

THE GOD WHO RESTORES

Restore: to repair or renovate something damaged to its original condition. Restoration is a process of healing what has been broken. But God's desire for you is not a return to the old status quo; His intent is restoration to His original design. No matter what has happened in your life, God has a plan of restoration for you. If you are willing to make 3 choices every day, He will walk you through the process of becoming the person He created you to be.

1. RADICALLY COMMIT TO FOLLOWING GOD

Follow His voice

JOHN 10:27 ~ My sheep know my voice...

Follow His ways

PSALM 78:8 ~ by following His ways, they will break the past bondage

PSALM 86:11 TPT ~ Teach me more about you, (Your ways) how You work and how You move

2. RELENTLESSLY PURSUE THE WORK OF HEALING

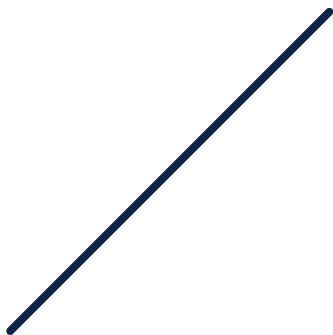
HEBREWS 12:1 TPT so we must let go of every wound that has pierced us and the sin we so easily fall into. Then we will be able to run life's marathon race with passion and determination, for the path has already been marked out before us.

God has a unique, individual path already marked out for you. And he wants you run on that path, fulfill your calling and destiny with passion and determination. But in order to do so, you have to let go of not just the sin you fall into so easily, but also every wound that has pierced you. Our unaddressed wounds slow us down. Our unhealed pain hinders progress. It all needs tending to. And this "tending to" requires WORK!

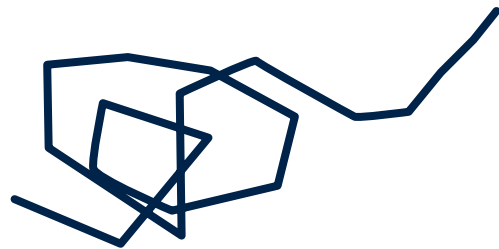
Healing in this life is not a resolution of our past; it is the use of our past to draw us into deeper relationship with God and His purposes for our lives.

Dan Allender, The Healing Path

3. RESOLUTELY ENDURE WITH PATIENCE



We think healing looks like THIS:



But it really looks like THIS:

Restoration is possible — and the effort is worth it — but it requires endurance with patience.

Endurance: continuing under pain or distress without yielding, resisting or sinking; to bear up under force or pressure without breaking.

Patience is waiting with contentment — keeping your heart right while you wait for something.

Endurance is fighting the battle while you are waiting with contentment. It's the only thing the Bible says produces character.

**MAKE NO MISTAKE; YOU ARE IN A BATTLE
AND YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO FIGHT.**

PSALM 78:9-11 TPT ~ though they were equipped warriors, each with his own weapons, when the battle began, they retreated and ran away in fear; they refused to trust God and move forward in faith. They forgot His wonderful works and the miracles of the past

Mighty, miraculous displays of God's power appear all throughout scripture, but no less mighty are His acts of grace and power in our lives! He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow!

PSALM 130:7 TPT Keep hoping, keep trusting, keep waiting on the Lord...He has a thousand ways to set you free

Little tiny steps every day. You are more resilient than you think. And God is WITH you! He is your strength and your salvation. Set your mind on Him and His truth. Trust Him like never before and He will lead you on your path to restoration.

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WEEK TWO | HOMEWORK

1. Restoration is the life-long process God returning us to the original, unique "self" He had in mind when He created us. What particular area of your "self" is God currently seeking to restore? What circumstance is He currently using to achieve His work?
2. Genuine restoration can only be accomplished in the presence of God. In what ways are you willing to radically commit to mindfully being in His presence? Share your commitment with a trusted friend and ask them to pray for you as you begin or renew these new practices. Here are a few suggestions:
 - intentionally practice stillness and quietness with Him in His word
 - prayerfully develop an ear for His voice
 - mindfully cultivate sensitivity to His ways
 - diligently commit to a journaling practice
3. What wounds are hindering your progress on the path God has marked out for you? How are you pursuing your work of healing from these wounds? What help do you need to engage in this work?
4. The work of restoration is long and laborious. It requires patient endurance. Patience is waiting with contentment. Endurance is continuing under the pressure of pain and suffering while waiting with contentment. What do you think God might be wanting to develop in your character during the prolonged, day-by-day progression of restoration?
5. Read Ephesians 6. What has God provided for you in order for you to fight the battle of waiting with contentment?
6. Read Ephesians 6:17, Philippians 2:9-10, Psalm 149:6-9, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5. What other weapons are available to you and how can you use them in your process of restoration as a well-equipped warrior?

Additional scriptures:

- Proverbs 4:20-27
- Isaiah 45:2-3
- 1 Peter 2:19-24

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Proverbs 4:20-27

Isaiah 45:2-3

1 Peter 2:19-24

additional scriptures

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