
Brief executive summary of topic:

How to provide spiritual direction to survivors of profound trauma, using prayer for inner healing of memories.

Awareness of an interest in the ministry of spiritual direction is growing today. Also growing exponentially is the need to offer help and hope to people suffering from sexual abuse -- as well as neglect and emotional, verbal and physical abuse, and the related epidemic of elective pregnancy loss - -tragedies increasingly represented in congregations across America.

The institutional church is uniquely positioned to offer help and hope to victims of such abuse, in part through an expanding ministry of spiritual direction which includes sexual abuse recovery, dissociative identity disorder treatment, prayer for inner healing of memories, and deliverance from evil spirits. This two-volume doctoral field project demonstrates even with limited training in these matters, and no prior experience, such a spiritual direction ministry is not only possible, but with God's enablement can be initiated successfully. The need is great; the opportunity is at hand. This D.Min. project tells how one person did it, and how it turned out.

Chapter One: Spiritual Direction - begins with a review of selected literature discussing issues the writer feels important to understanding a modern, multi-faceted spiritual direction ministry.

Chapter Two: Sexual Abuse Recovery - reviews selected literature and describes factors the writer believes essential to understanding causes, manifestation, and intervention for distressing symptoms arising subsequent to sexual abuse.

Chapter Three: Dissociative Identity Disorder - reviews selected literature pertaining to recognizing, understanding, and assisting abuse survivors who've developed DID (formerly multiple personality disorder) as a coping mechanism.

Chapter Four: Prayer for Inner Healing of Memories and Deliverance - reviews selected literature on establishing a healing and deliverance ministry and presents examples of the writer's personal experience with healing and deliverance.

Chapter Five: Conclusions and Recommendations - reviews aspects of the spiritual dimension underlying these four areas of human need and invites consideration of all four as appropriate to the ministry of spiritual direction.

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