

Mooring Lines:

- what's holding you in
the harbor?

Fear

Consumerism

Tradition

Today – Past & Pain

Paint you three pictures



Past & Pain

“While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus asked him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?” When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, “Lord, should we strike with our swords?” And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.

But Jesus answered, “No more of this!” And he touched the man's ear and healed him.

Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs?” Luke 22:47-52

Past & Pain

1. Sword Swinging

- Peter has had a rough night:
 - * corrected by Jesus over foot washing
 - * discovered one of their own a traitor
 - * told he would disown Jesus, not lay his life down for him
 - * asked to keep watch while Jesus prays – falls asleep
- filled with zeal, great intention, desire to show his commitment – Peter swings his sword

Past & Pain

- Servant of the high Priest wounded
 - * just doing his job – may or may not agree
 - * attacked without warning – never started it
 - * now his life has been changed
- We all have been motivated sword swingers at times:
 - wanting to prove to Jesus we are committed
 - driven by what we haven't done –
 - well intentioned, full of zeal – missing the point!
- Peter is told to put away his sword

Past & Pain

2. Broken & Bleeding

- Freeze on the Wounded Servant

- * Blood flowing between his fingers

- * Probably not a fatal wound – could run, get help

- * Leave an incredible scar – permanent disfigurement

- * Visible to everyone, constant reminder, every day remembering the followers of Jesus

- This is the hard one for me – I don't really care about their intentions, look at what they have done. Hurts

Past & Pain

- I can relate to this picture:
 - * Wounded by graceless words
 - * Cut by gossip
 - * Attacked for unfulfilled expectations
 - * Someone with an agenda – out to prove they will not fail – leaves you broken, bleeding
- The picture is not finished here.....

Past & Pain

3. Touched and Whole

- Jesus touches the man's ear and heals him

- * amazed that he let Jesus anywhere near him

- * amazed that Jesus notices – stops to do this

- * I want to hear this guys story in heaven

- Now when the servant feels his ear, looks in a mirror, washes his face – reminded of the touch of Jesus

Past & Pain

- when we are wounded,
 - * run – stop the bleeding
 - * heal – get on with life – live with scars
 - * protect ourselves – never let them hurt me again
 - can't trust them, never expose myself to that
 - be on guard
 - * become cynical, bitter – full life not an option
- Jesus wants to make us whole – touched and restored

Past & Pain

So What

1. Sword Swingers – Put down your swords!
 - failure does not disqualify you – repent and move on
 - never prove your zeal at the expense of others
2. Broken & Bleeding – come and be touched
 - big question – do you want to be healed?
 - lose your anger, righteous indignation, no excuses
 - if Jesus noticed then – he is here and ready now!