
Scarred and Wounded Ministers

A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS

John 20:19-31

John 20:19

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”

John 20:20

After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

John 20:21

Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

John 20:22

And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

John 20:23

If you forgive anyone's sins,
their sins are forgiven; if you
do not forgive them, they are
not forgiven.”

John 20:24

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus – the twin), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.

John 20:25

So the other disciples told him,

“We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

John 20:26

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”

John 20:27

Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

John 20:28

Thomas said to him,
“My Lord and my God!”

John 20:29

Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

John 20:30

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

John 20:31

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Scarred and Wounded Ministers

A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS

John 20:19-31

Principle #1

Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ intentionally and purposefully chose to become the scarred and wounded healer in order to forgive, heal, and save others.

John 20:19

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”

John 20:20

After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Wounds vs. Scars

There is a big difference between a wound and a scar. A wound is a devastating unhealed injury. A scar says, "I've been healed, and this is my story."

Implications of Jesus' Scars

- He reveals that He knows and shares in our pain and suffering.
- He highlights our own unhealed personal wounds and those of our families, loved ones, and those of all of Creation, which weigh heavily on our hearts.

Our Wounds and Scars

- Past Mistakes
- Bad Choices
- Sins
- Failures
- Betrayals
- Broken Relationships
- Abuse
- Rejection
- Abandonment
- Insecurity
- Guilt
- Suffering
- Sickness
- Death
- Etcetera

Principle #1

Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ intentionally and purposefully chose to become the scarred and wounded healer in order to forgive, heal, and save others.

Principle #2

In the sharing of our scars and wounds, we can come to intimately know and connect with one other in deeper and more meaningful ways all for the honor and glory of our King.

Luke 24:35

Then the two from Emmaus told their story of how Jesus had appeared to them as they were walking along the road, and how they had recognized him as he was breaking the bread.

Luke 24:36

And just as they were telling about it, Jesus himself was suddenly standing there among them. “Peace be with you,” he said.

Luke 24:37

**But the whole group was startled
and frightened, thinking they
were seeing a ghost!**

Luke 24:38

“Why are you frightened?” he asked. “Why are your hearts filled with doubt?”

Luke 24:39

Look at my hands. Look at my feet. You can see that it's really me. Touch me and make sure that I am not a ghost, because ghosts don't have bodies, as you see that I do."

Luke 24:40

As he spoke, he showed them his hands and his feet.

Luke 24:41

**Still they stood there in disbelief,
filled with joy and wonder.**

Too many of us deny we are wounded or we decide to bear our wounds silently. We prefer to be people of the stiff upper lip, bearing our burden by ourselves, going it alone without anyone's help, only allowing people to see us as we want to appear, rather than as we truly are.

Principle #2

In the sharing of our scars and wounds, we can come to intimately know and connect with one other in deeper and more meaningful ways all for the honor and glory of our King.

Principle #3

The Holy Spirit that indwells us offers us the power to transform the pain and suffering of our wounds and scars, so that they don't dominate our hearts or define us.

John 20:21

Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

John 20:22

And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Principle #3

The Holy Spirit that indwells us offers us the power to transform the pain and suffering of our wounds and scars, so that they don't dominate our hearts or define us.

Principle #4

God wants to use our healed scars to propel us towards deeper faith in Christ, towards tangible forgiveness for others, and towards never ending hope and trust in God while we suffer through our unhealed wounds.

Principle #5

Christ has commissioned us to offer His forgiveness and love to those who are wounded and to those who have wounded us while we are still wounded.

John 20:23

If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Principle #5

Christ has commissioned us to offer His forgiveness and love to those who are wounded and to those who have wounded us while we are still wounded.

Principle #6

Our scars help us grow in our faith by sight, while our unhealed wounds help us grow in our faith based on the testimony and promises of our Master.

John 20:24

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus – the twin), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.

John 20:25

So the other disciples told him,

“We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

John 20:26

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”

John 20:27

Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

John 20:28

Thomas said to him,
“My Lord and my God!”

John 20:29

Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

John 20:30

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

John 20:31

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Principle #6

Our scars help us grow in our faith by sight, while our unhealed wounds help us grow in our faith based on the testimony and promises of our Master.

Principle #7

God wants to heal our deepest wounds and to use our ugliest scars to release Christ's all-powerful ministries of forgiveness, mercy, grace, healing, and salvation.

Scarred and Wounded Ministers

A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS

John 20:19-31