

5. In David's Psalm, he prayed regarding those by whom he was betrayed: *Let death steal over them; let them go down to Sheol alive* (PSALM 55:15). How can we reconcile such a prayer with the New Testament command: *Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them* (ROMANS 12:14)?

6. Why is it important to use great caution when evaluating someone by whom you have been hurt? Defend your answer.

Dealing with "Church Hurt"

Introduction: PSALM 55.

1. Church hurt causes _____ . PSALM 55:1-5; PHILIPPIANS 4:2-3

2. Church hurt may elicit _____ .

- A. _____ .
- B. _____ / _____ . PSALM 55:9,15,19,23
- C. _____ .
- D. _____ . PSALM 55:6-8
- E. _____ - _____ . PSALM 55:12-14,20-22
- F. Being _____ . MATTHEW 6:27,34

3. Church hurt should _____ into the _____ .

- A. Be in _____ .
PSALM 55:1,2,16-18,22; PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7
- B. _____ in the _____ .
PSALM 118:8; 1 PETER 5:7; PHILIPPIANS 4:13
- C. _____ firm in _____ .
COLOSSIANS 3:2; PSALM 55:16-18,22,23; 2 TIMOTHY 1:12

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. Can you recall a time when you personally experienced *Church Hurt*?

2. How has God brought you healing from this wound?

If you have never been *born again*, contact Pastor Keith or a trusted Christian friend this week to find out how.

D. Pray for _____.

ISAIAH 48:10-11; PROVERBS 17:3; 1 PETER 1:3-7

E. Pray for God's _____ and _____.

PSALM 55:1-2,8,15,19,23; DEUTERONOMY 32:4;

PSALM 103:8-10; 51:1; 145:8-9; 1 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4

(See also ROMANS 1:29-31; 1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-10;

GALATIANS 5:19-21; COLOSSIANS 3:4-10; 2 TIMOTHY 3:1-5)

MATTHEW 7:1-5; 1 CORINTHIANS 4:3-5; ROMANS 12:19; 14:4;

MATTHEW 5:44; 18:21-22; LUKE 22:31-34; ACTS 7:59-60; COLOSSIANS 3:13

F. Don't _____ from God's _____.

EPHESIANS 5:25; HEBREWS 10:24-25

• What reactions have you most commonly come across?

3. What reaction did Pastor Keith equate as a symptom of *anxiety*?
Explain how this might be true.

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In your own words, how would you define *Church Hurt*?

2. Pastor Keith offered six different reactions people may have when they feel hurt by a church.

• Can you think of any others?

4. In the last part of this study, Pastor Keith offered six Biblical exhortations to any who might be dealing with *Church Hurt*. Can you think of any others? Defend your answer.