

Beth Moore, Survivor of Childhood Sexual Abuse, Advocate and Author



I would change my story in a heartbeat, but I get to say to [survivors], “You know what? I know Jesus heals.” . . . People go, “Why don’t you heal up?” I have healed up, but a whole lot of women have not. And as long as they haven’t, as long as there’s an 8-year-old little girl out there, an 8-year-old little boy that has been abused and needs some hope, I’m not going to act like it didn’t happen to me. I’m gonna go, “You know what? I’ve been through it too. And I know you can make it on Jesus. I know you can.”¹

For far too long boys, girls, men and women have lined our SBC pews silently bearing the scars of sexual abuse. Most church leaders were unaware of the suffering of their most vulnerable, some knew and turned a blind eye, and a few leaders perpetrated the evil themselves.

But Christ Jesus, our Savior, saw their suffering. He did not turn a blind eye. He has declared victory over evil itself (Rom. 16:20). And now it is time for our Southern Baptist Convention to repent of any ignorance or indifference, turn from our inaction or insufficient action, and turn toward the sacrificial model of our Savior. We must cast aside our pride and our own agendas and open our eyes to the suffering amongst us, vowing anew to protect and walk with them.

We know the One who is the Light who shines in the darkness (John 8:12). Now it is time for us, His church, to go and do the same.

¹ Beth Moore, What I’ve Learned in My Years as a Parent, interview by Russell Moore, ERLC National Conference, October 3, 2018, <https://erlc.com/resource-library/event-messages/what-ive-learned-in-my-years-as-a-parent>