

Scars

John 20:24-29

He Has Made Me Glad

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart

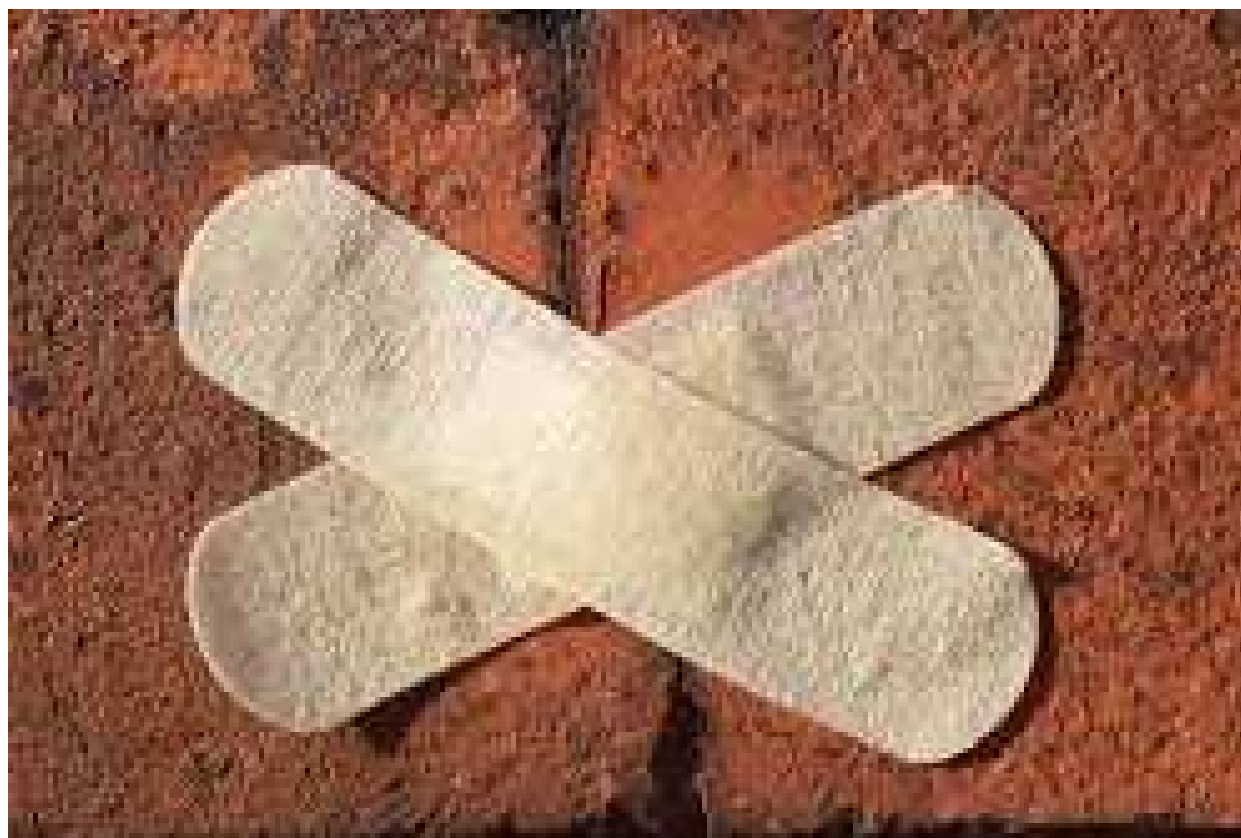
I will enter His courts with praise

I will say this is the day that the Lord has made

I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad. (2x)

I will rejoice for He has made me glad.



Scars

John 20:24-29

I stand amazed in the presence

I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene,
And wonder how He could love me,
A sinner condemned, unclean.

How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!

I stand amazed in the presence

For me it was in the garden,
He prayed: "Not my will, but Thine."
He had no tears for His own griefs,
But sweat-drops of blood for mine.

How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!

I stand amazed in the presence

He took my sins and my sorrows,
He made them His very own;
He bore the burden to Calv'ry,
And suffered, and died alone.

How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!

