



# EDGEWOOD

## BIBLE CHURCH

**Welcome to Biblical Counseling!** We are happy that you have chosen to seek God's solution to your problem. In order for us to be able to help you to find that solution and begin living a life of victory we must ask you to read the following information and then if you are in agreement with our presuppositions, we request that you sign this agreement form. God bless you and give you His hope as we study together.

---

### **PRESUPPOSITIONS OF BIBLICAL COUNSELING:**

- God has given us everything we need in His Word to live life in a manner that pleases Him (II Peter 1:3, 4). We must not integrate man's wisdom with biblical truth in order to solve our problems and live a victorious life. As a matter of fact, Scripture promises that when we degrade God's Word by placing it on a level with man's thinking, serious consequences occur (Proverbs 1:22-32; 14:12; 30:5, 6; Isaiah 5:20, 21; Romans 8:6-8; I Corinthians 3:19, 20).
- Biblical counseling is based upon the biblical teaching that we will each give an account of ourselves to God (Romans 14:12; II Corinthians 5:10) and that each one will bear the consequences for his own sin (Ezekiel 18:20; Colossians 3:25). Counselees are shown that they are responsible before God solely for their own behavior and that they are not responsible for changing anyone else's behavior.
- In learning to assume responsibility for their own behavior, counselees need to understand the conflict between their old self and their new nature (Romans 6; II Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 5:16). Counselees must determine, by an act of their will, to lay aside their old way of life with its lusts and deception and to begin to act in a way which reflects the new nature God has given them (Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:5-17). A counselee must develop godly thought patterns (II Corinthians 10:5; Philippians 4:8) if he is to have a renewed mind and be successful in living a life that corresponds to the new nature which is created by God in holiness of the truth (Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:23,24).
- Any changes that a counselee makes must be made in order to please God and not to please himself, his parents, his spouse, or anyone else (II Corinthians 5:9,15; Colossians 1:10; I Thessalonians 2:4,6). This requires a commitment to obey God's Word and not to depend on or be ruled by feelings, regardless of how strong or persuasive they may be (Galatians 5:16-17).

# Personal Data Inventory

---



## **BIBLICAL COUNSELING POLICY**

### **APPOINTMENTS:**

Each session lasts approximately 60 minutes. Managing appointments can be one of our most serious problems. We request that if you cannot keep an appointment, you notify us at least 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE. Keeping your appointment or calling in advance is very important for three reasons. First, we may have people on standby waiting to come in should we have a cancellation. Second, we will be most likely to reschedule those people who have been faithful in keeping their appointments. Thirdly, failure to keep an appointment wastes the counselor's time. The Bible holds us accountable for our management of time. If you need to reschedule an appointment we will be happy to assist you. The counselor has the right to terminate counseling if there are repeated cancellations, repeated failures to complete homework assignments or a general lack of initiative or willingness to make progress.

### **HOMEWORK:**

Homework is a very important part of the biblical counseling process. Homework is somewhat unique to biblical counseling and it is one of the reasons why this type of counseling is so effective. It continues the counseling process between sessions and teaches you how to find your own help for the future. Therefore, you will be required to spend time each week on homework. When done consistently the work you do at home will speed up the counseling process.

### **COST:**

We do not charge for appointments to see our counselors. However, any contribution you can make or your church can make will enable us to expand the counseling ministry. Checks should be made out to Edgewood Bible Church. Counselees are expected to pay for resources assigned to them as homework. This will include tapes, books, and pamphlets. The counselor will be sensitive to your financial constraints.

### **LOCAL CHURCH INVOLVEMENT:**

In order to achieve lasting biblical change over the problems of life, it is vital that you become established in a consistent Christian walk. The Lord has provided the local church to assist in this process. If you are not consistently involved in a local church, we will strongly encourage you to attend at least one service a week at Edgewood Bible Church. As we have previously stated, if you are a part of a local church on a consistent basis, the assistance of your church's leadership is requested so that you may more fully receive the benefit of all the spiritual resources given to you by God.

