

PeaceWorks University 2023

Toolbox Item: Shepherding Team Roundtable – Counselors for Perpetrators

In January, March, May, July, September, and November of 2023, PWU members will receive access to bi-monthly practical, ready-to-use Toolbox items (in addition to the vast archive of past Toolbox items). These Toolbox items will correspond to each of the six Shepherding Team Roundtable videos (also new in 2023). Each video and corresponding Toolbox item will highlight one of six potential shepherding team components. These components will include (in no particular order):

- Pastors
- Advocates
- Counselors for Victims
- Counselors for Perpetrators
- [Men of Peace](#) Facilitators
- Trauma Healing/Post-Traumatic Growth

Why Shepherding Teams?

We believe the greatest potential for an abusive man's accountability and change lies in his choice to take responsibility for his repentance process and to proactively invite a variety of people (counselors, advocates, pastors, church leaders, law enforcement, etc.) to, together, act as a shepherding team. The more expansive and diverse the roles of shepherding team members, the more holistic and effective the intervention process will be (both in terms of victim care and perpetrator accountability). Individual shepherding team responsibilities will vary depending on the roles and expertise represented.

Follow the links below to learn more about why we recommend a team-based approach to domestic abuse intervention.

- [Men of Peace Shepherding Team Roundtable Video](#)
Here you'll be able to watch an informative roundtable discussion with an experienced group of individuals who have all participated in past shepherding teams for Men of Peace participants.
- [The PeaceWorks Podcast Episode – Team Based Responses](#)
In this episode of The PeaceWorks Podcast, Chris Moles shares the value of a team-based approach to domestic abuse intervention ministry.
- [The PeaceWorks Podcast Episode – Building a Team and the Called to Peace Conference](#)
In this episode of The PeaceWorks Podcast, Chris Moles shares more about the process of building a shepherding team for a team-based approach to domestic abuse intervention ministry.

PeaceWorks University Shepherding Team Support

In February, April, June, August, October, and December of 2023, PWU members will have the opportunity to participate in bi-monthly Zoom calls with Chris Moles for Shepherding Team members engaged in current domestic abuse intervention cases. These open consults will take place on the second Wednesday of the month at 12pm EST and will not be recorded or be available for later viewing.

Toolbox Item:

Shepherding Team Roundtable – Counselors for Perpetrators

In what ministry contexts might a counselor for perpetrators serve?

- Biblical Counseling Centers and Church Based Biblical Counseling Ministries
- Licensed/Professional Counseling Practices

What are the roles and responsibilities of a counselor for perpetrators in the intervention process?

- To educate men on the dynamics and impact of domestic abuse
- To provide a level of accountability
- To confront the sin of domestic abuse by helping men see, understand, and repent of specific patterns of abuse. This will include drawing a man's attention to the ways in which their beliefs and behaviors do not reflect their professed faith (both in theological understanding and practical application). In the case of an unbeliever, this confrontation will include a call for the perpetrator to humbly submit himself to Christ in faith and repentance for the first time.

What are common challenges a counselor for perpetrators might face while serving on a shepherding team?

- Limited perspective: Unless the counselor can get the appropriate forms of consent to hear from the spouse or other team members, they can easily find themselves limited to the perspective and information offered by the perpetrator. This is dangerous as it lends itself to unintentional collusion or to being manipulated by the perpetrator.
- Limited influence: It can feel, at times, as if the perpetrator's counselor is the only one pushing into his life, calling him to repentance, and trying to hold him accountable - not only for the sake of the man's soul but also for the sake of the victims involved. While perpetrators, like any counselee, are responsible and accountable for their own choices the weight of those choices can weigh extremely heavy on the counselor.
- Limited support: Counseling perpetrators is a challenging, draining, and at times volatile work. The mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual impact of working closely with men who use charm, manipulation, deception, coercion, and threat to establish and maintain control will wear on the counselor just as it wears (though of course to a much greater degree) on the perpetrator's primary victims in his home. It's important that counselors seek out and rely on support resources for themselves as they engage in this ministry.