It Is Well

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

It Is Well

Though Satan should buffet,
Though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

It Is Well

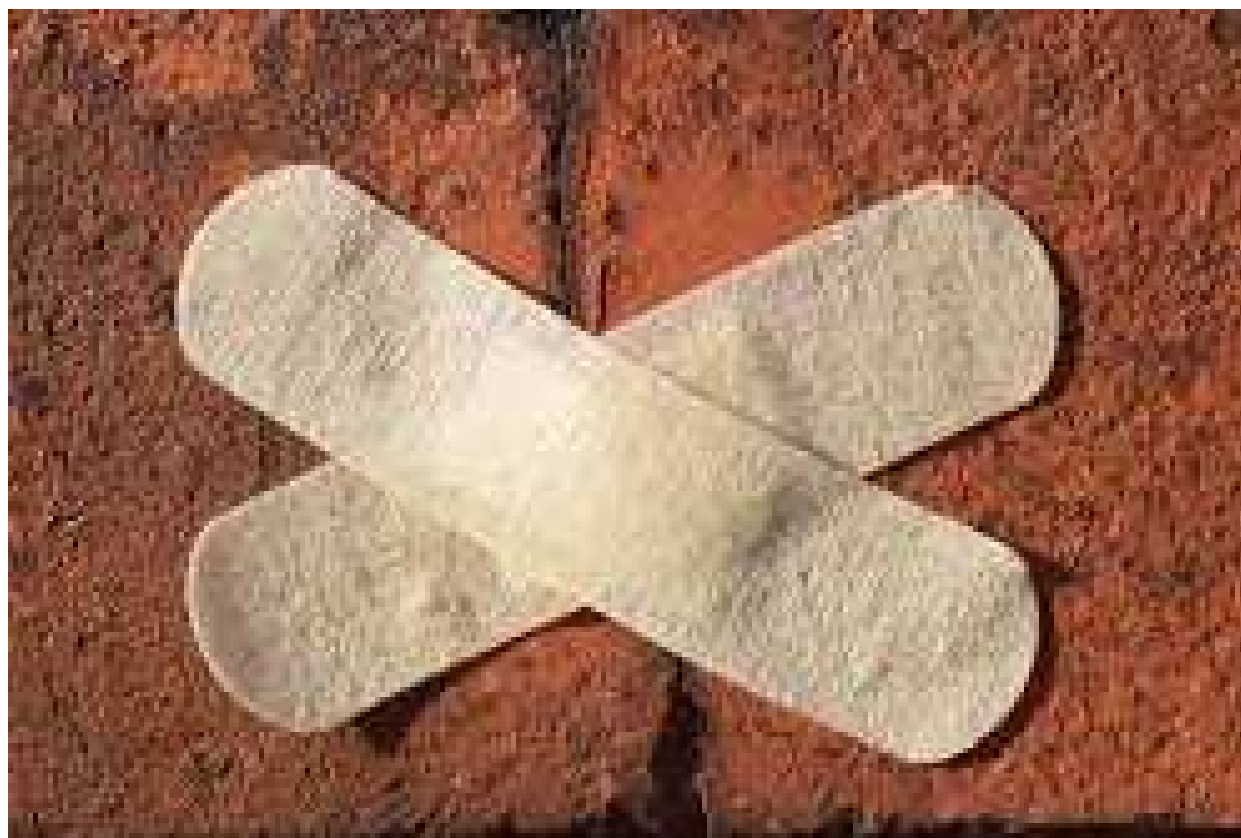
My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!—
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

