

Wounded But Not Defeated

(2 Corinthians 4:7-12)

- Introduction:
1. There are many metaphors employed to describe the church of Christ.
 2. One of those metaphors is that of being “soldiers” in the “army of God” (2 Timothy 2:3-4).
 3. But as we use that metaphor of being a soldier, I think we could all agree that as soldiers, we’ve all been wounded.
 4. The question is not whether we have been wounded, or whether we will be wounded, but the question is, “what will I do when I am wounded?”
 5. Here are some suggestions to those of you who are walking wounded.

I. Give Comfort To Others

- A. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).
- B. Who better knows how to comfort another than one who has suffered in a similar way?
- C. Comfort doesn’t come in the form of removing or fixing the problem, but by simply showing your love, concern, and understanding.

II. Give Hope To Others

- A. (Hebrews 12:1-2).
- B. Let others see that their wounds are not fatal.
- C. Be a source of strength and encouragement to others.
- D. While none of us would chose to serve God through pain and sorrow, it may be that God can best use us in this way.

III. Refocus Your Attention Upon Heaven

- A. (Hebrews 11:13-16).
- B. If Heaven could be found on earth, how many of us would long for our heavenly home with our Father?
- C. The wounds we suffer in this life should cause us to lift our eyes to Heaven!
- D. (Psalm 121:1-2).

- Conclusion:
1. It is my hope that your life will be filled with joy and happiness.
 2. But I am mindful that even our Lord did not experience that. He was a man of sorrows (Isaiah 53:3).
 3. But if our joy and happiness is tempered by wounds, may we resolve not to allow those wounds to defeat us.
 4. Let us use those wounds as stepping stones to Heaven!