

A. SURGEON'S SCALPEL

- One of the names of God used in Scripture is “The God Who Heals.” (Ex 15:26) He uses His Living & Active Word (and a variety of other means) to do His healing work.
- The Word of God is like a surgeon’s scalpel in God’s hand, able to expose the source of what’s ailing us. He uses it with precision to cut away root causes. (Heb 4:12)
- Whether we need a remedy spiritually, emotionally, mentally or physically, God’s Word is a powerful instrument for our cure: Ps 107:19-20 AMP -- Then they cry to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivers them out of their distresses. He sends forth His word and heals them and rescues them from the pit *and* destruction.
- The word that God sends comes in power and may take the form of a specific Bible verse, a principle stored in your heart, a human messenger, or even a dream: Job 33:15-17 AMP -- In a dream, a vision of the night [one may hear God’s voice], when deep sleep falls on men while slumbering upon the bed, then He opens the ears of men and seals their instruction, that He may turn man aside *from his* conduct, and keep him from pride
- Because God’s Word is living and active it is able to accomplish His healing work:
 - Heal -- the Hebrew word here means to mend, to repair, to escape, or thoroughly make whole. (H7495)
 - Rescue – to deliver, save, to release, emit sparks, leap out, let go (H4422)
 - “Delivered” is the same Hebrew word used in this verse for “healed.”
- God speaks healing words to keep us from the consequences of sin, wounds, and disease. “Destructions” here means a pit or to sink down (H7825)
- We all have times when we find ourselves in a pit. The situations we’re in seem weighty and we feel we are sinking beneath our circumstances.
- No matter what your pain might be, God wants to heal you and restore you to wholeness: Jn 10:10 --The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.
- The Logos, Christ our living Word, came to reveal the heart of our Father in heaven and to restore our lives to His original intent for us. (John 1:1)
- In His days on earth, Jesus fulfilled the prophecy about this healing ministry by intervening in the effects of the fall on individuals’ inner and outer health: Mal 4:2 NLT -- But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture.
- LISTENING EXERCISE:
Lord, please open my memory banks and remind me of a time that You sent Your Word and it rescued me from the pit and I was changed for the better:

**Now, open my mind and heart to believe that You are a God Who Heals. Please help me believe your healing Word for what I’m facing now & will face in the future:*

- Insights:

B. SCARS

- The effects of sin upon mankind truly threaten our well-being in each area of life.
- If Adam and Eve had believed what God said, they would have enjoyed fullness of life and wholeness of body. Their choice to disbelieve Him cost them everything.
- They and all their offspring became open to evil, sickness and death. Fear and worship of self (or other temporal things) brought consequences they didn't foresee.
- Thanks be to God that He sent His Son to reverse the curse and become our Great Physician. His blood is all-sufficient and His Word is all-powerful to transform us.
- As you read and absorb these truths, notice the compassionate heart of God that is expressed within each one:
 - Gal 3:13 NLT -- But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing.
 - Rom 1:16-17 MSG -- It's news I'm most proud to proclaim, this extraordinary Message of God's powerful plan to rescue everyone who trusts him, starting with Jews and then right on to everyone else! God's way of putting people right shows up in acts of faith, confirming what Scripture has said all along: "The person in right standing before God by trusting him really lives."
 - 2 Tim 3:16 NLT -- All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.
 - Mt 11:29 ERV -- Accept my teaching. Learn from me. I am gentle and humble in spirit. And you will be able to get some rest.

- LISTENING EXERCISE:

Take another look at the verses above and take note of your perspective on them.

-- Do you see God and His Word as compassionate, loving, and sent to rescue?

-- Or do you experience it as harsh, heavy, demanding, etc.?

- Jesus had compassion for the hurting and healed them by the words He spoke. He demonstrated that His Word had healing power to make people whole:
 1. Spiritual
 - Every human being comes to this world with the need for spiritual healing. It is the primary and most crucial ministry of the Word as it concerns our eternity.
 - Mk 1:14-15 NLT – Jesus ... preached God's Good News. "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!"
 2. Emotional
 - Our core emotional needs are to have love/acceptance, security/safety, and significance/worth. No human has had these perfectly met and we need healing.
 - Is 57:18 -- I have seen his ways, and will heal him; I will also lead him, and restore comforts to him

3. Relational

- All of us have been sinned against. This results in painful wounds on our insides if not properly addressed. We tend to stay in this cycle: **SIN → WOUND → SIN**.
- Healing begins by receiving God's unconditional love and comfort. Then we can appropriate His Word trusting HS to enable us to forgive ourselves and others.
- Lam 3:19-20 NAS -- Remember my affliction and my wandering, the wormwood and bitterness. Surely my soul remembers and is bowed down within me.
- 2 Cor 5:16 – 19 NIV -- The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view ...

4. Physical

- It has been said "The Body Keeps the Score." (Bessel Van der Kolk) When things are not healed in our inner man, it impacts our physical beings as well.
- All disease is a direct effect of the Fall and the curse of death: Rom 5:12 NIV-- Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way, death came to all people, because all sinned
- God has the power to heal any part of us! Whenever He heals the inner man, it will positively impact our bodies as well: Proverbs 3:1-2, 8 NLT -- Never forget the things I have taught you. Store my commands in your heart. If you do this, you will live many years, and your life will be satisfying ... It will be health to your body [your marrow, your nerves, your sinews, your muscles—all your inner parts] and refreshment (physical well-being) to your bones.

- LISTENING EXERCISE:

Jesus, I want to be whole! Show me where I need healing in each part of my being:

--Spiritually

--Emotionally

--Relationally

--Physically

--Lord, as I seek You for healing these things, I ask that You will send specific Scriptures that apply to my needs. Help me listen to and believe You!

- God uses His Living and Active Word to address our pain. It's powerful enough to bring healing to the outer man as well as those needs hidden deep within us.
- "The Gospel is the means of healing, the doctrines of it are the leaves of the tree of life." (John Gill)

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- ONE THING

The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

- PONDER THE TRUTH

Which verse or principle stood out to you this week? Write it below taking some time to review it often. Be still in God's presence, alert for new insights. Record them here.

- PROCESSING THE TRUTH

Prayerfully consider the Listening Exercises from this lesson. Ask the Spirit to guide you into a deeper understanding of the truth and to reveal any specific faith steps He is calling you to take. Write down your insights.