



Way of the Eagle

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THE WOUNDED SOUL

In **Luke 10:30** Jesus is talking about the wounded soul: "Jesus, taking him up, replied, A certain man was going from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him of his clothes and belongings and beat him and went their way, [unconcernedly] leaving him half dead, as it happened".

There are a lot of people that are so wounded in their lives that they can't experience peace, joy or fulfill their destiny with God. For instance, a divorce can leave a person feeling half dead especially if a man has left his wife for a much younger woman and tells her that he's no longer attracted to her. Such a trauma causes a wounded soul.

John 10:10 says the thief comes to steal, kill and destroy but Jesus gives life in abundance until it overflows, that you might be totally restored.

Further along in Jesus' message, "Now by coincidence a certain priest was going down along that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side" **Luke 10:31**. The wounded person is wounded, humiliated and laying in the dirt. This priest didn't make the smallest effort to help this person. He saw the man bleeding and ignored him. One of the worst hurts that we can ever experience is when we're wounded by "so called Christian" leaders; a leader that could have come to our aid but decided to leave us to the dogs. There are even leaders out there that curse people when they leave "their" congregation! They deliberately wound others. We expect thieves to do what they do but we expect leaders to help us. We expect a leader to comfort us and say, "I'm here for you, how can I help you?"

In these last days that we live in the Bible says "the love of the great body will grow cold"

(**Mt. 24:12**), we see so much indifference in the church body; people are wounded, sick and dying and yet very few come to their aid.

So how are Eagle Christians to set a high standard and be an example among the corrupt? Part of the job is to minister love and offer healing to others.

As the story continues in **Luke 10 verse 32** it says that a Levite passed by on the other side. If you see someone "wounded" and you don't help, it not only insults this person but you and God as well! **Verse 33 and 34** says: "But a certain Samaritan, as he traveled along, came down to where he was; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity and sympathy [for him], And went to him and dressed his wounds, pouring on [them] oil and wine. Then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn and took care of him". That's Christianity in action!

Why are there so many worldly people disinterested in Christianity? Because there is almost nothing that shows the world that Christians are different from anyone else. Christians have a fish bumper sticker, worship CD's, underlined Bibles, a Jesus pin, but, they don't show the world Christ in their daily life. People treat their pets better than they treat people. Wounded souls need compassion.

Wounded people carry a lot of pain and one of the major and common characteristics of a wounded person is unforgiveness towards wrong treatment or indifference towards them. Unforgiveness adds fuel to their pain, as now the person is in a painful and sinful place with God; "But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" **Matthew 6:13**.

Are you a person that brings people to anger, disappointment, unforgiveness and bitterness towards you because of your indifference or callousness to their already wounded condition? If so, you're deliberately adding more wounds to their pain and ignoring your Christian duty as laid out by Jesus!

We must reach out to wounded souls to help heal them of their unforgiveness and bitterness.

How do we recognize a wounded, embittered soul?

- When they have a strong desire to retaliate or take revenge
- They're sarcastic towards others dreams, happiness or possessions
- Their countenance is affected when someone's name is mentioned
- They back-stab and slander; talk about what was done to them, even years later
- They're depressed, don't trust, angry, and/or suicidal

We teach them what Jesus said in that we must forgive 70 times 7 (Mt. 18:22). Forgiveness doesn't mean that they accept wrong nor does it mean that the wrong done is justified. Forgiveness is releasing all the wrong that has been done in order to release the pain and sin and get the healing. Forgiveness doesn't mean they need to continue to spend time with those that hurt them and act like everything is OK. Someone said when we forgive we set someone free but when we forgive we totally free ourselves! Unforgiveness is the father of bitterness. Bitterness doesn't go away, it must be sent away.

"Let all bitterness and indignation and wrath (passion, rage, bad temper) and resentment (anger, animosity) and quarreling (brawling, clamor, contention) and slander (evil-speaking, abusive or blasphemous language) be banished from you, with all malice (spite, ill will, or baseness of any kind)". Ephesians 4:31

Bitterness usually comes through 6 different ways... disappointment, loss, family or church trouble, betrayal, dishonor or unfair treatment.

Show the wounded soul the affects of bitterness on them which are:

- It hinders their relationship with God and their prayer life
- Their prayers won't be answered and demons won't listen when they try to get rid of them
- Bitterness will cause curses to enter their blood line
- It will drive people they need and love away from them
- Bitterness draws many kinds of trouble and evil spirits to them

Assist others along the road that you see are wounded souls to obtain healing. Don't ignore them and add to their pain! They need help! Be an Eagle Christian (Good Samaritan) not a phoney Christian (priest/Levite).

"Exercise foresight and be on the watch to look [after one another], to see that no one falls back from and fails to secure God's grace (His unmerited favor and spiritual blessing), in order that no root of resentment (rancor, bitterness, or hatred) shoots forth and causes trouble and bitter torment, and the many become contaminated and defiled by it". Hebrews 12:15

Teach them to pray something like, "Holy Spirit please guide me to forgiveness, to start the healing process of pouring Your oil and wine upon me and the bandaging of my wounds." You can also lead them through mending a cracked and wounded soul as discussed in Sector 20 "POW's" of the Xtreme Big Game Hunting book. Be part of the healing process not part of the wounding process!