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Child Abuse Prevention

Karen Pickering

I Thessalonians 4:3-8 – vs. 6b the Lord is the _____
in all these things.

I. Definition – Sexual abuse – any tricked, forced, manipulated or coerced sexual activity for the pleasure of the abuser.

This can be _____, _____
or _____.

What we _____ shapes what we _____.

We don't _____ it can happen here so we
don't _____ the warning signs.

II. Replace misconceptions with facts.

A. **Myth:** We can identify sexual abusers by doing background checks.

Fact: Less than _____ of abusers ever hit the system.

B. **Myth:** Most of abusers are strangers to us and our children.

Fact: Of all abuse reported only _____ are snatch and grab. _____ are someone the child knows well.

Be willing to consider the possibility that _____ and _____ adults sexually molest children.

C. **Myth:** Sexual offenders are _____ identifiable.

Fact: There is no _____ profile for sexual offenders.

D. **Myth:** Sex offenders are always men.

Fact: 15% of convicted sex offenders are _____.

E. **Myth:** Abusers are adults.

Fact: Peer to peer abuse has increased _____ in the last 5 years.

_____ of perpetrators of sexual abuse are under 18.

III. Discuss Grooming Behavior

A gatekeeper is anyone they have to go through to get access to the child or children. These could include:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Common Grooming Behaviors – purpose to gain trust and access.

IV. Identify High Risk Behavior

- Over zealous involvement with children.
- Touchy with children (removes physical barriers)
- Engage in tickling and roughhousing games with children as a _____ strategy.
- Seek _____ on _____ time with child.
- Blur boundaries
- Become _____ when challenged.

V. Methods to Reduce Risk

- Watch for grooming behaviors – Report to supervisor.
- Adequate supervision
- No one on one contact with student, no overnight activities in someone's home.
- Appropriate physical and verbal boundaries.
- Avoid inappropriate physical affection.
- Don't give gifts or privileges to a specific child. It is better from the church.
- No secrets.
- Ramp up security any place less easily seen, play structures
- Frequent drop in to bathrooms
- Bathrooms 1 kid/1 stall

- Verbal supervision in private areas
- Supervisors should walk and watch instead of talking.

VI. What to Do if a Child Reports Abuse

- _____ and respond _____.
- Be sensitive to vague or partial disclosure. Do you want to tell me anything else? No _____ questions.
- Don't ask _____ questions. Why were you? Why did you? Why didn't you?
- Report to _____ immediately
- Report to authority
- No _____.

VII. Conclusion

I Peter 5:8 ...Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring _____, seeking someone to _____.

Ephesians 2:4-7 ...But _____, being rich in mercy, because of His great _____ with which He loved us.

Proverbs 31:8-9 Open your _____ for the dumb, for the rights of all the unfortunate.

Child Discipline

Pastor Dan Leeds

I. Be _____. It is not the fault of the children if they are rowdy while you are looking for materials or getting your act together.

II. Have a _____ of _____ for the class and keep things moving. Most discipline problems are alleviated by good teaching. If you don't have a plan, one of the children will.

F

L

O

P

III. Have a zero tolerance for _____.

Disobedience is _____.

When we allow a child to continue to disobey and disrupt our classes . . .

- We take away _____ that God would receive for a lesson well taught.

- We give that child more opportunities to _____ against God.
- We teach the _____ child that they can win by _____.
- We give _____ opportunities to sin or abuse the child.
- We take away from opportunities for the rest of the class to _____ and _____ the lesson/activity.
- We create an _____ environment.
- We give other children a _____ example to follow.
- We harm the _____ of Christ and TBC to all who hear about the disruptive children.
- We give opportunity for other children to be _____ and not _____.

IV. NEVER _____ any children but your own in an act of discipline in any ministry of TBC.

V. Follow an approved _____ of _____.

Don't make up your own discipline procedures.

1st offense - Calmly _____ to the disruptive/disobedient child. Move towards them. Let them know they have your attention. Let them know that their current behavior is not going to be _____ in this class.

- It is good to be specific: “We don't talk when we listen to God's Word being taught.” Rather than simply saying, “No talking.”

2nd offense - Move the child to another _____ or another _____. Have them sit down during games. Take them to a supervisor.

3rd offense - They must go to their _____ or go _____.

- If the disobedience/disruption occurs on successive events, _____ the list. Combine 1 & 2 or remove them from the class right away depending upon the rebellion.
- Those who have been removed from class _____ lose the privilege of participating in that event - Awana, Children's Church, Sunday School, TBS.

VI. Use a “_____” for getting attention in noisy situations like choir, gym, or Awana game time.

- Begin counting loudly “One, Two , Three” Remove game points or privileges for those still making noise after you say three. They may be taught to count with you. But don’t let them make fun of the process.