It Is Well

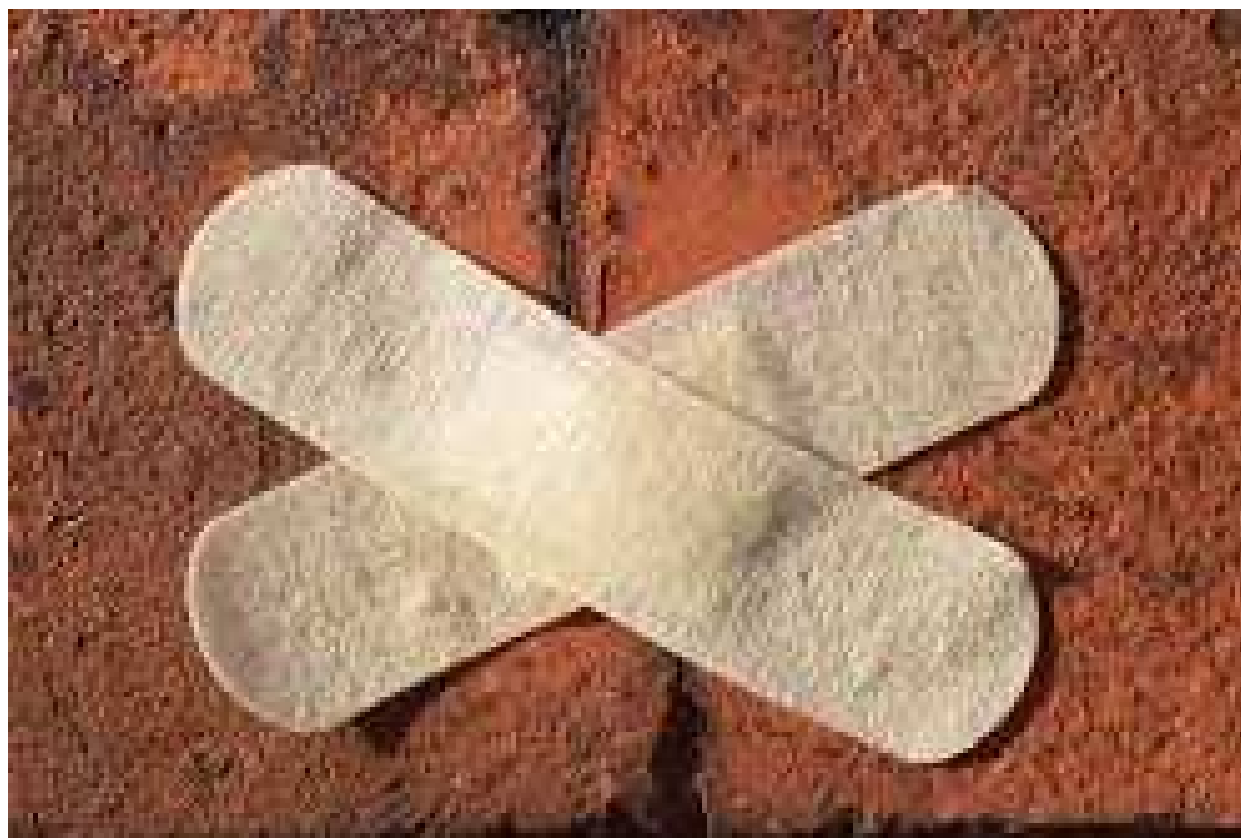
And Lord, haste the day
When the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound,
And the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.



Scars

John 20:24-29



Scars

John 20:24-29

Hallelujah (Your Love Is Amazing)

Hallelujah Hallelujah

Hallelujah Your love makes me sing

Hallelujah (Your Love Is Amazing)

Your love is amazing steady and unchanging
Your love is a mountain firm beneath my feet
Your love is a mystery how You gently lift me
When I am surrounded Your love carries me

Hallelujah Hallelujah

Hallelujah Your love makes me sing

Hallelujah (Your Love Is Amazing)

Your love is surprising I can feel it rising
All the joy that's growing deep inside of me
Every time I see You
All Your goodness shines through
And I can feel this God song rising up in me

Hallelujah Hallelujah
Hallelujah Your love makes me sing

Here I Am To Worship

Light of the world You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Here I Am To Worship

So here I am to worship

Here I am to bow down

Here I am to say that You're my God

Your altogether lovely

Altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me

Here I Am To Worship

King of all days Oh so Highly Exalted

Glorious in heaven above

Humbly you came to the earth you created

All for loves sake became poor

Here I Am To Worship

So here I am to worship

Here I am to bow down

Here I am to say that You're my God

Your altogether lovely

Altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me

I'll never know how much it cost

To see my sin upon that cross

Be Unto Your Name

We are a moment, You are forever
Lord of the ages God before time
We are a vapor, You are eternal
Love everlasting reigning on high

Be Unto Your Name

Holy Holy Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Highest praises honor and glory
Be unto Your name
Be unto Your name

Be Unto Your Name

We are the broken, You are the healer
Jesus Redeemer mighty to save
You are the love song we'll sing forever
Bowing before You blessing Your name

