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**Suggested Plan For Recovery, Restoration, and Redemptive Process**

*“Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Gal. 6:1-2*

When a Christian leader has a “moral failure” there is a ripple effect beginning with the individual, then their family, their church and their ministry. Actions need to be taken that keep the “collateral damage” to a minimum without minimizing the sin or the negative effects that have already taken place or the need for the person committing the sin to take responsibility for their actions. These actions need to be redemptive in nature and contain elements of both grace and discipline. **IMPORTANT: RECOVERY IS A PROCESS, NOT A ONE TIME EVENT**

With the discovery of the Pastor’s use of internet pornography we have developed a preliminary process and outline of actions to take to begin to deal with this issue.

1. Board of Trustees/Group in Authority

- § Place the pastor/leader on administrative leave with pay for a 30 day period of time in order to give the board the opportunity to learn more about the situation and make good decisions on moving forward. (In order for the pastor/leader and wife to be able to begin this process, the added stress of losing their income initially should be avoided if possible.)
- § Require the pastor/leader to begin regular treatment by a licensed counselor experienced in the treatment of sexual addiction. Subsidize the cost of counseling if there is no insurance or inadequate insurance up to 10 visits initially.
- § Determine how and when to advise the agency/congregation of the situation by reading a written statement by the board chair at an appropriate time. Details do not need to be revealed at this level.
- § Require the pastor/leader to join a recommended recovery group for men who are dealing with sexual issues.
- § Require the pastor/leader and his spouse to name a “spiritual recovery team” of two other couples to direct and support the spouse and develop boundaries for the pastor as they begin their recovery process.
- § Begin to establish a policy and process for dealing with future issues including education on sexual addiction, recovery, and restoration.

2. Pastor

- § Begin counseling treatment as soon as possible including the 12 week intensive.
- § Establish the spiritual recovery team and agree to follow their requirements. (allow spouse to set her boundaries/requirements).
- § Meet regularly with Recovery Director/Mentor (Dennis Miller) and Spiritual Director/Mentor (Rob Bauer).
- § Read all assigned recovery materials and complete recovery homework assigned by recovery group leader and Recovery Director/Mentor.
- § Notify Chair of Credential Team of situation.
- § Submit to the authority of the (Agency Board and Church Eldership?)