

Counseling/Discipleship Ministry

Overview of Basic Philosophy

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Introduction: Counseling as Discipleship

Some key passages:

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Ephesians 4:11-16

Galatians 6:1-6

Matthew 5:13-16

Philippians 4:12-16

Colossian 1:28-29

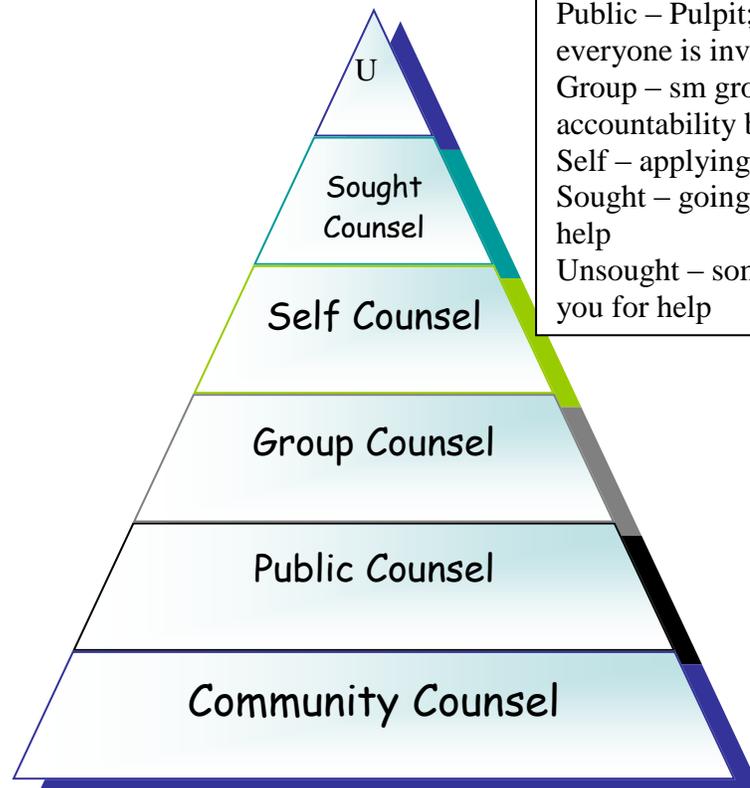
1 Thessalonians 2:8

Hebrews 4:12-13

Hebrews 10:24-25

2 Peter 1:3-4

Counsel within the local church



Community – church to world
Public – Pulpit; classes; anything everyone is invited to.
Group – sm group, Bible study, has accountability built in
Self – applying principles to self
Sought – going to someone for help
Unsought – someone coming to you for help

It is a shoulder-to-shoulder ministry

What does shoulder-to-shoulder ministry look like?

- Help does not come from someone who is an expert, but from a fellow-struggler.
- Change typically occurs in a relatively short amount of time (ranging from a few weeks to a few months).

Some Policies and Counseling Tools

- Counseling Policies; Pre-Marriage Policies
- Counseling Packet (Agreement/Consent, PDI, Problem)
- Pre-Marriage Packet
- Articles and other resources with a biblical basis
- Personal bible study

Qualifications to counsel

Biblical qualifications:

- Be a Christian
- Be committed to growing to be more like Christ (and doing it)
- Be genuinely concerned about the growth of other Christians
- Be committed to pursuing wisdom

How we enable our counselors to counsel

- Provide training within the church
- Provide resources and tools
 - www.nanc.com
 - www.ccef.com
 - www.competentcounseling.com
 - The Journal of Biblical Counseling
 - Speaking the Truth in Love By David Powlison
 - Counseling: How to Counsel Biblically By John MacArthur
 - How People Change By Timothy S. Lane
- Observation of other counselors
- Personal experience as a counselee/disciple
- Accountability and coaching from counselors
- Opportunities for formal training and certification

2 Timothy 3:16-17 ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

Ephesians 4:11-16 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹² to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

^{NIV} **Galatians 6:1** Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. ² Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³ If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, ⁵ for each one should carry his own load. ⁶ Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor.

Colossians 1:28-29 ²⁸ We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.

1 Thessalonians 2:8 ⁸ We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us.

Hebrews 4:12-13 ¹² For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ¹³ Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Hebrews 10:24-25 ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵ Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-- and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

2 Peter 1:3-4 ³ His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. ⁴ Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

Philippians 4:12-16 ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do everything through him who gives me strength. ¹⁴ Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. ¹⁵ Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶ for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need.

Matthew 5:13-16 ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.