

Turning a Wound into a Scar through Forgiveness

Pastor Eddie Turner
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Isaiah 30:26(NKJV)- Moreover the light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, And the light of the sun will be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the Lord binds up the bruise of His people and heals the stroke of their wound.

In life, someone is going to break your heart.

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Regardless of how spiritual you are-someone will abandon or leave you.

Whatever church or fellowship we choose to attend- eventually someone there is going to say something hurtful to us.

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Regardless of how loyal and loving we try to be-someone is going to let us down, lie to us, stab us in the back or reject us. It's called life!

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“how can we prevent hurt or betrayal from happening in our life?”

“how to I respond properly when hurt and betrayal occurs in my life?”

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Often when we experience hurt or betrayal we exit life; we exit jobs, friendships, relationships, churches, teams, marriages, peer groups and even our favorite place to shop-because someone there hurt us.

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If we don't deal correctly with a betrayal or wrongful action toward us- it can turn into a wound in our life that infects our entire being. Some of us nurse our wounds for years and use it as an excuse for

our attitude and behavior.

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Prov. 17:22(NIV)- A cheerful heart is good medicine,  
but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

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light of the sun, And the light of the sun will be sevenfold, as the
light of seven days, in the day that the Lord binds up the bruise of His
people and heals the stroke of their wound.

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Some things get broken and can never be put back the same. To have  
it the way it once was, will never happen. Unfortunately, this is  
where we often get stuck- we live in the regret that things will never  
be the same and our life from here on, will be less than best.

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Many of us believe we are forever stained and the remainder of our
life on earth must be lived with an emotional disability because of
someone who left us or something we lost.

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Isaiah 43:18-19(NIV)- “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the  
past. <sup>19</sup> See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not  
perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the  
wasteland.

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The brokenness of your situation may have been so severe it cannot  
be put back the same-but the Holy Spirit who hovered over the earth  
when it was without form and void and created something beautiful-  
can also create again something new and beautiful in our lives again.

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• How Can I Get this Wound Healed?

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1). Stop Picking at Your Wound:

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We replay the bad memories repeatedly in our minds. We talk about the event or the person repeatedly to anyone who will listen. We think of ways to get revenge. We for years, poke and prod at our wound until our emotions and spirit becomes infected with bitterness and a hard heart. Our wound will never heal if we continue to pick at it.

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Another thing that occurs when we keep an open wound- we become contagious in a bad way.

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Talking about our hurt and offense to others infects others with our poison. When we listened to someone's story of being done wrong- and even though we have had no negative interaction with the accused guilty party-when we encounter them-we treat them differently because someone's poison has infected us.

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Prov. 18:8(MSG)- Listening to gossip is like eating cheap candy; do you really want junk like that in your belly?

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• How Can I Get this Wound Healed?

1). Stop Picking at Your Wound:

2). Admit Your Brokenness:

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God wants to heal our wounds, but we must let Him. And before we let Him, we must admit that we are broke.

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Denying our pain doesn't make our pain go away. Denying our pain is not a sign of strength. Denying our pain prohibits the healing power of Jesus to work something new in our life.

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Matt. 11:28(NIV)~<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

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1). Stop Picking at Your Wound:  
2). Admit Your Brokenness:  
3). Determine to Forgive:

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C.S. Lewis said, "Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea until they have something to forgive. Forgiveness is like money; we want to get it, not give it."

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Understand that forgiving is not easy. In fact, extending forgiveness often requires denying our feelings and walking totally by faith.

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Forgiving is not easy; forgiveness is a decision of our will. Once that decision is made it will take some time for our feelings, our emotions, to catch up with our decision to forgive.

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Matt. 18:21-22(NLT)~²¹ Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"²² "No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven!"

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"Forgiveness is not about keeping score. It's about losing count."

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We all will get hurt in life some way. Our spouse will let us down. Someone will gossip about us. Someone might steal our money. Someone might steal your husband. Someone may abuse you or even bring harm to our children. Getting hurt is a reality, getting bitter is a reaction.

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The moment we forgive the offense loses its power over our lives.

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Eph. 4:31-32 (NLT) ~ ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. ³² Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

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• What Forgiveness is Not?  
1). Forgiveness is not approval

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2). Forgiveness is not forgetting

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3). Forgiving is not justifying

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4). Forgiveness is not giving in

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5). Forgiveness is not reconciliation  
Forgiveness is complete by itself-reconciliation is wonderful, but it is entirely separate from forgiveness.

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6). Forgiveness is not trust

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7). Forgiveness is not getting even

Forgiveness never comes our way, because punishment, revenge or justice goes their way.