### **TELEPHONE COUNSELING:**

Your counselor will not normally be available for telephone counseling due to their scheduled appointments. If you have an emergency please call the church secretary and she will contact your counselor and have him/her return your call as soon as possible.

**BIBLICAL COUNSELING MINISTRY IS A TRAINING FACILITY. THERE MAY OCCASIONALLY BE A COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING SITTING IN ON A SESSION. THE COUNSELOR WILL NOTIFY YOU BEFORE HAND TO SET THIS UP.**

# Personal Data Inventory



## ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF BIBLICAL COUNSELING:

- In every biblical counseling session, four elements are stressed:

### ① Understand the Problem.

It is important for those involved in solving problems biblically to gain God's perspective on any difficulty (Proverbs 3:5,6; Isaiah 55:8,9; Romans 5:3,4; 8:28,29; James 1:2-4). You must begin to look honestly at yourself in light of God's Word (Matthew 7:1-5; I Corinthians 11:31). Understanding a problem requires that biblical inquiry be made (Proverbs 18:13,17; II Timothy 3:16,17; James 1:19) and truthful answers be given (Ephesians 4:15,25) in order for the total spectrum of the problem to be revealed (Mark 7:20-23; James 1:22-25; 4:17).

### ② Hope.

God has promised in His Word that He will not let you be tried, tempted, or face any problem beyond your endurance; but instead He will provide the solution in every circumstance or situation (I Corinthians 10:13; Hebrews 4:15,16).

### ③ Change.

You must learn how to lay aside (or "put off") the old self-centered habits and destructive anxieties, bitterness, and resentment; and "put on" biblical habits of thought and behavior (Romans 6:6,7; 12,13; Ephesians 4:22-32; Philippians 4:6-9; Colossians 3:5-17).

### ④ Practice.

You must take action to put God's solutions into practice in your everyday activities. If you hear the Word and do not put it into practice, you deceive yourself and your problems become worse. But if you become a doer of the Word, God has promised that you will be blessed and experience His peace and joy in spite of all that is around you (Psalm 85:8-10; Isaiah 32:17; John 15:10-12; 16:33; Hebrews 5:14; James 1:22-25; 3:14-18; I Peter 3:8-12).

Yes, I am in agreement with the presuppositions on this Biblical Counseling Information and Agreement Form.

---

Your Name

---

Date

# Personal Data Inventory



## Personal Identification

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Referred By: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: Single:  Engaged:  Married:  Separated:  Divorced:  Widowed:

Education (last year completed): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Years: \_\_\_\_\_

## Marriage and Family

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ How Long Employed: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Dating: \_\_\_\_\_

Give a brief statement of circumstances of meeting and dating: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have either of you been previously married?  To Whom? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been separated?  Filed for divorce? \_\_\_\_\_

### Information about Children:

Name	Age	Sex (M/F)	Living	Year Ed.	Step-child
			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

# Personal Data Inventory

---

Describe relationship to your father: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe relationship to your mother: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of sibling(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Your sibling order: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you live with anyone other than parents? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are your parents living? \_\_\_\_\_ Do they live locally? \_\_\_\_\_

## **Health**

Describe your health: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any chronic conditions? \_\_\_\_\_ What? \_\_\_\_\_

List important illnesses and injuries or handicaps: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of last medical exam: \_\_\_\_\_ Report: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's name and address: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to sign a release of information form so that your counselor may write for social,  
psychiatric, or other medical records? \_\_\_\_\_

Current medication(s) and dosage: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever-used drugs for anything other than medical purposes? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been arrested? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you drink alcoholic beverages? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, how frequently and how much? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Personal Data Inventory



Do you drink coffee? \_\_\_\_\_ How much? \_\_\_\_\_

Other caffeine drinks? \_\_\_\_\_ How much? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you smoke? \_\_\_\_\_ What? \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever had interpersonal problems on the job? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever had a severe emotional upset? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever seen a psychiatrist or counselor? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Spiritual**