Child Discipleship

Pastor Rory Martin

I. The Biblical _____ for making disciples

- Jesus commanded his _____ to make _____ (Matt 28:19-20).

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

- Paul commanded Timothy to find another _____ to be taught the _____ (2 Timothy 2:1-2).

“You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

II. The Biblical _____ for making disciples

- _____ to God’s Word (Ps 119:9; 105)
- This _____ be built into every curriculum.
- Don’t underestimate the simple _____ and _____ of Scripture.

- _____ of God's Word (Matt 28:19-20; 2 Tim 2:1-2)
- Be sure that your students _____ the Word
- Memorization in and of itself is _____ without understanding.
- _____ of God's Word (Matt 28:19-20)
- Point out areas of your and their _____ that can be brought into _____ with the Scripture.
- Don't be so arrogant as to think that _____ your disciple needs to change.

III. The Biblical _____ for making disciples -
BE AN _____.

Sexual Abuse/Harassment Policy

Trinity Baptist Church has a commitment to protect children and other potential victims from abuse, to endeavor to guard workers and ministers (volunteer and compensated) from false allegations, to protect the testimony of this church and of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to guard the financial and legal standings of this corporation. To ensure this we establish this policy. This policy will be written and overseen by a committee who will be appointed by the Pastor and approved at the Men's Meeting. This Policy will be approved by the church. Any parts of this policy contradicting this church constitution or federal or state laws will be considered void.

I. Eligibility, Screening, and Training of Workers at TBC

A. Eligibility

1. All those ministering at Trinity Baptist Church shall give testimony of their personal faith in Jesus Christ.
2. All those ministering at Trinity Baptist Church will regularly attend Trinity Baptist Church services. (weekly)
3. All those ministering with minors (under 18 years old) shall be members of Trinity Baptist Church or be approved by the policy committee.
4. Those convicted of or who have pled guilty to criminal sexual abuse will not minister with minors at Trinity Baptist Church.

B. Screening

1. Trinity Baptist Church shall have on file a completed Primary Screening Form for Children or Youth Work for all those involved in ministering to minors.

2. All those representing Trinity Baptist Church or ministering in any capacity with Trinity Baptist Church shall be approved verbally or in writing by the Pastor of the church.
3. The Pastor or Ministry Supervisor (AWANA Commander, Sunday School Superintendent, Nursery Leader, or TBS Administrator) shall check references and if deemed necessary request finger prints from all those ministering with minors at TBC who have been members of this church less than one full year.
4. The Pastor or Ministry Supervisor (AWANA Commander, Sunday School Superintendent, Nursery Leader, or TBS Administrator) shall conduct an interview with those ministering to minors at TBC who have been members less than 6 months.

C. Training

1. All those ministering at Trinity Baptist Church will attend regularly scheduled (no less than once a year) classes on child abuse, sexual abuse, and/or sexualharassment.
2. All new workers ministering at Trinity Baptist Church shall complete a training course. This training course shall include reading this policy, reading or watching any other material deemed necessary by the policy committee, and completing corresponding materials.

II. Supervision of Workers

- A. Those ministering with minors at Trinity Baptist Church will not do so privately (one worker alone with one minor). The following are a list of ways that ministry with minors can take place.

1. Ministry with minors can happen privately or collectively (more than one minor) in rooms with interior windows allowing visual access to the activities in that room.
 2. Ministry with minors can take place collectively in rooms without windows when there are two or more children of primary age or older in the room.
- B. Supervisors (Pastor, AWANA Commander, Sunday School Superintendent, Nursery Leader, or TBS Administrator) will often inspect rooms while ministry with minors is taking place. These inspections ought to be from time to time unannounced.
- C. Written parental permission will be obtained for activities (overnight, etc.) for minors where usual supervision cannot be maintained.
- D. Ministries or activities that cannot be supervised properly will not take place.

III. Reporting Obligations

- A. All suspicious behavior of fellow ministers or of minors responding to fellow ministers will be reported to those in the chain of supervision, Pastor, or the policy committee.
- B. Inappropriate behavior (i.e. giving massages, inappropriate touching or kissing) should be confronted immediately and then reported to those in the chain of supervision.
- C. Those ministering with minors who are covered by state reporting obligations (school teachers, school administrators, school janitors) will not be frustrated by this policy in obeying those reporting laws.
- D. Any confirmed criminal behavior taking place in the ministries of Trinity Baptist Church will be reported to the proper civil authorities.

- E. Bruises, burns, or other marks on minors should be noted. In a non-threatening way, the minor should be asked how he got hurt. Behavior or talking that is unusual or suspicious in a minor should also be noted. These should be reported to the ministry supervisor.