Be Unto Your Name

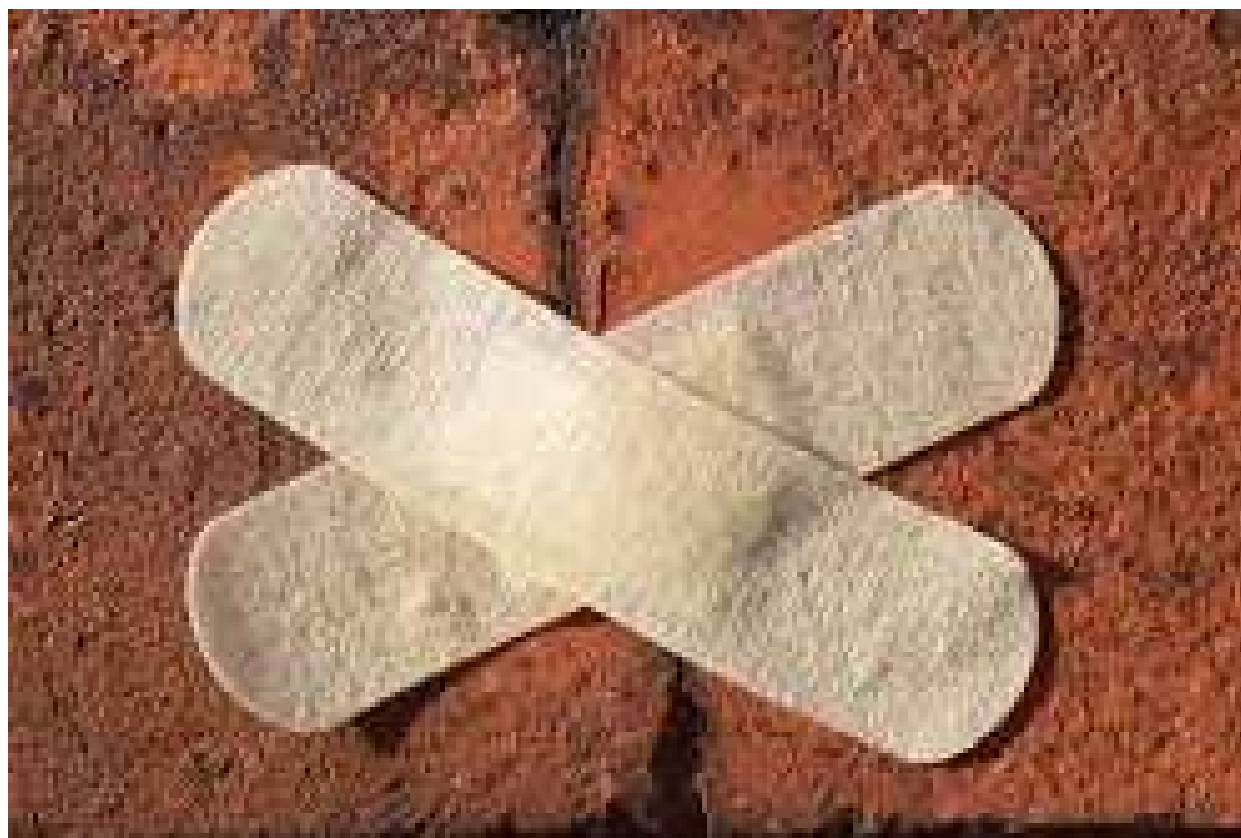
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Scars

John 20:24-29

What story would your physical scars tell?

- Barbed wire fence wrapping around by leg
- Front bicycle tire coming out of fork on ramp
- Running full speed after flyball into barbed wire fence
- Benign tumor that took 2 hours for the doctor to remove
- These are my scars you can see, but what about the scars you cannot see, the internal scars

Jennifer Greenberg

- “I had mental and emotional scars. Up until my early twenties, I had suffered child abuse, domestic violence, sexual abuse and psychological abuse at the hands of my father. Now I felt worn out and ragged. I felt marred and damaged. Scarred both inside and out. How could I find hope?”
- Isn't that a great question, “How can I find hope?”

Jennifer Greenberg

- In telling her story, most people did not want to hear about her sorrow, broken childhood, trauma or human insecurities
 - Some would say, “You should let go of your past and move on.”
 - Some Christians said to her, “If you place your trust completely in Jesus, he’ll wipe your pain away.”

