

## Interview Questions for Dan Allender -- Author of *Healing The Wounded Heart: The Heartache of Sexual Abuse and the Hope of Transformation*

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*If there is a central, driving factor as to why I am writing a new volume about sexual abuse, it is because I am a grandfather of four wonderful, wild, beautiful grandchildren.*

*While I have no guarantee they will ever read my work or know or follow my life trajectory, I can't stand idly by and not fight a little harder and longer for their sexual future. –Dan Allender*

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- Your first book about sexual abuse, *The Wounded Heart*, came out in 1989. How has your life been affected by the success of and interest in that book?
- What are the main attitude changes toward sexuality that you've seen over the years?
- What stirred you to write the follow-up book?
- Why do you think so many people choose not to talk about abuse they may have endured?
- What are some signals that friends, family members, pastors, etc. should look for that might indicate someone has been sexually abused?
- You've walked hundreds of people through the path toward healing from abuse. Is there an expected period of time for someone to recover?
- What are some barriers that hinder people from experiencing the healing they desire?
- Explain a bit about the role of evil—the power it has in this process.
- Talk about the process of healing a bit. What are some of the specific markers you seek to lead people to during their recovery?
- For someone who is listening to this interview who has personally suffered sexual abuse and is beginning a journey toward healing, what would you tell them?
- How can an abused person then use their energy to help others?
- How can someone encourage a friend they know who has been sexually abused?

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**Guest:** Dan Allender, author, professor of counseling psychology at The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology

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