

BIBLICAL COUNSELING

Biblical counseling helps overcome problems in a life. The most effective counselors have been counseled themselves and have resolved their conflicts through scripture and prayer. Jesus confirmed this when He said "First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother's eye" (Luke 6:42) You cannot counsel forgiveness if you have bitterness. You cannot counsel financial security unless you are tithing and have your finances under control. You cannot impart what you do not possess.

BASIC PRINCIPALS OF COUNSELING

Confidentiality-Do not mention a counselee's problems to anyone. They can share it with anyone but we can't.

Scripture based guidance-Do not tell them what to do; only lead with Scripture. Allow God to teach you about counselee. Trust Him to give you scriptures you need for the situation.

Do not counsel unbelievers-If a person will not pray Salvation during the first encounter it is wise to discontinue. I Cor. 2:14 states "The natural man does not receive the things of the spirit of God for they are foolishness to him"

Do not counsel the opposite sex, minor children, or problem people alone. Use your testimony or part of it if it will help.

Do not give money-Refer to church or community agency.

Use the Gifts of the Spirit- They are tools God has given us to unlock strongholds and bondages.

Confront false concepts- Most people in spiritual conflict have a distorted concept of God. Mentally they may embrace correct theology but emotionally they may embrace something else. Ex.

1. Who is Jesus to you? Do you love Him?

2. Who is the Holy Spirit?

Who is God the Father? Many have a false concept of the Father because of a bad father image at home.

The counseling that we do is called Life Enrichment which is very much biblical except we go further than most types of programs because of the deliverance involved.