Jennifer Greenberg

- Would we say that to oppressed Christians in places like Iran or North Korea that if they truly had faith, they'd feel no fear or sorrow?
- So, we are back to the question, "How can I find hope and healing?"

There was a man named Thomas who was a disciple of Jesus

- His faith was faltering
- He had watched all his hopes and dreams be nailed to a criminal cross and die
- Thomas' heart was broken, his trust shattered, and his hope was lost, all murdered on the cross

There was a man named Thomas who was a disciple of Jesus

- Despite the testimony of his close friends, the promises of scripture and the actual words of Jesus, he could not believe Jesus had risen from the dead
- Thomas was not left on the trash heap of faith because of his struggles, but how would Jesus respond to him?
 - Always a question we let sink into our minds

John 20:24-29 NIV

- 24 Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.
25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

John 20:24-29 NIV

- 26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

John 20:24-29 NIV

- 28 Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

I wonder what scars Thomas carried when he responded like this, what life experiences he carried?

- We are so quick to judge the action of others without knowing and understanding what's going on inside
- For over a week Thomas languished in sorrow and doubt, but then Jesus appeared to him.
- I wonder what thoughts quickly passed through his mind when he saw Jesus

I wonder what scars Thomas carried when he responded like this, what life experiences he carried?

- Jesus did not scold him, shame him or reprimand him for being foolish or sinful
- Jesus' words to Thomas were words of comfort, "Peace be with you."
 - Peace with others, God the Father
 - Now peace within you Thomas

I wonder what scars Thomas carried when he responded like this, what life experiences he carried?

- Then Jesus showed Thomas his scars and even invited him to touch them
 - Jesus opened himself up completely for Thomas to examine
 - He wasn't embarrassed by them or tried to hide them
 - They were a part of his story of redemption

I wonder what scars Thomas carried when he responded like this, what life experiences he carried?

- Jesus is in essence saying, “Here are my scars Thomas. Show me yours. Let me bring redemption to your scars.”
- Now Thomas, stop doubting and believe I can and will

This verse spoke to Jennifer Greenberg and allowed God to work peace and healing into her scars

- She had to stop doubting many things about herself, God and her relationship with him and simply believed His words
- She asked herself this question, “What do the scars of Christ – and how he used his scars – teach me about how we should view suffering, trauma and the marks of the past?”

God can use our scars

- Some of the mightiest warriors of God have borne massive scars
 - Moses was a murderer, David was an adulterer, Peter was a denier and Paul described himself as the “chief of all sinners”
 - Their scars are written on the pages of God book, open and clear so we can read it today

God can use our scars

- God desires to use your scars today – WHY?
 - Because you understand the pain, or the memory of pain others are going through
 - You understand that healing is a process
 - Because of your wisdom, humility and experience, you can lead others to stop doubting and believe
- This is why we must tell our story so other will know

God can use our scars

- Aren't you glad Moses did not leave out his scars, or David or Peter or John Mark?
- Aren't you glad David pours his scars out into the Psalms for us today
- You might be someone else's Psalm just like David has been for you

There is no shame in having scars

- It sure feels like it Randy
- There is something beautiful and comforting in knowing Jesus Christ has scars
- As the Son of God, he could have erased those marks from the wickedness of others
- He chose to retain the scars inflicted by evil and sorrow

There is no shame in having scars

- Moses wrote the first four books of the bible and he included his scars
 - Peter was the authority behind Luke's gospel, and he included his scars in it

There is no shame in having scars

- If God added a book to the Bible called *“Insert your name here”*, would you include your scars?
 - Answer if probably, no – why?
 - Usually we are worried what other will think or say
- If Christ could exhibit his scars so truthfully and shamelessly, so can we as an act of worship

The story of God's redemption is written on us

- What do Jesus' scars tell us about him?
 - He endured the evil and violence of wicked men
 - He was swallowed up in death
 - He was risen from the grave and victorious over Satan, death and hell
- It is the story of the redemption of mankind

The story of God's redemption is written on us

- What do our scars tell us about us
 - That God is shepherding us through our great sorrow and pain
 - That He is writing into our lives a great story of redemption
 - That He will raise us up out of death into eternal joy in heaven
- Our story is one of victory, It is just not finished yet

The story of God's redemption is written on us

- We are stories of God's redemption and we really cannot tell our redemption story completely without sharing what He has brought us through and bringing us through still
- The darkness and pain of the past, the hurt and bad decisions from the past is proof that His love is more powerful than death

