

## **Failure to Bond**

Attachment disorders, the result of early childhood trauma, hinder the formation of secure emotional bonds and affect a person's ability to form and maintain healthy relationships. These disorders can have long-lasting effects on emotional and social well-being.

### **Conditions and Causes**

- Childhood neglect: Infants and young children need a stable, caring environment where their needs are met.
- Abandonment
  - Orphans and orphan-like children
- Rejection
  - Poor parenting, inconsistent caregiving
  - Mental health
  - Prolonged separation
- Abuse
  - Substance abuse
  - Codependency
- Institutional settings
  - Orphanages, Day-Care
  - Foster care

### **Symptoms**

- Withdrawal, isolation, detachment
- Self-reliant, independent
- Low self-esteem
- Fear, Sadness
- Irritability, Anger
- Anxiety, depression, dissociation
- Self-comforting
- Low emotional interactions with others
- Awkward social skills
- Inability to trust others
- Difficulty showing or receiving affection
- Codependency

### **Prayer Strategy**

- Pray for a starting point
- Confess what was lost or lacking
  - Take an account
- Forgive
  - Mother, father, caregivers
- Receive care from the Lord
  - Past, present, future
- Check in
  - How does that feel?
- Give gratitude in prayer