

## Faith Church :

Is committed to equipping the believers to do the work of ministry (*Eph. 4:11-12*) rather than just watching the pastoral staff do it for them. We believe that other godly, gifted believers who know their Bibles, and how to apply biblical truth to specific life issues, can effectively counsel others (*"I am satisfied that you yourselves are rich in goodness filled with all spiritual knowledge and competent to admonish and counsel and instruct one another also."* Rom. 15:14).

All of our counselors are in various training levels in biblical counseling. Our counseling team is headed by a certified counselor through "The Association of Certified Biblical Counselors." We are continually training others to be effective counselors. Part of the training includes the opportunity to observe another counselor in actual counseling sessions. Because of this ministry model we ask that you agree to allow our counseling trainees to sit in on your counseling sessions, for the purpose of prayer, training and observation .



## BIBLICAL COUNSELING

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

2 Peter 1:3

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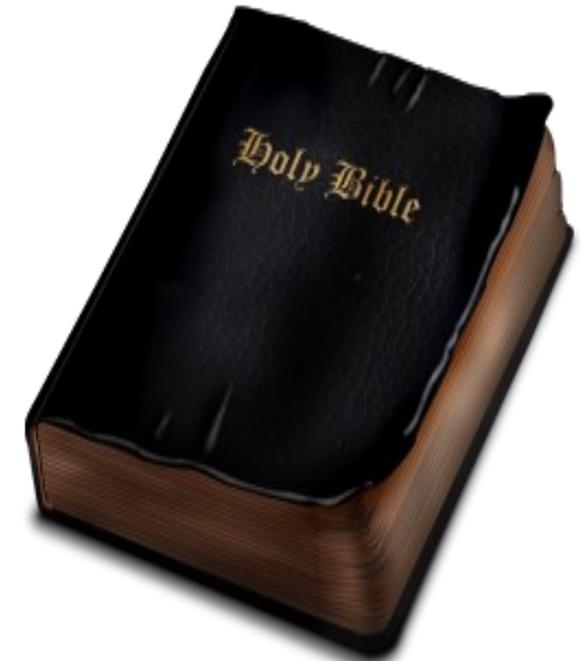
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Loving•Learning•Living Like Jesus

## BIBLICAL COUNSELING CENTER

Helping Hurting People  
Through the Sufficiency  
of God's Word



# Biblical Counseling

## What type of Counseling is this?

Biblical counseling at Faith Church is based on principles found in God's Word. By definition, Bible-based counseling differs a great deal from other popular or secular counseling, ("heavenly wisdom vs. human wisdom" *James 3:13-18*). Currently, there are over 250 different approaches to counseling practice. Most of them have been extracted, in one form or another, from man's own understanding of his problems and how to fix them. Some of these counseling models – while calling themselves 'Christian' – employ only vague references to Christian themes without complete reliance on the interpretations and principals found in God's word.

## What is the Goal of Biblical Counseling?

Biblical counseling has as its primary goal to help a person or a family become a "God-kind of person". The goal of biblical counseling is not to make the person feel better or simply to remove the problem. This will hopefully take place, but the goal is bigger than that. It is the goal of scripture to not just remove the sin problem, but REPLACE it with something that is more pleasing to God. *2Cor. 5:9* says; "*So we make it our goal to please Him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it*". The goal of biblical counseling is to come alongside a person and help them to solve their problems in a God-honoring way.

## What kind of concerns do people have that come for counseling?

We see people with all kinds of problems, but the most common would be those struggling in their marriage, helping parents with their children, those dealing with sexual sin, and those struggling with their emotions (depression, anger, worry, guilt). In all cases, we use the Bible, God's Sufficient Word, to answer the problems of life.

(*2 Pet. 1:3*).

## Who can make an Appointment?

First priority will be given to members of Faith church who desire biblical counseling. Second priority will be given to people who are regular attendees of FC. All counselees are expected to attend Faith worship service on Sunday or their present church. Additionally, members of sponsoring churches (those who financially support the FC Biblical Counseling Ministry), based on the recommendation of their Pastor, will be seen next. Finally, as openings are available, people from other churches and the general public will be considered.

## When are Appointments Available?

Counseling is presently offered Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, between 10AM and 8PM.

## How can an appointment be made?

Inquiries can be made by calling the Faith church office (615-461-8021). Forms for counseling will be sent to you and will need to be completed prior to the initial appointment. Once the forms are received, a counselor will contact you to set up an initial session.

## What is expected of the Counselee?

The counselee must be willing to:

- Sign the Consent to Biblical Counseling form provided in the initial forms that are sent.
- Agree to place yourself under the authority of the Elders of Faith Church.
- Agree to the presence of counselors-in-training during your session.
- Regularly attend a Sunday service at Faith Church (or your church).
- Complete any assigned homework prior to the counseling appointment (assignments)

may include reading materials, listening to CDs, worksheets, and scripture memorization etc.). The counselor reserves the right to discontinue sessions if the counselee consistently refuses to complete homework assignments.

- Arrive on time for each appointment and call ahead to reschedule when necessary.

As a safe-guard, male counselors will not meet alone with women for counseling. A female counselee who has an appointment with a male counselor is expected to be accompanied by one other person willing to sit in during the counseling session (a spouse, parent or friend).

## How often will appointments be scheduled?

Counselors will meet with a counselee usually once a week to allow the counselee adequate time to complete the homework assignments.

## What will be the length of each counseling session?

Generally counseling sessions are 50-60 minutes long.

## How long does the counseling process usually take?

Time frames will vary depending on the severity or depth of the problem. Typically the counselor and counselee will meet for 10-12 sessions spread out over a period of several months.

## What is the cost?

There is **NO COST** for the counseling, but each counselee is expected to pay for any materials such as books and CDs. However, contributions to the Biblical Counseling Ministry are greatly appreciated.

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