

Connection Equipping Academy

Growing in Knowing God // Mend and Repair

Notes and Application

GOD-WOUNDS

- A **God-wound** is a misconception that we incurred through experiences and transposed onto God, His character, and how we relate to Him.
Example: overhead projector projects the image already formed on the glass, reflecting to a mirror and ultimately onto a wall.
- God-wounds happen through our _____ but then we process it (reflect as a mirror) and transpose it onto God (the wall: our perception of God and everything else from that).

How do we develop misconceptions about God?

- Experience vs. Truth

What experience in your life has led to a misconception about God?

What gospel Truth is the good news that shows you this is inaccurate? In other words, how can you apply what you now know of the Gospel to transform this inaccurate perception of God, of you, and of the world?

STRONGHOLDS

- A **stronghold** is an inaccurate way about God, ourselves, others, and our purpose.
 - Strongholds develop from _____.

Footholds are lies that we believe, or accept, as truths. If we are not diligent in “fact checking” through the _____ the information we have coming into our minds, then we open ourselves up to the Enemy planting an untruth in our minds.

Example: Someone of influence in your life who tells you that you will never amount to anything because you are no good. If that statement and thought is not dealt with, over time it will affect to some degree the way you think.

- If we embrace those statements without examining its validity through Scripture, we can begin to accept them as the truth of **who we are**.
- We will then begin to interpret things others say or do (that weren't intended to be malicious) as their telling us we are no good and will never amount to anything. The wrong perspective can lead to a self-fulfilling prophecy from something that wasn't even true in the first place!
- Strongholds form when we give the Enemy a foothold and don't deal with it quickly.

More simply stated, a foothold that goes unaddressed over time will become a stronghold, or permanent way of thinking.

- How do we give the enemy a foothold?

Example: Yarn getting tangled and knotted.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What are common “God-wounds?” After each one, write the Gospel big-T Truth that reminds us otherwise:

1. He’s unable to or will not intervene.
Opposite Gospel Truth: _____
2. He won’t do what He says.
Opposite Gospel Truth: _____
3. He couldn’t really love me. We have no concept of truly unconditional love.
Opposite Gospel Truth: _____
4. Can I really trust Him with all of my life? Doesn’t seem like I can trust people so how can I trust Him?
Opposite Gospel Truth: _____
5. He doesn’t really want to be involved with my life.
Opposite Gospel Truth: _____
6. He doesn’t care about making things right.
Opposite Gospel Truth: _____

How do we correct and overcome “God-wounds”?

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

- Unwind the yarn with Scripture (“the big-T” Truth).
- Place Scripture (Truth) as the highest authority in our lives. If we put experience or experiential truth, on the same level as Scripture we will never be sure we have an accurate view and understanding of God.
- Understand who God is and what God is like by looking at Jesus.

Example: “I wouldn’t trust your God either. Go home and read Mark and look at the things Jesus did and said and then see if you think you can trust Him.”

Hebrews 1:3 tells us that Jesus is the _____ of God’s being.

Colossians 2:9 says, “the _____ of God’s nature dwells bodily in Christ.”

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Can you think of a practical time that you overcame a God-wound in your life? If not, is there a God-wound you are facing right now? Be specific.

How does the Truth of Who Jesus is and what the Gospel means for you encourage you to believe that your misconception might not be accurate?

What might change inwardly if you believed and applied this Truth of the Gospel to your thought patterns? In other words, what would be different about how you understand and relate to God?

What might change outwardly if you believed and applied this Truth to your decisions and way of living (behavior)? Note: this is not asking “how can you be a better person?” but how does the truth transform your heart and mind so that you can live in joy, freedom from self, and peace with God and with others?

Write a prayer or even a bulleted list of how you see God revealing your wounds. Express to God your desire for His healing and help to grow in your walk of faith and obedience. Ask Him

to reveal to you each day where He would like you to trust Him and to renew your mind in a pace you can walk closely with Him, heart to heart.

“God walks ‘slowly’ because he is love. If he is not love he would have gone much faster. Love has its speed. It is an inner speed. It is a spiritual speed. God wIt is a different kind of speed from the technological speed to which we are accustomed. It is ‘slow’ yet it is lord over all other speeds since it is the speed of love. It goes on in the depth of our life, whether we notice or not, whether we are currently hit by storm or not, at three miles an hour. It is the speed we walk and therefore it is the speed the love of God walks.

The people of God were taught the truth of bread and the word of God in the wilderness as they walked three miles an hour by the three mile an hour God. The Canaanite woman believed in Jesus Christ against all her own speeds by trusting the speed of the promise of God.” from “Three Mile an Hour God,” in *Three Mile an Hour God: Biblical Reflections* (Orbis, 1979), 6-7.

Insert two-three book recommendations for Mending/Repairing Growing in Knowing God

“What’s So Amazing About Grace?” Phillip Yancey

“Gospel” JD Greear

“Ragamuffin Gospel” Brennan Manning

“Prodigal God” Tim Keller

“Return of the Prodigal” Henry Nouwen

Insert two - three song recommendations

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