

## Things children need to know in the face of trauma:

Read the PDF “Talking to Children About Traumatic Events” and then reassure your child of the following truths about God (all verses from NLT):

**\*God loves us.** Children need to know the personal and protective love of God—that no matter what happens, God loves us. Even when we have not been physically protected, we are always spiritually protected.

“...nothing can ever separate us from God’s love...” Romans 8:38

**\*God is good all the time.** Even when bad things happen, God is good.

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever.” 1 Chronicles 16:34

**\*God is sad when people make bad choices.** When people make choices that hurt others, God longs to comfort those who are hurt and so should we.

“O God, you take no pleasure in wickedness; you cannot tolerate the sins of the wicked.” Psalm 5:4

**\*God is always in control.** Even when things seem like chaos, God is still in charge.

“Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

**\*God is always with us.** We are never alone.

“So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you.” Deuteronomy 31:6

**\*Our hope is in the Lord, not in this world.** Sad things happen in this world, but God never changes.

“All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.” 1 Peter 1:3-4

**\*God wants us to pray for those who are sad and hurting.** This was a very sad thing to have happen and so we should pray for them to sense God’s peace, presence, and comfort. We should pray that they receive the help they need and pray for ways we can help.

“Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.” Ephesians 6:18

**\*God wants us to trust him when we are afraid.** He is with us and will never leave us.

“But when I am afraid, I will put my trust in you.” Psalm 56:3