

## Personal Ministry: Speaking the Truth in Love

*Church in the Wildwood, January 11, 2015*

### This Week's Spiritual Workout:

1. Verses to Memorize and Meditate on: Psalm 19:7-11
2. Discovering Wonderful Things (DWT): Ephesians 4:26 (Fighter Verse)
3. Assigned Reading:  
*Instrument in the Redeemer's Hands*, Chapter 1  
*Counseling: How to Counsel Biblically*, Chapter 1
4. (Optional) John MacArthur's two-part series on "The Sufficiency of Scripture" (GTU app)

### Course Objectives:

- Enrich and improve the student's personal life and relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Equip the saints for one another, discipleship, and biblical counseling ministry.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts, presuppositions, and distinctive features of biblical counseling and how it differs from all other forms of counseling.
- Identify and develop the personal qualities that are necessary for effective counseling.
- Evaluate people and their problems in a distinctly biblical way.
- Develop a practical framework for understanding the counseling process from a biblical perspective.
- Use this course's information as a practical foundation for further studies in biblical counseling.

### Explanation of Class Format

- Teaching/classroom format
- Questions and interaction are welcome
- Heavy reliance on materials from Dr. Ernie Baker and Dr. Stuart Scott
- Weekly Workouts (Philippians 2:12-13):

## Today's Lesson: Biblical Counseling and Discipleship is Needed and Expected

### I. Initial Considerations about Biblical Counseling

- A. Terminology:
- B. Biblical Counseling and the Great Commission
- C. The Overlap of Psychology and the Bible
  1. Same area of study: the \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Psychology and Psychiatry: The new kids on the block (last 100 years)
  3. Bible v. DSM-V (descriptive vs. prescriptive)
  4. Both camps seek to understand \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. Secular theories of human motivation
  - a. Generally speaking, the psychologies teach that humans are generally good inside and have been damaged from the outside.
- E. A Biblical view of why we do what we do
  - a. Mark 7:20-23
  - b. Hebrews 4:12

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### II. Biblical Counseling and Discipleship is Needed

Biblically, we are sinful inside and need outside help – God’s righteousness.

We are made to worship God—the foundational concept missing from psychology.

- A. Because not all that proposes to be biblical counseling is truly biblical.
- B. Because all of us need to be growing in our understanding and practice of biblical counseling.
- C. Because all of us live in a \_\_\_\_\_ and are in danger of being influenced by it, even in our daily interactions with one another in the church.
- D. Before the Fall
  - 1. The nature of the counsel given before the fall was \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Man could not rightly understand the meaning of his world without the revelatory significance God assigned to it.
- E. During the Fall
- F. After the Fall
  - 1. The nature of counsel after the Fall took on the aspects of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Existence of competing counsels (Psalm 1)
    - i. All counsel is either godly or ungodly, God-centered or man-centered
  - 3. Calling people to faith and obedience.
    - a) Old Testament Examples
    - b) New Testament Examples

### III. Biblical Counseling is Expected

- A. Of every believer
  - 1. The New Testament Call to Counsel
    - a. Colossians 3:16
    - b. 1 Thess. 5:14
    - c. 2 Thess. 5:14
    - d. Rom. 15:14
    - e. Gr. – noutheteo
  - 2. Three Attitudes on Counseling in the Church
    - a. Only Preaching
      - i. Belief: The Bible rejects the concept of counseling. Paul said to Timothy, “Preach the Word” (2 Timothy 4:2). Preaching is all that is needed to deal with problems people have!
      - ii. Analysis: \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. Only Counseling
      - i. Belief: People don’t want preaching and they are not really helped through preaching. They are changed and helped through a discussion/counseling type ministry (group or individual) where their “real needs” are discussed and addressed.
      - ii. Analysis: \_\_\_\_\_

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- c. Preaching and Counseling
  - i. Belief: The New Testament pictures a balanced ministry of preaching and counseling in the church. Sometimes the ministry of the Word requires more counseling and sometimes more preaching.
  - ii. Analysis: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. How Much Counseling will You Do?

- a. Giftedness?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. Spiritual Graces?  
“\_\_\_\_\_” is not an excuse; I can grow in Christlikeness.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- c. Maturity and Experience?

### B. Of every pastor/elder

- 1. As God's examples for lay believers (Tit 1:7-8)
- 2. Elders are called \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. Proper counseling will actually make sermons more \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Proper exposition will make your counseling more \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. "Serious problems" can't be relegated to a "specialist"