

**Scar Wars, Week 1: A New Hope**  
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**Hi again and welcome to our New Message Series called ‘Scar Wars’...finding healing for all of life’s hurts. Over the next few weeks** we will be talking about scars, wounds, you know real hurts in our lives that God wants to bring healing to, wellness to. Things like:

- a broken heart due to a bad relationship;
- we will talk about Hidden Scars like addiction, abuse and rape and how to find healing in this area of life;
- we’re going to talk about the scars we have in our families and how to get back on track from those;
- we will even talk about betrayal—how we have wounds from being betrayed to being the betrayer!
- I hope you will consider flying through this message series every Sunday and letting God bring healing to your life

**So today, What’s a scar? (Show Jaws Video Clip)**

1. It’s produced by **trauma** (a cut, abrasion, a burn)
  - Raw, bloody, painful
2. Is a **build up** of wounded **tissue**
  - Takes time
  - Tissue changes color: red to pink to white
3. A continual reminder something **changed.**
  - Scars have triggers (location, dates, a song)
  - Good and bad memories (we learn from them, close to event still hurt)

**Ask: What scars are you carrying in your life today? What stage of healing is your wound in?**

## So when do Scars create Wars?

1. When we **ignore** or hide **them** (denial: favorite scene from Monty Python's Meaning of Life: the black knight in battle gets his arm cut off and says, "Tis but a scratch, I've had worse! You liar! DENIAL!! lol) sorry
  - Alcoholism, which leaves many scars, often is swept under the carpet
  - Scars from Abusive relationships can lead to emotional roller coasters for families who ignore warning signs of escalation
  - Often hiding a scar involves lies, stories, and covering up the truth

*What else creates Wars?*

2. When we **fail** to **learn** from them

“Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way.” **-James 1:2-4 (MSG)**

- a. Nationally, alliances and enemies....
- b. How about ending a trying journey (where is God?) before it's time? Sometimes God's answers are to wait something out so we can GROW!
- c. When we don't learn from our scars:
  - Families get sick
  - churches split apart
  - friendships sour
  - The cycle continues and never ends...

*What else creates Wars?*

3. When we **fail** to **share** them

“Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” -James 5:16 (NLT)

**NOTE:** ever have a cut get infected? The cut turned yellow or green with pus?

- Because what was sick didn't heal properly.
- Likewise, emotional scars, relational Scars, hidden scars, left untreated, can get Infected...**Ever been around an infected person before?** Yikes!! Run for the Hills!!!
- Untreated scars lead us into battle, which takes away our joy, our life. Is there any hope?? **Yes!!**

“But thank God! He gives us *victory* over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.” -1 Cor. 15:57, NLT

**These next few weeks have the possibility to bring healing to our lives:**

- Positioning ourselves before God
  - Being aware of our circumstances
  - Being watchful in prayer expecting GREAT things to happen together
- Jesus says,  
“Where two or three are gathered together in my name I will be present!”

**Will you come expecting to meet Jesus?**

**Winning the Battle**

**Moving Forward:**

Since healing is a process of time, I commit to this journey today with God and others.

- Han Solo needed Luke Skywalker
- The rebels needed Jedis
- Who will your team be?
  - God & His family / other Christians?
  - The world
  - We must choose....

**May God's Force be with you!**