IV. Response to Allegations

- A. When an allegation is made the accused will be confronted by Pastor or an appointed person with the accusation. If the accused confesses to child abuse, the procedures listed in IV. B will be followed. If the accused does not confess, we will follow the procedures listed in IV. C.
- B. Steps to follow when child abuse is confirmed by a confession of the abuser.
 1. Pastor or an appointed person will report the incident to the civil authorities. If the child is in immediate danger this reporting will take place prior to notification of parents.
 2. Parents of the minor will be (if not already) informed of the incident(s) and of the confession.
 3. The individual who has confessed will immediately cease all contact with minors at Trinity Baptist Church.
 4. Pastor or an appointed person will contact our insurance company and an attorney by telephone and then by letter.
 5. The victim and his family will be informed as to what action we have taken.
 6. Pastor and an appointed person will investigate the incident with the victim and any witnesses. Pastor and a witness will interview the perpetrator. Notes will be taken during these interviews. This investigation should find

how and when the incident took place. This investigation will be used to help prevent further incidents.

7. If gross moral sin has taken place, the perpetrator will be taken before the church for discipline.
 8. The steps we have taken and our investigation will be chronicled for reference by civil authorities.
- C. Steps to follow if there is no confession to the alleged child abuse.
1. Pastor or an appointed person will contact the insurance company and an attorney by telephone.
 2. Pastor and an appointed person will investigate the incident fully. This investigation will take place as follows.
 - a) Interviews with the victim, the victim's family, the accused, the accused's family, and any and all witnesses, including other minors being ministered to by the accused, will take place. It is best if these take place at church in an office.
 - b) Notes will be taken as to who said what and what was done during the incident. As many details as possible should be gathered.
 - c) The ministry supervisor will be interviewed.
 3. Pastor and at least one member of the Ministry committee will evaluate the evidence that has been gathered. If there is "reasonable cause" to believe a crime has been committed, it will be reported.
 4. If the family of the victim is convinced of the guilt of the accused, after they have heard of the evidence that has been gathered, the incident(s) may be reported to the civil authorities.

5. If civil authorities are contacted the accused will no longer minister to minors until the incident is resolved.
 6. If there is no confession, but the victim believes the incident has taken place and the civil authorities have been notified, Trinity Baptist Church will cooperate fully with the civil authorities while extending support to the accused and to the victim.
 7. The victim and the accused will be informed of the actions of Trinity Baptist Church.
 8. There will not be church discipline against the accused until there has been a confession or a second witness to a gross moral sin. A civil conviction does not mandate church discipline. Suppressed memory does not constitute a witness.
 9. The steps we have taken and our investigation will be chronicled for reference by civil authorities.
 10. Our insurance company and an attorney will be informed as to the conclusion of the incident(s).
- D. Steps to follow as a church if the civil authorities are notified of possible or real abuse.
1. An announcement will be made stating that an investigation or action is taking place. No names will be given in this announcement. All members of Trinity Baptist Church will be asked not to respond to questions by the media, their friends or neighbors, or by anyone else not connected with Trinity Baptist Church or the civil authorities.
 2. A media spokesman will be appointed.
 3. The Men's Meeting may appoint a Discipline Committee once the investigations have ceased.

4. Prayer will be encouraged for all parties involved.
5. Any decisions by the church will be honored. If the incident is not completely resolved to the satisfaction of all parties, forgiveness and acceptance will be encouraged by the church as the mature way to respond to those who are hurting.

V. Steps concerning slander of church members and ministries.

We recognize that Satan is the "accuser of the brethren" and some have used allegations of child abuse maliciously. If after careful investigation, it is determined that accusations have been made willfully and untruthfully redress will be sought ecclesiastically and, if need be, civilly. That is:

- Those determined to be guilty of slander will be removed from the fellowship of Trinity Baptist Church.
- Those determined to be guilty of slander will be declared slanderers in letters to other churches of like faith and practice.
- Those determined to be guilty of slander and who insist on making false accusations to civil authorities will be opposed by Trinity Baptist Church before those same authorities.

Trinity Baptist church affirms its responsibility to defend the reputation and protect the ministry of those who serve the Lord Jesus through its formal and informal programs. Exodus 20:16, Leviticus 19:16, Deuteronomy 5:20, 19:15-21, Revelation 12:10, I Corinthians 5:11, 6:9-10

adopted December 1995; edited August 2002

Children's Ministry Training Affirmation

this page must be signed, torn out, and given to Pat Miller to be filed.

Please check the statements that are true and verify them with your signature.

_____ I have read the Sexual Abuse/Harassment Policy of TBC.

_____ To the best of my knowledge the church has my signed Screening Form on file.

_____ I have listened to all the August 2013 Children's Ministry Training Seminar either in person or via the recording made available by the church.

PRINT NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____