The story of God's redemption is written on us

- You might still be stumbling through, but remember the final chapter has not been written in your life yet
- What should the theme of our life be?
 - **Psalms 66:5a NIV** Come and see what God has done

Scars are proof of God's glory

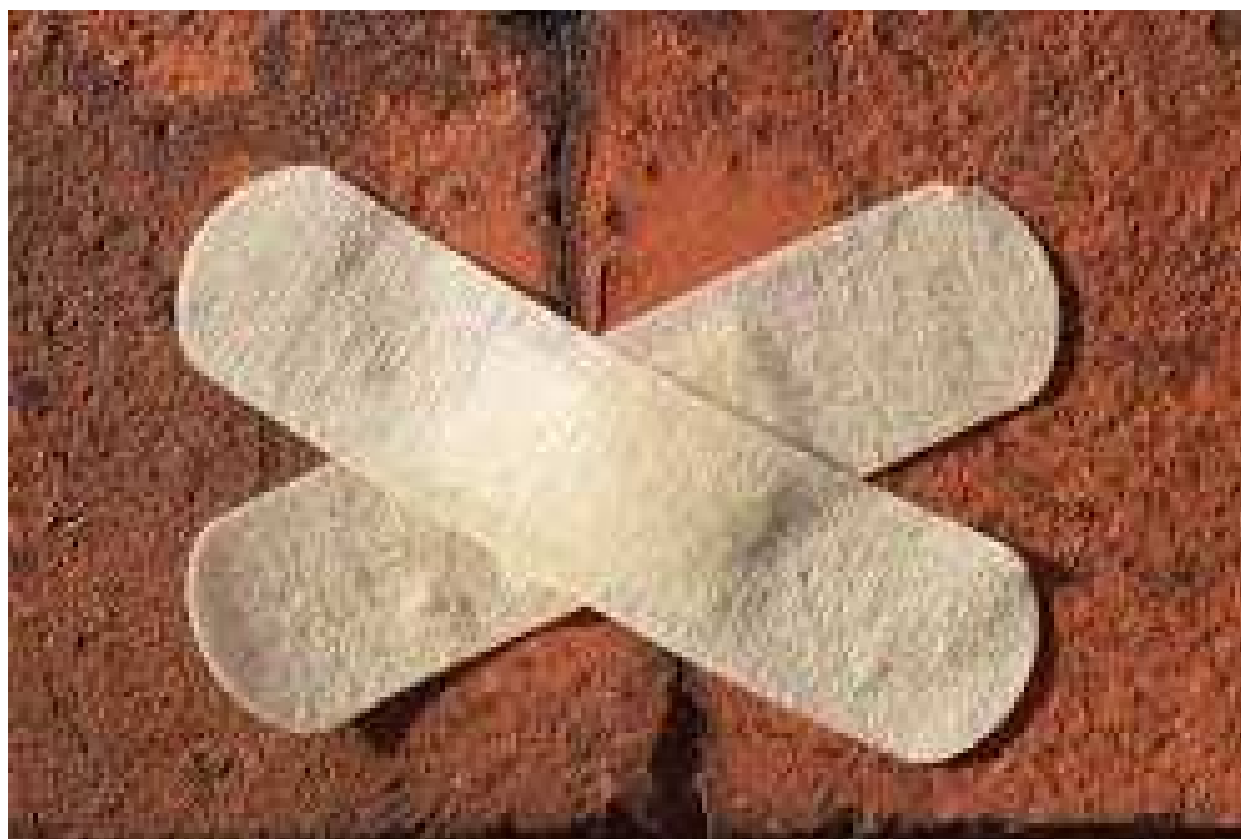
- Never be ashamed of the darkness God has saved you from, it is proof of His glory in you
- **2nd Corinthians 12:10 NIV** That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Scars are proof of God's glory

- **Luke 9:23 NIV** Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.
- Now we can say to others who struggle with doubt and unbelief, “Put your fingers here and see my hands, see my side. Do not doubt. Believe in Jesus for he is alive and moving in our world today.”

Scars are proof of God's glory

- Let Him write your story on someone's heart
- If Christ did not leave His wounds behind, He will not leave His wounded ones either



Psalms 66:5a

Come and see
what God has
done