

What Makes Counsel / Advice Biblical?

Definition: *Helping a person identify thinking and behavior God wants to change, AND ministering God's Word to help heart-level change take place, for God's glory and the person's spiritual benefit. Rom. 15:5-6; 14*

- I.) Counsel/Advice is Biblical when it proceeds from sound theology.
- II.) Counsel/Advice is Biblical when it recognizes the Bible as sufficient.
 - A.) God has revealed everything necessary to know how to please and glorify Him. 2 Pet. 1:3; Ps. 19:7
 - B.) Sin has dulled our ability to know truth and solve problems. Jer. 17:9-10a
 - C.) The Bible should be the controlling source of counsel/advice. Ps. 1:1-2
 - D.) God has given His Word to:
 - 1.) Teach us 2 Tim. 3:16
 - 2.) Reveal His plans for people Rom. 8:28-30
 - 3.) Produce biblical faith Rom. 10:17; Heb. 11:6
 - 4.) Transform (not reform) the heart Mt. 15:17-20
 - 5.) Motivate Christ-centered living Col. 1:18; 2Cor. 5:9
 - 6.) Provide true hope and joy Rom. 15:4,13
- III.) Counsel/Advice is Biblical when it is built on key doctrines of the faith.
 - A.) A true understanding of man's nature and the confusion and suffering brought on by sin. Ps. 51; Rom. 3:23; Rom. 8:20-23
 - B.) The greatness of the Gospel and the beauty of Christ. Eph. 2:4-7
 - C.) The believer's union with Christ Eph. 1:3-14; Rom. 6:4
 - D.) The role of the Holy Spirit Gal. 5:16-18; John 14:16-17; Eph. 1:17
 - E.) The hope and joy of reconciliation Ps. 16; Rom. 15:13
 - F.) The privilege of prayer Heb. 4:16
 - G.) The anticipation of Christ's return, and eternity with Him John 14:1-3; Rev. 21:4
- IV.) Counsel/Advice is Biblical when it can be expressed and understood by any growing believer.
 - A.) There is no "hidden knowledge" reserved for a select few.
 - B.) But training has value 2 Tim. 2:2,15