Care in the Church Session #3 Emily Dempster

- A. The church should position itself to be the believer's go to for care.
- B. The church's philosophy of care will determine its culture and life.

Some paradigm shifts to consider:

- a. From a primarily public ministry of the Word focus to a public <u>AND</u> private ministry of the Word focus.
- b. From only using a professional therapeutic model to adapting a biblical shepherding model.
- c. From feeling pressure or the need to "fix" people to focusing on discipleship helping them learn to glorify God in their struggle.
- d. From the need to keep the struggle "private" to encouraging community around the struggler.
- C. What can care look like?
 - a. Small group ministries
 - b. Focused care groups
 - c. Mentoring/discipling ministries
 - d. Counseling ministries
- D. Reasons for considering a counseling care ministry in your church:
 - a. It allows for consistency between the pulpit and the pew.
 - b. It provides a way to monitor the types of struggles within the church.

- c. It is missional.
- d. It blesses our pastors.
- e. It promotes a culture of community.
- E. How to think through forming a counseling ministry:
 - a. Garner support from church leadership.
 - b. Assemble a leadership team.
 - c. Choose a training method to equip your counselors.
 - d. Decide how and when to launch.
- F. FAQ's
 - a. Develop a purpose and philosophy of care for your ministry.

b. Think through administrative steps.

Resources: https://shccounseling.org/starting-a-counseling-ministry/