

HELPING PEOPLE HEAL FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

Loving Like Jesus in a Fractured World – Part 4

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“Look on victims of abuse as if what happened to them had happened to you.”
Hebrews 13:3 (The Message)

3. THE PROCESS OF HEALING

“You saw them abuse me, Lord, so make things right.”

Lamentations 3:59 (CEV)

“In my anguish I cried to the Lord, and he answered by setting me free.”

Psalms 118:5

1. THE PREVALENCE OF THE PROBLEM

“Understand this: There will be very difficult times in the last days. People will be self-absorbed, money-hungry, self-promoting, arrogant, and abusive . . . lacking self-control . . . brutal . . . and addicted to lust . . .”
2 Timothy 3:1-4

ABUSE: Visual, verbal or physical sexual activity without consent.

4. HOW JESUS CARES FOR OUR PAIN

“Jesus turned around and saw the woman and said, ‘Be encouraged, dear daughter! Your faith has healed you!’ At that very moment, the woman was restored to health.”
Matthew 9:22

2. THE DAMAGE IT CAUSES

“David said, ‘I will not say anything while evil people are near.’ So I kept quiet, not saying a word . . . but my suffering only grew worse, and I was overcome with anxiety. The more I thought, the more troubled I became; I could not keep from asking: ‘Lord, how long will I live? When will I die? Tell me how soon my life will end.’”
Psalm 39:1-4

Jesus said “Situations that cause people to sin are bound to happen, but the punishment will be terrible for anyone who causes others to lose their faith. And it would be better for a person to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck than to harm to one of these little children.”
Luke 17:1-2

5. MAKING OUR CHURCH A PLACE FOR SUPPORT

(In the Church) “Treat the older men as you would your own father and treat younger men as your brothers.

Treat the older women as you would your own mother, and treat the younger women with purity as you would your sister.”

1 Timothy 5:1-2