

# Contents

Quick Reference Guide .....	11
Preface .....	13
<b><i>Section 1 – How to Understand Abuse</i></b> .....	17
1. Understanding Your Role as an Agent of God’s Love.....	19
2. Understanding Abuse Dynamics .....	31
3. Discerning Abuse Dynamics .....	61
<b><i>Section 2 – How to Respond After the Initial Disclosure..</i></b>	75
4. Caring for the Victim.....	79
5. Confronting the Abuser .....	103
6. Considering Collateral Damage .....	127
<b><i>Section 3 – How to Care in the Long Term.....</i></b>	143
7. From Victim to Overcomer .....	145
8. From Abuser to Servant.....	171
9. Leading Your Church to Respond With Wisdom and Compassion.....	209
Appendix A: FAQs on Domestic Abuse Care .....	227
Appendix B: FAQs on Separation, Divorce and Reunification after Abuse .....	235
Appendix C: National and State Domestic Violence Resources .....	247
Appendix D: A Sample Church Domestic Abuse Policy ....	265
Appendix E: A Sample Role Description for a Domestic Abuse Care Advocate .....	269
Appendix F: When Wives Abuse Husbands .....	273