

Self-Questionnaire : Why Study a Biblical Counselling Course?

A PERSONAL EXAMINATION OF MOTIVES AND REASONS FOR TAKING THE COURSE

It would be good for us, at the beginning of the course, to ask ourselves why we have entered it, or about to enter it. Here are some questions we might ask. When we have asked and answered them we may find we have been greatly benefited

1. Have I thought of what it is that has prompted me to take the course?
2. Do I simply want to help people, and wish to be better equipped to do so?
3. What do I understand by the term 'counselling'? How would I describe it to myself and to others?
4. What usefulness do I see in counselling?
5. Is there really such a thing as *biblical* counselling?
6. What areas does it cover?
7. Am I attracted to counselling because I think it may help me first, and indeed is this my main aim? Do I think that I may be helped myself by helping others?
8. Do I wish to be a counsellor because humanity is fascinating and I would like to have a part in the matter of relationships and the shaping of lives?
9. Does biblical counselling place me as a counsellor in a position of authority or power over the counsellee, and do I visualise myself in such a position? How would such ideas comport with II Corinthians 1:24; I Peter 5:3; Galatians 4:17; II Corinthians 4:5; 11:20?
10. Do I see in the Bible, a ministry of people who are separate, single counsellors? If so, then to what category of ministry do they correspond in the New Testament?
11. How do I see the ministry of counselling in the light of I Peter 2:4–10, and the use of the gifts such as in I Corinthians 12:4–31; Ephesians 4:7–16; I Peter 4:10–11?
12. Do I see myself as going singly to people and ministering out of the biblical knowledge I have, or do I see my ministry as an integral part of the whole body of Christ, myself as helping a person only in the context of that living society? Do I understand the healing (therapeutic) nature of the community of Christ and do I see a necessity to bring the counsellee to the wisdom and love of the church's fellowship?

13. In the light of the questions above which I have asked myself and to which I have given answers, what do I understand as my motivation for undertaking the course?
BY what power do I believe I can have a useful ministry?
14. Do I think that (a) the biblical knowledge and perspective that I hope to gain from the course will be a useful thing in itself, and (b) I need this to fully understand the power and efficacy of the gospel of Christ for men and women so that they may be liberated from counsellor-dependence to living a full life?