PeaceWorks University Perpetrator Intervention Specific Resources

- PWU Master Class – *Repentance* with Chris Moles
- PWU Toolbox Item – *From Desire to Sin Worksheet*
- PWU Master Class – *Evidenced Repentance* with Chris Moles
- PWU Toolbox Item – *Evidenced Repentance Worksheet*
- PWU Master Class – *Trauma-Informed Abuser Intervention* with Greg Wilson
- PWU Toolbox Item – *Trauma-Informed Abuser Intervention*
- PWU Master Class – *Personality Disorders and Domestic Abuse Counseling* with Greg Wilson
- PWU Toolbox Item – *Personality Disorders and Domestic Abuse Counseling*
- PWU Success Path – *Key Elements of Biblical Counseling and Domestic Abuse (Perpetrator Confrontation)*
- PWU Core Curriculum – *The Heart of Domestic Abuse: Step by Step Abuser Intervention for Biblical Counselors*

General Shepherding Team Educational & Support Resources

We recommend shepherding team members take advantage of the following educational and ministry support resources as they engage in domestic abuse intervention ministry.

Books

- [*The Heart of Domestic Abuse: Gospel Solutions for Men Who Use Control and Violence in the Home* by Chris Moles](#)
- [*Caring for Families Caught in Domestic Abuse: A Guide toward Protection, Refuge, and Hope* by Chris Moles](#)
- [*When Home Hurts: A Guide for Responding Wisely to Domestic Abuse in Your Church* by Jeremy Pierre and Greg Wilson](#)
- [*Self-Centered Spouse: Help for Chronically Broken Marriages* by Brad Hambrick](#)
- [*Domestic Abuse: Recognize, Respond, Rescue* by Darby Strickland](#)
- [*Is It Abuse?: A Biblical Guide to Identifying Abuse and Helping Victims* by Darby Strickland](#)
- [*Called to Peace: A Survivor's Guide to Finding Peace and Healing After Domestic Abuse* by Joy Forrest](#)
- [*Is It My Fault?: Hope and Healing for Those Suffering Domestic Violence* by Lindsey and Justin Holcomb](#)
- [*Why Does He Do That?: Inside the Minds of Angry and Controlling Men* by Lundy Bancroft](#)
- [*Coercive Control: How Men Entrap Women in Personal Life* by Evan Stark](#)
- [*The Emotionally Destructive Marriage: How to Find Your Voice and Reclaim Your Hope* by Leslie Vernick](#)

Free E-Books

- [*God's Protection of Women: When Abuse is Worse than Divorce* by Herbert Vander Lugt](#)

Blogs

- [*Is Anxiety Rooted in Trauma?* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*What Makes an Event Traumatizing?* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*How Trauma Affects Us* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*The First Step in Healing from Past Trauma* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*Deep Breathing for Anxiety and Trauma* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*Safety is Essential for Healing* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*What I've Learned from Working with Survivors of Abuse and Trauma* by Melissa Affolter](#)
- [*Domestic Abuse Victims: Sinners or Sufferers?* by Chelsey Gordon](#)
- [*Not as They Seem: Anticipating Deception in Domestic Abuse Cases* by Chelsey Gordon](#)

- [Why the Gospel is Especially Good News for Domestic Abuse Victims by Chelsey Gordon](#)
- [Personal Soul Care for Those in Domestic Abuse Counseling by Chelsey Gordon](#)
- [Three Common Mistakes People Helpers Make When Working with Destructive Marriages by Leslie Vernick](#)
- [Guide for Men Who Are Serious About Changing \(Part One\) by Lundy Bancroft](#)
- [Guide for Men Who Are Serious About Changing \(Part Two\) by Lundy Bancroft](#)

Training Resources

- [The Heart of Domestic Abuse: Step by Step Abuser Intervention for Biblical Counselors](#) - This twelve-unit online course from Chris Moles (based off his book, *The Heart of Domestic Abuse: Gospel Solutions for Men Who Use Control and Violence in the Home* - see above), was created to prepare church leaders and biblical counselors to recognize domestic abuse and respond to abusive men with the help and hope of the gospel. By completing this course, participants will be equipped with the knowledge and skills required to call abusive men to repentance and provide necessary accountability. Please note, this course is already included with each [PeaceWorks University](#) membership (under Core Curriculum) at no additional cost.
- [The House of Peace Virtual Advocacy Training Center](#)
- [Christian Trauma Healing Network](#) - The Christian Trauma Healing Network (CTHN) serves mental health professionals, pastors, and lay ministry leaders to advance Christ-centered trauma healing in the church and society.
- [IBCD Domestic Abuse Observation Videos featuring Chris Moles and Jeremy Pierre](#)
- [Church Cares](#)

Podcasts

- [The PeaceWorks Podcast](#)
- [Relationship Truth: Unfiltered with Leslie Vernick](#)