

Title: Good Wounds

Series: Wounds

Main Scripture: Proverbs 27:5-6

Intro

If you're just joining us for the first time this month, we have come to the end of a series called Wounded. Since Easter, we've talked about many different types of wounds and how to deal with them when you experience them. We've covered Parent Wounds, God Wounds, Divorce Wounds and Church Wounds.

But today, we will talk about a different type of wound – A wound that may, perhaps, hurt the worst. This wound is given intentionally by those who are closest to you. But it is intentionally given to help, to make us better.

This wound is what we will call – The Good Wound.

While this type of wound has the tendency to hurt the worst, it also carries the potential to shape us, to correct something in us and to make us better than we would ever be without it. But you don't find these wounds anywhere. You only get cut this deep by a loved one. Which brings me to this truth:

Good Wounds Happen in The Context of Relationship.

For the most part, many of us don't care what strangers have to say about us, right? But there are a people in our lives we absolutely care about what they say – those who are closest to us. And their words have the ability to build us up, hurt us in a negative way or hurt us in a great way – a good wound.

And this occurs because quality relationships are built in the environment of at least these 3 elements:

Proximity - Nearness in space, time and relationship.

One reason these people can hurt you is because they are close to you. They see the **real you**. They see you when you're not guarded. They see you when you're vulnerable. This is why what they say has the ability to **hurt you** – in a good way or a bad way.

Illustration: These people are like surgeons.

Fellowship

Spending intentional time together.

Communication

When you have proximity and fellowship, communication is inevitable. And probably the most important shapers of a relationship.

Transition

God has blessed us with an awesome opportunity to grow through the platform of relationship. And the relationship I will talk about today is – Friendship. And more specifically, the growth that comes through the wounds we experience in quality friendships.

We all have these relationships in our lives. It could be a parent, childhood friend, a brother, a spouse. That person that knows THE REAL YOU and is close enough to do some damage. This is a friend.

Personal Story

Teria is by far my best quality friend. Not because we're married, but just because of who she is as friend. **She is so close to me, she can cause really big wounds.** And she does – good wounds and bad wounds.

Now let me pause here, and say this to the married people in the room:

-Stop requiring your spouse to be perfect. Newsflash: Your spouse's spouse isn't even perfect. So why require your spouse to be something for you that you can't be for them.

-There is no perfect marriage. (no perfect person, church, parent, etc.) That's not even the goal. Oneness is the goal.

-There will be bad wounds. That's what Love is for.

Ref: Above all, love each other deeply, because love **covers** a multitude of sins.
1 Peter 4:8 NIV

Cover – to dismiss a debt – ex. To cover a meal.

**JUST LIKE YOUR MONEY CAN COVER SOMEONE ELSE'S BILL,
YOUR LOVE SHOULD COVER SOMEONE ELSE'S SINS TOWARD YOU**

>>Back to me and Teria

The bad wounds that she, I choose to love her, forgive her and move on. But the good wounds, I hold on to and they change my life.

Proverbs 27: 5-6 (AMP)

⁵Open rebuke is better than love that is hidden. ⁶**FAITHFUL** are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are lavish *and* deceitful.

Faithful are the wounds a of a friend.

- **Faithful** – aman (Ah-man) – Strong's H539
to build up or support; to foster as a parent or nurse; to be firm, to trust or believe – to bring up, to be established, steadfast, sure, surely, trusty, verified

After reading this scripture and considering what it says, I've come to this conclusion that:
Resolve >>Faithful wounds are **good wounds**.

GOOD FRIENDS WILL LEAVE GOOD WOUNDS.

If you want to know if you have good friends,
measure them by the type of wounds they leave.

Definition of Terms:

Good wound – temporary pain for long-lasting growth.

>>>Wounds meant for growth, encouragement & edification

Friend - one that loves you and adds value to your life

Few Marks of a Good Friends

1. Good friends are dependable.

"A friend loves at all times...(Prov. 17:17)

2. Good friends are trustworthy.

"A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends." Proverbs 16:28

3. Good friends help you grow.

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another" ([Proverbs 27:17](#))

4. Good friends lovingly confront.

Main Scripture:

⁵Open rebuke is better than love that is hidden. ⁶Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are lavish *and* deceitful. Proverbs 27: 5-6 (AMP)

Transition

I want to leave you with 3 Truths About Good Wounds:

1. Good Wounds Are Only Meant for Growth

This is for all of the ones who just want to tell somebody off.

If it is not meant for good, keep it to yourself and check you heart.

What stands out to me the most is the tense.

>>Faithfull **ARE** the wounds of a friend.

These Wounds remain in the present tense. They provide permanent stability.

Example

If I say “this foundation **will be** stable.” You won’t stand on it.
If I say “this foundation **was** stable.” You still wouldn’t stand on it.
Why? Simple because of the tense.

But if I say ‘this foundation is stable.’ You will not hesitate to stand and build on it.

Faith ARE the wounds

>>This will always be a present reality. Something you can build on.

The point: These types of wounds are meant to shape you into the best version of yourself.

2. Good Wounds Help You See

Nathan rebukes David

Psalm 141:5 (NIV)

⁵ Let a righteous man strike me – that is a kindness; let him rebuke me – that is oil on my head. My head will not refuse it, for my prayer will still be against the deeds of evildoers.

Summarized the Story of David and Uriah

The last verse in chapter 11 says “the thing David had done displeased the Lord.”

Chapter 12 begins with “Then the Lord sent Nathan”

Now Nathan is the good friend who’s about to lay a good wound on David.

Q: Who is Nathan?

A: A prophet.

>>What is the prophet’s role? To speak the words of God. A true prophet will be committed to speaking God’s truth.

Let’s pick up in chapter 12...

Read: 2 Sam 12:1-4 (NIV)

2 Sam 12: 5-7(NIV)

⁵ David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! ⁶ He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.” ⁷Then Nathan said to David, “**You are the man!**”

2 Sam 12: 13(NIV)

¹³Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”

The Point: David had gotten off track – blinded by his on lusts and desires. Nathan brought him back by telling him a hard truth. Nathan helped David **see** his fault which help David repent.

Good Friends will leave good wounds.

3. Good Wounds Are Grounded in Love

-Although they're good, good wounds still hurt.

-So we must handle people with care.

-You cannot be a careless surgeon.

Love is God's way.

Faithful Are the Wounds of a Friend.

Close

2 Application Questions for you to consider:

Am I a **good** friend to those I love?

Am I helping those I love grow into who God wants them to be?