The Trauma-Informed Church

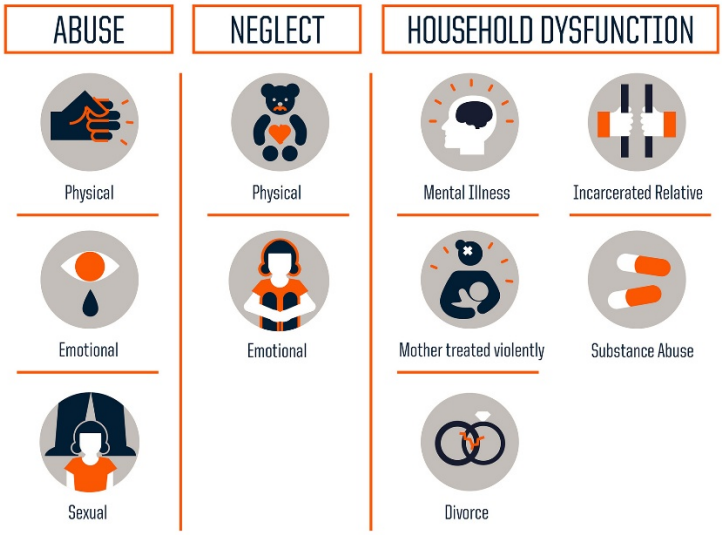
Trauma-Informed Church (1 Thessalonians 4:13, 18 & 5:14)

- ***Grieve with those who grieve*** (1 Corinthians 12:26)
- **No toxic theology** (Good Practices in Job 2:12-13, yet poor theology expressed by Job's friends 42:7)

Trauma-Informed Community = SAMSHA Model (4 R's)

- **Realize** (trauma), **Recognize** (signs), **Respond** (policies), **Resist** (re-traumatization)

- **The ACE's Are Critical to Know (Research)**



Trauma-Informed Scriptures (Redeemer – John 10 & 14, **Renewal** -John 13-17**)**

- The **Biblical Book of Comfort**: Isaiah 40-66 -- ***A Bruised Reed the Messiah will NOT break*** (Isaiah 42:3 and the Messiah will have an ***instructed tongue to comfort*** as the Wonderful Counselor, Isaih 9:6 and 50:4)
- Jesus says, "***You cannot bear them now***." (John 16:12)

A Trauma-Informed Chapel Family

- **Our Chapel Vision:** Developing ***mature Christians*** who compassionately respond to the needs of others. At ***Amelia Plantation Chapel***, we recognize that Christian ***maturity*** is a lifelong process of becoming **more like Jesus who was full of grace and truth** (John 1:14). **WE WILL PROCLAIM JESUS** "so that we may present everyone fully ***mature*** in Christ" — Colossians 1:28 – We will faithfully teach God's Word and will **proclaim the whole character of God**—His holiness, justice, grace, and truth.
- 1. **WE WILL PRACTICE TRUTH AND GRACE** "**Speaking the truth in love**, we will grow to become in every respect the ***mature*** body of Christ." — Ephesians 4:15 We will pursue forgiveness without pretending harm did not happen, **reconciliation only when it is appropriate and safe**, and grace without enabling destructive behavior.
- **2. WE WILL PROTECT THE VULNERABLE** "**Defend** the cause of the poor and the oppressed." — Psalm 82:3 As ***mature*** followers of Christ, we seek to **protect those who are** entrusted to our care as well as those who care for them. **We will not ignore abuse in order to protect reputations.** Compassion is the courage ***to protect and serve*** for the glory of God, the good of others, and the spread of God's gospel of grace.
- 3. **WE WILL HONOR EVERY PERSON** "God **created** mankind in his own image." — Genesis 1:27 ***Mature*** Christians respect the God-given dignity of each person. We **will invite and give permission** for people to share stories **because listening well is a gift of grace.** We recognize people carry burdens that are not always visible.
- 4. **WE WILL HONOR HEALTHY BOUNDARIES** "Above all else, **guard your heart**, for everything you do flows from it." — Proverbs 4:23 ***Mature*** Christians recognize that compassionate care sometimes means **giving people space, respecting a "no," honoring limits**, and allowing individuals to make appropriate decisions about their own lives. We will not pressure people to disclose their stories, accept physical touch, reconcile with unsafe people, or forgive before they are ready.
- 5. **WE WILL SEEK WISE HELP** "In an abundance of counselors there is **safety**." — Proverbs 11:14 ***Mature*** Christians **will encourage appropriate professional support** while valuing a team approach in shepherding all with wisdom, humility, and grace.