

The Pain and Effects of Trauma— Service and Volunteering Abuse

- Not being given a fair wage if you are on staff; saying it's a service to God
- Guilting you into volunteering and that it's your moral obligation to the church
- Church staff only having a relationship with you to ensure you keep serving; if you stop serving, that's the only time they reach out relationally

Healing and Restoration of Trauma— Healthy Service and Volunteering

- Pay a fair wage. Don't hide injustice behind God's will.
- Letting things go and asking what gives you joy.
- Stop the manipulation.
- The four components of congregational life and life cycle are Vision, Program, Management, and Relationship. Which components are in the front seat and which one is in the driver's seat?

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Word About Life—Luke 5:17-26

One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting nearby (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. Just then some men came, carrying a paralysed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. When he saw their faith, he said, ‘Friend, your sins are forgiven you.’ Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, ‘Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?’ When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, ‘Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, “Your sins are forgiven you”, or to say, “Stand up and walk”? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’—he said to the one who was paralysed—‘I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.’ Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, ‘We have seen strange things today.’

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