

## Counseling Agreement

We are delighted that you are thinking of giving us the honor of helping you in your life. The process of Biblical counseling is unique compared to other forms of counseling. Therefore we want you to be aware of a few things up front:

1. Counseling will be done by the pastor or by one of the leaders of the church that has counseling training.
2. Congregational leaders may be asked to participate with one of the pastors as part of the counseling team.
3. All counseling will be conducted in accordance with the counselor's understanding of the Scriptures. Your counseling will be biblical and the Scriptures are in all cases the final authority. If you are not sure you will be interested in biblically-based counseling, you will be given the option of attending one or two sessions to discover what biblical counseling is like.
4. If at any point during counseling, the counselor feels it is necessary to terminate counseling, he/she has the freedom to do so. In addition, the counselee can cancel counseling at any point as well.
5. Information disclosed in counseling sessions will be held confidential only as the counselor believes the Bible requires. Absolute confidentiality is not Scriptural; matters of church discipline (cf. Mt. 18:15ff.), for instance, under certain circumstances, require one to disclose facts to others.
6. 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 implements that advice.
7. In rare, emergency situations, the counselor may need to cancel and reschedule a counseling session. In such cases, the counselee will be notified. We also ask you have the same courtesy for the counselor, if for some reason you are unable to attend a counseling session, please notify us.
8. Full participation is needed in the counseling process. While the counselor will try to be sympathetic to the amount of time you have, homework will be a regular part of the counseling process.

We are confident that the Bible has all of the information necessary for life and godliness. There are no problems between persons that the Bible fails to address either in general or specific principles. While our counselors do not pretend to know all there is to know about biblical teaching and its applications to life, nevertheless, they do know much and will do their utmost to help you.

I have read the conditions for counseling set forth in this form and agree to enter into counseling in accordance with them:

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_