

WOUNDS: Church Trauma

ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS

What gives you joy when we come together on Sunday Worship Service and attending Life Group?

WORD

Wounds in the church are detrimental to the whole congregation, not just to the people involved. Both repentance and forgiveness are needed.

2 Corinthians 2:5-11

5 If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. 6 The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. 7 Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. 8 I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. 9 Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. 10 Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, 11 in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

Man caused grief to the church, the church disciplined him by excommunicating him and caused him wounds lead to church trauma. Examples of Church wounds:

- *Church mates judged you.
- *Challenging times, received no support
- *Gossip
- *Exclusion Spiritual bypassing Pastors offending you (feels like every preaching is specifically for you)

EFFECTS OF CHURCH TRAUMA

*GRIEF : Verse 5 If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely.

*EMOTIONAL WOUNDS. Verse 7 Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

*SATAN CAN OUTWIT US. Verse 11 in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

*LOSS OF FAITH

DISCUSSION

Why church trauma is so detrimental? How does a conflict in the church affect everyone in the congregation?

WORD

PRACTICAL WAYS TO SOLVE CHURCH TRAUMA

1.WE NEED TO FORGIVE Verse 7 *Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.*

Forgive from the original context means “ grace, extending favour.” Freely give favour to grant forgiveness.God giving grace to pardon. It is not base on any merit of the one receiving the forgiveness. If God extended his grace to us, why can't we?

2.SEEK RESTORATION TO BE UNITED 2 *Corinthians 2:8 “I urge you therefore, to reaffirm your love for him”*

Repentance and forgiveness is not enough. Paul encourages us to “reaffirm our love” Doing so we will rebuild our trust and stand united The attacks of the enemy would be easier to endure when we are united.

3.FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS Hebrews 12:2 (NIV):

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

DISCUSSION

How can we identify repentance and the need for restoration?

LIFE APPLICATION

Let us deal church hurt with repentance and forgiveness. The two must go together so that the enemy does not win through the disunity of the church.

Love covers all multitude of sins 1 Peter 4:8 NIV *"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."*

DISCUSSION

What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message

VERSE TO MEDITATE ON

Ephesians 4: 32 ESV

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

PRAYER

Share your prayer request and answered prayer. Pray for one another and throughout this week.



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