

*But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)*

LSB 420 – Christ, the Life of All the Living

(Verse 4 of this week's hymn served as inspiration for today's devotion.)

There are few things that can be as annoying as getting a splitter and not being able to remove it. Yeah, it may not bother you at first, but after time, the longer it stays imbedded under your skin, the worse it can get. What starts out as a minor annoyance, grows to be something much more painful. The urgency builds as an infection sets in, but once removed, the wound can finally heal.

For a moment, ponder on all the wounds Christ carried. People gathered and scoffed at him. The voices that yelled *Halleluiah!* are now the same voices that mocked him. They poured out shame upon Jesus. And if the physical beatings, scoffing words, and humiliation wasn't enough, they pierced His head with a crown of thorns! He bore the physical wounds across His body. He bore the mental wounds of being rejected by His own people. And in the end, God, His Heavenly Father abandoned Him.

It is amazing how one man could bear so many wounds. But this is no ordinary man. He is the very Son of God! Fully God, fully man. Perfect in every respect, who, went willingly to the cross with an even greater burden, the burden of our sins. Jesus Christ took the physical beatings, scoffing words, the humiliation, and even died for you. He did it to forgive your sins. Why? Because He loves you; you are precious in His sight. Through His wounds we are healed.

### **Prayer**

Lord, You gave up your Son, our Savior, Jesus, for our sake, that through His wounds we are healed. We are thankful that you have provided the way for our salvation. Through each of our days, guide our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, that through every trial and temptation, we may be held steadfast in You. In Jesus name, Amen.

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