

DATE June 12, 2016

SPEAKER John Stumbo

TITLE The Wounded Healer

SERIES The Bible is full of wisdom, and many of us have

favorite verses. But many of the sayings hanging on our walls and wrapped around our coffee cups are taken out of context. They may inspire or encourage us, but their meaning is distorted. Let's clarify some

of the most misused verses in the Bible.

Get to Know Me:

- 1. If you could give the commencement speech at your own graduation, what advice would you give?
- 2. As God is writing your story, what surprising chapters have you experienced? Has there been any "brokenness," or suffering in your life where God didn't immediately heal?
- 3. How does the picture of Jesus in Isa 53: 2-3, 5-8 differ from what we have of His childhood in Luke 2:51-52?
- 4. Dr. Stumbo mentions brokenness touches every life. Consider the following Old and New Testament characters and their stories. (pick two to discuss) What brokenness did they experience? How did they deal with it?

Ge 37:12-36 (Joseph), Job 1:1-22 (Job), Ruth 1:1-5, 16-22 (Ruth, Naomi) Isa 6:5-8 (Isaiah), Mk 14:31, 66-72 (Peter), Rom 4:18-22 (Abraham, Sarah)

- 5. Dr. Stumbo outlines 2 ways believers distort or "misuse" Scripture on healing.
 - a. Cheapening Scripture, i.e. belief in the teaching that God ALWAYS heals, reducing these passages to a math equation: cross + faith = healing
 - b. Changing Scripture, i.e. denying God's ability to do the miraculous

Have you ever been tempted to believe either of these? Where are you on the continuum between these two extremes? What verses, if any, cause confusion for you? (Hint: you can use some from Pastor Dave's sermons the last few weeks!)

- 6. Dr. Stumbo points out God hasn't left us on our own to figure this out. How do the following verses help bring perspective? Heb 12:3, 2 Cor 1:3-7, Eccl 3:1-8
- 7. How can God use us to be the body of Christ and community to others in our healing? How has being in community helped you in your journey? What cautions are given to us in processing healing? Heb 10:24-25, Heb 3:13
- 8. Read Psalm 139 together. Psalm 139:11-12 speaks of God as God of the "day and night" and that "even the darkness will not be dark" to Him. How is our God the God of victory and the God of the battle? Is there a "dark" situation in your life? How can it be brought into the light?
- 9. What do you think of Dr. Stumbo's question "Can you trust that He's not done writing a good story in your life?" How would your life look different if you acted on this belief? Is there anyone who could help you walk this out?