Denominational preference: \_\_\_\_\_

Church attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Church attendance per month (circle):    0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8+

Do you believe in God? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you pray? \_\_\_\_\_ Would you say that you are a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_

Or still in the process of becoming a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you read the Bible? Never:  Occasionally:  Often:  Daily:

Please list ministry involvement: \_\_\_\_\_

If married, religious background of spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you pray to God? Never:  Occasionally:  Often:  How often? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you come to the place in your spiritual life where you know with certainty that if you were to die tonight you would go to heaven? Yes  No  Uncertain

If yes, what is your basis for answering the above question as you did? \_\_\_\_\_

Explain any recent changes in your religious life: \_\_\_\_\_

# Personal Data Inventory



## Women Only

Have you had any menstrual difficulties? \_\_\_\_\_ If you experience tension, tendency to cry, other symptoms prior to your cycle, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Is your husband willing to come for counseling? \_\_\_\_\_

Is he in favor of your coming? \_\_\_\_\_ If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **Priority Problem Check List** (Identify problems in order of significance—1, 2, 3, 4...)

- |                           |                     |                               |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ Anger               | _____ Depression    | _____ Loneliness              |
| _____ Anxiety             | _____ Drunkenness   | _____ Lust                    |
| _____ Apathy              | _____ Envy          | _____ Memory                  |
| _____ Appetite            | _____ Fear          | _____ Moodiness               |
| _____ Bitterness          | _____ Finances      | _____ Perfectionism           |
| _____ Change in lifestyle | _____ Gluttony      | _____ Rebellion               |
| _____ Children            | _____ Guilt         | _____ Sex                     |
| _____ Communication       | _____ Health        | _____ Sleep                   |
| _____ Conflict (fights)   | _____ Homosexuality | _____ Wife abuse              |
| _____ Deception           | _____ Impotence     | _____ A Vice                  |
| _____ Decision Making     | _____ In-laws       | _____ Other (Please describe) |



# Personal Data Inventory



## Confidentiality Agreement

The undersigned are presently involved in counseling or are seeking counsel with the staff of Biblical Counseling Ministry of Edgewood Bible Church.

We acknowledge that according to the policies and practices of Biblical Counseling Ministry of Edgewood Bible Church, confidentiality cannot be granted in all situations. If a threat of physical harm or report of criminal activity is made, appropriate civil authorities may have to be notified. Also if there is ongoing and unrepentant, grievous, or aggravated sin in the life of one of its counsees, the counselors of Biblical Counseling Ministry of Edgewood Bible Church reserves the right to contact the church authorities of the counselee's church.

The Bible teaches that Christians should carefully guard any personal and private information that others reveal to them. Protecting confidences is a sign of Christian love and respect (Matt.7:12). It also discourages harmful gossip (Proverbs 16:28; 26:20), invites confession (Prov. 11:13; 28:13; James 5:16), and encourages people to seek needed counseling (Prov. 20:19; Romans 15:14). Since these goals are essential to the ministry of the gospel and the work of this counseling center and Edgewood Bible Church, all counsees are expected to refrain from gossip and to respect the confidences of others. In particular, our counselors shall carefully protect all information that they receive through counseling. When a pastor or counselor is uncertain of how to counsel a person about a particular problem, he or she may refer such person to (or seek the advice of) another biblical counselor.

Although confidentiality is to be respected as much as possible, there are times when it is appropriate to reveal certain information to others. In particular, when the pastors or counselors of this church believe it is biblically necessary, they may disclose confidential information to appropriate people in the following circumstances:

1. When the person who disclosed the information or any other person is in imminent danger or serious harm unless others intervene (Prov. 24:11-12).
2. When a person refuses to repent of sin and it becomes necessary to institute disciplinary proceedings or seek the assistance of individuals or agencies within the counselee's church. (Matt. 18:15-20, Rom. 13:1-5)
3. When required by law to report suspected child abuse.

We understand the confidentiality provisions as described above and agree to abide by their terms and admonitions.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor