations 3:40.

- These are the things that we learned or were taught by people who stood _____ of God as we are younger.
- Many Christians struggle with this as a stranglehold. This causes us to doubt who we are and that God really loves us.
- What we were when we are growing up, we will never _____.

"Somewhere along in your life you begin to have to deal with things you never thought of before. Not situations that were necessarily *sin*, but things in your life that had not cropped up before...Until God deals with preprogrammed bondage that your parents said to you, 'you are not worth anything, you don't matter', all through your Christian walk that tape is going to play, that idea is going to pop up in your mind."—Dr. Charles Stanley

III. Jesus' Miracles

Since Jesus healed so much, what was the deeper truth He was trying to reveal?

- *He was trying to reveal who He really was. They were to _____ He was the Son of God. (John 14:11)*
- *We see that Jesus really wanted to fully heal the spirit of the person, all the way down to their _____.*

¹ John Eldredge, *Waking the Dead*, p. 134.

IV. Jesus' Mission: Read Isaiah 61:1-3 (quoted by Jesus in Luke 4:16-21)

What was the message Jesus came to fulfill beyond the forgiveness of sin?

- *He is the one who _____ broken hearts.*
- *He is the one who _____ the broken.*
- *He is the one who _____ us back into relationship with God.*

"But the Scripture is abundant and clear: Christ came not only to pardon us, but also to heal us. He wants the glory restored."—John Eldredge²

V. Jesus Heals the Lame Man by the Pool (Read John 5:1-8)

Why did Jesus ask the man this seemingly simplistic question?

- *Likely, this man had gotten used to begging, and certain habit patterns had formed that he had gotten _____ in.*
- *The problem is that we have to change, sometimes dramatically, if we are to experience healing. We have to make a _____ to be healed.*

"Some people have developed a whole life around not being healed, and the journey begins when maybe you say, okay, there has to be life beyond the life that I'm living. There has to be a better life, and I invite you to make these choices to experience it."—Stephen Arterburn

VI. God's Part and Our Part in Healing

What is the relationship between God's choice to heal and our choice in the healing process?

- Everybody _____ God to fix things. Everybody _____ for God to heal them.
- The statement, "Do you want to get well?" implies that there has to be a _____.
- God needs _____ to change is the enemy of healing.
- A person not wanting to do anything else demonstrates pride.

"A lot of times we wait for God to do what God is waiting for us to do."—
Stephen Arterburn

VII. Opening Up for Healing (Read 1 Peter 5:6-7).

- _____ is so important to healing. It is opening up the _____ for _____.

² John Eldredge, *Waking the Dead*, p. 136.

- Many people who act like they have no problems are hurting themselves. The stronghold that is up makes it seem _____ for them. Because they have been hurt so much in a particular area, they don't want any more.
- Many people would rather _____ the pain around than _____ on the pain of having something healed.

"The truth is that a lot of us have made excuses, and we don't want to say no, but we're not willing to say yes, because we're afraid where that may go, and yet sometimes before freedom comes some pain, and I think...it's important to understand that God's asking you ['Will you let me heal you?']"
 —Stephen Arterburn

VIII. The KEY to Healing (Read Psalm 86:11-12. Read Revelation 3:19-20)

How is it that we experience healing in our hearts and lives?

- *We must _____ Jesus in.*
- *We must give Him _____ to heal us.*

"We simply invoke His presence, then invite Him into our hearts. He shows us our hearts. In prayer for the healing of memories, we simply ask our Lord to come present to that place where we were so wounded (or perhaps wounded another)...[but] healing prayer is not the 'instant fix,' nor the bypassing of slow and steady growth. It is that which clears the path and makes such progress possible."—Leanne Payne³

IX. Embracing Our Lives

- If you have problems and you fake it, and expect they will go away, the problem doesn't go away, _____ go away. You lose yourself and you develop a façade, and you start to say _____ things, and you start to cover up.
- Rather than cursing the person, we _____ the gift that God had given us to grow and strengthen, even if the other person did not launch us out.
- As strange as it seems, when we embrace the life we have now, even though God did not intend a horrible thing to happen, He will embrace it and make it look like it _____ have been in the first place!!

X. Comfort and Reconciliation

- Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

What is the ministry of reconciliation?

³ Leanne Payne, *The Healing Presence*

- *This is God using us to fix the _____ parts of this world.*
- *Everything in this world has an element of brokenness, and we are called to be effectual _____ of that brokenness.*

- Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-5.

How does God use the healing we have experienced in others lives?

- *God uses the comfort that we have received so that we can comfort others in a _____ .*

Bottom Line: If we invite Jesus into our deepest hurts, He will heal us. He did not just come to save us but to restore the world to the Father.

Memory Verse: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."—2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NIV)

Suggested Resources:

Psalm 34, Psalm 147:3, Joel 2, 2 Corinthians 1, 2 Corinthians 5

The Bondage Breaker, Neil Anderson

Healing is a Choice, Stephen Arterburn

Changes that Heal, Dr. Henry Cloud

God Will Make a Way, Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend

Waking the Dead, John Eldredge

The Healing Presence, Leanne Payne