

BIBLICAL COUNSELING

Applying the Counsel of God's Word to the Issues of Life 12109 Old Olean Rd (Box 385), Yorkshire, NY 14173 716-353-3686

What is Nouthetic Counseling?

The Greek word nouthesia or noutheteo appears several times in the New Testament (i.e. Acts 20:31, Romans 15:14, I Thessalonians 5:14). It is translated "admonish, warn, or instruct". Nouthetic counseling upholds the sufficiency of the Scriptures as the source of answers, healing, and change. We are confident that the Bible has all the information necessary for life and godliness. There are no problems in our personal lives and between persons that the Bible does not generally or specifically address. All counseling will be conducted according to the counselor's understanding of Scripture, which is according to a literal, historical, hermeneutical approach.

General Practice

1. Counseling is provided on an offering basis. We do incur significant operating expenses and therefore, request that some offering be given. However, we feel impressed to allow each person to determine the amount he/she is able to give.

2. As a counseling ministry, we are accountable to our local church body, Central Baptist Church in Yorkshire, NY. We will, at times, seek biblical advice from our pastor or another counselor without divulging identifying information.

3. Counselors are certified (or in the certifying process) with the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors and/or the International Association of Biblical Counselors.

4. Information disclosed in counseling sessions will be held confidential only as the counselor believes the Bible requires. Absolute confidentiality is not scriptural; under certain circumstances matters of church discipline and safety issues require disclosure of facts to appropriate legal or spiritual authorities. The counselee will be informed before any such disclosures are made.

5. At any time during the counseling, for reasons sufficient to himself, the counselor (as also the counselee) shall have the option of terminating counseling.

6. Biblical counseling at C.H.O.I.C.E.S. Biblical Counseling is free, as a service and blessing to our community. It is important that you attend all scheduled appointments, however, in the case of an emergency we ask at least 24 hours notice to reschedule. Should three cancellations occur, you will be placed on our waiting list for an available time slot to resume Biblical counseling. Others are waiting for counselors, and we must make the best use of our counselors' time. Also, since biblical counseling works when you work, negligence in completing three homework assignments will warrant termination of biblical counseling.

7. It should be understood that biblical counseling consists of the giving of scriptural advice and the practical application of the same to each individual. Yet, the counselee is held fully responsible for how he or she implements that advice. As biblical counseling, no state licensure or compliance is maintained or implied.

We look forward to prayerfully and Scripturally working with you as you seek hope and change.

For His glory,

C.H.O.I.C.E.S. Biblical Counseling

I agree to enter into counseling accordance with the statements listed in this paper.

Signed: Date: