Pastor's Desk 2025.11.02 Rev. Francis Chan

The Wounded Carer

Since our first parents sinned, both sin and its consequences have entered the world. Our relationship with God—and our relationships with one another—has been deeply fractured, producing disordered desires and harmful patterns in our hearts and lives. People no longer know God; they live for self-interest, cross moral boundaries, and ignore His commands. Between people, honest communication and mutual trust are scarce; suspicion and rivalry replace cooperation and the common good. Ongoing conflict wounds us, and repeated hurts leave scars on the soul.

Modern society normalizes relativism. Under the banners of pluralism and inclusivity, absolute truth is often resisted. Everyone claims their own "truth," while those who worship the one true God and hold to absolute truth are labeled narrow, outdated, or anti-progress. Contemporary culture exalts individualism, consumerism, materialism, and hedonism—values that stand opposed to God's ways and shape us more than we realize.

Marriage suffers when God's design is rejected and its sanctity dismissed. Parents then struggle to provide children with a healthy, stable, and secure home. Children born outside marriage or raised in complex family systems face additional challenges and are easily formed by distorted values and unhealthy choices. The family—meant to be a refuge for growth—too often becomes a place where wounds multiply.

This is our world. Even as believers in Jesus, many of us carry unhealed wounds. If we actively pursue spiritual growth, the Holy Spirit helps us face and heal them—yet this takes time and patience. If we do not, our wounds continue to shape our thoughts and behavior. In this sense, though born again and saved, we remain people who carry varying degrees of inner brokenness along the way.

Into this reality, the Lord Jesus gives a new command: to become a community that loves one another with His love. Practically, this means

loving, caring for, and supporting our brothers and sisters—understanding their struggles, worries, fears, griefs, and disappointments; walking with them on the journey; watching over them in prayer; and serving them in tangible ways. But we may ask: if our own wounds are still being healed, can we truly love and care for others?

Humanly speaking, no. But with God, all things are possible. We love one another because we obey our Lord's command, and because in serving our brothers and sisters we are serving Christ Himself—responding with gratitude to His deep love and abundant grace. The Lord does not first look for our strength or skill; He looks for our willingness, for His power is made perfect in weakness.

Therefore, though wounded, we can—by the grace of Christ—help the wounded. We can become Wounded Carers. As we lay down our anxieties and sorrows and refuse to be absorbed only by our own challenges, God opens before us a new horizon where we experience His living presence and amazing grace. Do you believe this? If given the opportunity, would you be willing to be equipped as a Wounded Carer? Do you long to see our church become a family where people truly love and care for one another?

Walking Together Against Adversity – Caring Experience Sharing Meeting (in Cantonese) will be held online on Sunday, November 9, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. If you are willing to be equipped as a Wounded Carer, you are warmly invited to join via the QR Code below—no pre-registration required.

Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" John 11:40



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