

The Port of Hope

- Preparing God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Ephesians 4:12

Helping to Build Spiritual Movements Everywhere so Everyone Knows Someone who Truly Follows Jesus Christ

Alpha and the Omega -- The Beginning and the End

PTSD from Start to Finish

When Jesus said "I am the way the truth and the life" He laid out a narrow path with a broad application. He makes it clear that He is the one and only way to God, but in saying that I believe He's also communicating something we need to hear each and everyday.

Over the past several months we've seen two specific instances here in the NW where God has shown us both the beginning of a Christ-centered approach to combat related trauma and what it looks like at the end. The quote below speaks for itself:

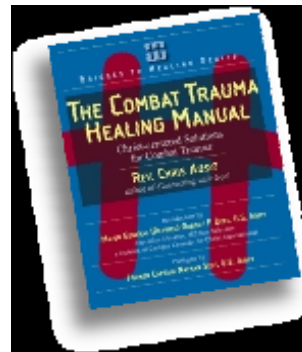
I want to thank you for having this service for our troops. I am a veteran of 17 years in the Army. When I came home from Iraq I had no idea why I had so many problems. My problems destroyed my marriage, job, and life. Since being given your book, "The Combat Trauma Healing Manual" and discussing it

with my counselor it has changed my life. Thank you for bringing Christ into the healing process.

As you can see the "way and the truth" of Christ's healing power is unfathomable. The book doesn't heal, Christ does.

Now this week I hear from a mother crying and sharing with me that her son (who lives about an hour from us) is at the destructive end of the PTSD cycle. Unable to console her and incapable of healing him, we again turn to God.

Some would say that "spirituality is one way, but not the



only way" to help these men and women. My answer to them is your right and wrong: Spirituality is "a way" but "Jesus is the way the truth and the life".

God has not called us up here because we have anything worthy to offer but Him. We are not the healer, but the bridges to "THE HEALER". He is the beginning and the end, the way the truth and the life. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29). We praise Him for what He's doing and we rejoice not that the spirits submit to us but that our names are written in heaven (Luke 17:20)

March 2010

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for our financial support. Between the Bridges to Healing conference (which will require about \$10,000) and our monthly support (which requires about \$3,000 per month) we need God's help. Many are on our team, but there are so many needs and it's imperative that we raise these funds to continue the work He's called us to
- Pray for Steven (the man mentioned earlier). He's lost his job, his home and is in the process of going through a divorce as he struggles with PTSD. Pray that He accepts God's healing hand.

Bridges to Healing Seminar Coming this Summer to Ft. Lewis

Are things for our military really that bad? Read this quote from a chaplain here at Ft. Lewis:

"Well, in brief, consider that the Army lost more Soldiers to suicide in Jan 2010 than were taken in the War on Terrorism--that's on all fronts, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Philippines, S. America, and various other countries around the world. What's more, the Army's suicide rate has nearly doubled since 2006. That's bad!"

As you can tell, there's a level of desperation. At the same time, we who follow Christ also understand that we are not without hope. If Christ is lifted up He will draw everyone to Himself (John 12:32)

This summer we hope to do exactly that. The "Bridges to Healing" seminar is a one-day event designed to equip churches to minister to

military and their families. We'll address how each person in attendance can use the gifts and talents God's given them to reach out to the military in their community. This Christ-centered approach has and will continue to introduce our nation's servants to our world's Savior.

Please join us in prayer as we mobilize churches and seek God's will in this.