

What's Your Problem?
Dealing with Abuse
Psalm 147:1-3

Psalms 147:1-3 (NKJV) Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers together the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds.

I. The Problem of Abuse

- A. Types of Abuse: Physical, Verbal, Emotional, Sexual - Psalms 11:5; Proverbs 22:24-25; Ephesians 4:29**
- B. Victims Of Abuse: Spouses, Children, Elderly - Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 18:5-6**
- C. Prevalence of Abuse - Genesis 6:11-13**
- D. Effects of Abuse - Psalms 55:4-5; Psalms 55:12-14**

II. Understanding Abuse

- A. Understanding the Abuser: Critical, Manipulative, Controlling**
- B. Understanding the Abused: Isolation, Hopelessness, Shame**
- C. Understanding the Cycle of Abuse**

III. Dealing with Abuse

A. God's Instruction for Abusers

- i. Accept Full Responsibility for the Abuse - 1 John 1:8-9**
- ii. Be Accountable to Others - Hebrews 3:12-13**
- iii. Learn to Control Your Anger or Urges - Ephesians 4:31-32; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-6**
- iv. Work Through the Underlying Issues for Lasting Change**

B. God's Instructions for the Abused

- i. A Safe Place to Go - Psalms 55:6-8;**
- ii. Compassion and Support - Galatians 6:2**
- iii. The Long-Term Counselling Care - Psalms 32:7-8**
- iv. Time to Heal and Forgive - Psalms 147:3; Genesis 50:20**

C. God's Instruction for the Church

- i. Protect Victims of Abuse - Proverbs 24:11-12**
- ii. Provide Necessary Support - 1 Thessalonians 5:14**
- iii. Teach Biblical Roles and Relationships - Leviticus 19:32, Ephesians 6:4; Ephesians 5:25; 1 Peter 3:7**
- iv. Be a Safe Place for All - Psalms 27:4-5**