

# BIBLICAL COUNSELOR TRAINING

## PATHWAY THROUGH ACBC CERTIFICATION

ACBC - Association of Certified Biblical Counselors

### Phase 1: Learning

1. 30-Hours Fundamentals Training Course (Annually in Jan-March/April)
2. 10 Hours Observe an ACBC Certified Counselor
  - a. Watch the 10 counseling sessions
    - i. document using the ACBC Counselor Observation Log
  - b. 10 Counseling Sessions: \$79.00 rental
    - i. (<https://faithresources.vhx.tv/products/counseling-observation-videos> )
3. **Read:** 1000 Pages of Theology and Counseling
  - a. Theology of Biblical Counseling, Heath Lambert (352 pages)
  - b. Fill out ACBC Required Reading and Observation Log
  - c. Recommended Counseling Books (Bruce's Favs):

<i>Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands – P Tripp (376)</i>	<i>Uprooting Anger – Robert Jones (208)</i>
<i>How People Change – T. Lane, P. Tripp (230)</i>	<i>Trusting God – Jerry Bridges (368)</i>
<i>The Excellent Husband – Stuart Scott (363)</i>	<i>The Peacemaker – Ken Sande (318)</i>
<i>The Excellent Wife – Martha Peace (257)</i>	<i>Unpacking Forgiveness – Chris Brauns (240)</i>
<i>The Christian Counselors Manual – Jay Adams (506)</i>	<i>Putting Your Past in Its Place – Steve Viars (256)</i>
<i>When People are Big and God is Small– E Welch (256)</i>	<i>Out of the Blues – Wayne Mack (144)</i>

### Phase 2: Exams & Application

1. **Theology Exam:** 24 Questions
  - a. Each question: 1-1.5 pages long
  - b. Format: 1" margins, 1.5" spacing, 12 point Times New Roman font
  - c. Footnotes: author, name of book, pages used
2. **Counseling Exam:** 20 Questions; includes 3 Sample Counseling Cases
3. **Online Application:** Grader will not grade your exams until all app items are completed, submitted
  - a. Application
  - b. Submission of Observation (10 hours) and Reading Logs (1000 pages)
  - c. Pastor/Elder Evaluation
  - d. Colleague Evaluation
  - e. Church Member and Authority Letter
  - f. Submission of Ordination Certificate (optional – men only)
  - g. Submission of Theology and Counselor Exams
  - h. Create an ACBC Candidate Account, Pay Application Fee

## SUPERVISED COUNSELING

Phase 3 is where the rubber meets the road in ACBC Certification. Over the course of a year, you will complete 50 sessions of supervised counseling with an ACBC Fellow.

### **1. Select a Fellow**

- a. Choose a Fellow from a list of available Fellows sent to you after you pass your exams.

### **2. Notify ACBC**

- a. Notify the ACBC office once the Fellow has agreed to be your supervisor.

### **3. 50 Sessions**

- a. Complete 50 sessions (totaling a minimum of 50 hours) of supervised counseling.
  - i. Counseling supervision is often completed remotely via email and telephone.
  - ii. You will need to complete and send your supervisor a Case Report for each counseling session.
  - iii. At least 10 sessions must be with the same counselee.
  - iv. Audio record a minimum of 5 sessions to review and discuss with your supervising Fellow.
  - v. The 50 sessions must be completed within one year.

### **4. Case Report Review**

- a. Meet with your supervisor to review each Case Report.

### **5. Recommendation for Membership**

- a. After you have completed 50 sessions of counseling that your supervisor is satisfied with, he will submit a recommendation for membership.

# **BIBLICAL COUNSELING RESOURCES**

## **Equipping Hour Classes (Sermon.net)**

1. Financial Stewardship
2. Discerning God's Will
3. Biblical Marriage
4. Practical Theology – Theology of Biblical Counseling
5. How People Change
6. Relationships: A Mess Worth Making
7. Power of Christian Contentment

## **Competent to Counsel Conference – ACBC's 30-Hour Fundamental Course (Spring)**

1. 2025 Conference

## **Competent to Disciple Conferences (Fall)**

1. Biblical Parenting (Dr Greg Gifford – 2024)
2. Passions of the Heart (Dr John Street – 2021)
3. Conflict Resolution (Dr Ernie Baker – 2020)

## **Observation Videos (10 Videos; Passcode Required)**

## **Marriage and Family Resources**

1. List of Recommended Books, Booklets, Videos, Podcasts, websites

## **Biblical Counselor Resources (Passcode Required)**

1. Resources for Ambassador's biblical counselors to access