

Leadership Conference 2016

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2 Timothy 3:16,17

**Introduction**

Counseling is not for the faint-hearted.

Counseling is not for the self-righteous.

Counseling is not expounding your wisdom or opinions

Counseling is not ...

Counseling is not...

**I. What is Counseling?**

1. Counseling is Bible-based

2 Timothy 3:16 – *“All Scripture is God breathed...”*

Counseling must be based on the Bible. The inspired and authoritative Word of God.

2. Counseling is Gospel-centered

Galatians 2:20 – *“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”*

Teach them HOW to apply the gospel to their daily lives.

3. Counseling is Discipleship

Matthew 28:19-20 – *“Go therefore and make **disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching them to observe** all that I have commanded you.”*

When you counsel you are in a discipleship relationship and your want to teach them to observe all that Jesus has commanded!

4. Counseling is Listening

James 1:19 – *“Know this, my beloved brothers; let every person be **quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger...**”*

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Every addiction/bondage has a story! We must listen to the counselee and most important listen to the Holy Spirit.

5. Counseling is Progressive Sanctification

Ephesians 4:22-24 – “to **put off your old self**, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and **to put on the new self**, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”

Getting justification and progressive sanctification mixed in their relationship with God.

**II. Counseling Is to Bring Hope**

*“Biblical change cannot take place without hope...” W. Mack*

Hope cannot be underestimated! Hope produces joy, perseverance, confidence, stability, faith and love.

True hope is based on a knowledge of God’s Word, not on our feelings, because it brings joy to our lives. God’s Word is the means to bring hope into our lives (James 1:2,3; Romans 5:2,3)

As people think biblically they will experience hope. So many people have a lack of hope and are in despair because they are ignorant of God’s Word or misunderstand God’s truth.

**III. Counseling Is to Bring Change**

*“Change does not occur by chance but by choice...Biblical counseling must take people beyond talk to action...” W Mack*

A – Acknowledge personal responsibility for thoughts and actions

C – Choose to look at circumstance in the past and present from a biblical point of view

C – Commit to eliminate whatever hinders biblical change

E – Exert energy toward the goal

P – Persevere in obedience

T – Trust God for the Strength and resources to change

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**IV. Conclusion**

Resources to Help

*Counseling, How to Counsel Biblically* – J. MacArthur and Master's Faculty

*Competent to Counsel* – Jay Adams

*Self-Confrontation Manual* – BCF, John Broger

*Homework Manual for Biblical Living Vol. 1 & 2* – Wayne Mack