

Summer Soul Searching

August 5, 2018

X. Wounds

Romans 5:1-8

5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we^[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we^[b] boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we^[c] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**You can tell a lot about someone's heart
by how they respond when they have been wronged.**

1. Source of Peace (5:1-2)

–We have peace with God, not necessarily peaceful feelings

2. Significance of Suffering (5:3-5)

–Suffering strengthens our character and enhances our confidence

3. System of Resolution (5:6-8)

–Taking the initiative in reconciliation is a vital step in simplifying our lives

Matthew 18:15-17

¹⁵ "If your brother or sister^[a] sins, ^[b] go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'^[c] ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

**Too often the injustices of life have robbed my
emotions
energy
expectations**

I must see the world through the glasses of God's grace.