

Counseling Issues

Week 4

Pride

COUNSELING ISSUES: PRIDE

Common Pride Issues in Counseling

- Compares self favorably with others
 - Cutting humor at the expense of others
 - Talking about neighbors, relatives and co-workers as inferior
 - Focusing on the failure of others in areas of personal strength or ability
 - Downgrading one's spouse
 - Speaking to one's children as inferior ("When I was your age...")

- Does not compare self with God

- Inconsistency in studying and applying the Word

- Sees the sins of others as large

- High self esteem and belief that pride is good
 - "I had to stand up for myself"
 - "There was no way I was going to take that from him"
 - "How dare she talk to *me* that way"
 - "Looking out for number one"
 - "I believe in myself"
 - "You can do anything if you put your mind to it"
 - "You really do create your own destiny"

- Lives by own priorities, standards, truths-not God's

- Children who are arrogant

Manipulate parents (by anger, guilt, acting sad, comparing to what friends get to do) to get what they want

Measure the day by “Did I get what I wanted?” not “Did I obey God and my parents?”

Mock and demean parents

Cry, yell, curse and threaten parents and other children if not obeyed

View self as smarter, prettier, funnier and more athletic than classmates

□ Spouses who blame shift

“I only got angry because you got angry first”

“That was nothing compared to what she did”

“There is no hope. His mental cruelty to me is cause for divorce.”

“You have no idea how difficult it is to live with her. I think this is a test from God to see how much one person can take.”

“Even if I did do that, it’s nothing compared to what he did.”

□ Angry parents

“When I yell like that it’s good for them”

“I try to stay angry when I give them a spanking”

“I never said anything like that to my parents. I never did what my kids do.”

“You would be angry too if your kids...”

Angry looks

Silence...for days

Rarely speaking kindly or expressing love

“My anger is so much less than my father’s”

□ Those who think everyone is against them

□ Those who don’t resolve conflicts

“I *can’t* forgive”

“She has to come and apologize to me first”

“He started it”

“What she did was worse”

“I forgave her, but I will never forget”

“After a few days we both just forget we had the big argument”

“I wouldn’t know what to say or do”

- ❑ Those who don't forgive

Important Counseling Principles

- ❑ Utilize passages and studies from the Word to convince the counselee that they sin
- ❑ Verify what the counselee believes about self and about the Gospel
- ❑ Gather data thoroughly
- ❑ Confirm data by other sources, other people
- ❑ Utilize journals to learn the counselee's thoughts process
- ❑ Help the counselee to accurately view who they are and who God is
- ❑ Use studies on the attributes of God
- ❑ Describe the thoughts, words and actions of the person who is humble before God in a practical way
- ❑ Do not minimize the sin of pride
- ❑ Do not settle for partial change

Pride

(Pride: exalting myself above God and others)

Proverbs 8:13

The fear of the Lord is to hate evil;
Pride and arrogance and the evil way.
And the perverted mouth, I hate.

Proverbs 11:2

When pride comes, then comes dishonor,
But with the humble is wisdom.

Proverbs 16:5

Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord;
Assuredly, he will not be unpunished.

Proverbs 16:8

Better is a little with righteousness
Than great income with injustice.

Proverbs 21:24

“Proud,” “Haughty,” “Scoffer,” are his names,
Who acts with insolent pride.

Proverbs 29:23

An angry man stirs up strife,
And a hot-tempered man abounds in transgression.

1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

Pride vs. Humility
(Humility: knowing who God is and who I am)

James 4:13-17 Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow, we shall go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.” ¹⁴Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. ¹⁵Instead, you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and also do this or that.” ¹⁶But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. ¹⁷Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin.

2 Corinthians 4:5 For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bondservants for Jesus’ sake.

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.

Luke 17:5-10 And the apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and be planted in the sea’; and it would obey you. ⁷But which of you, having a slave plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the fields, ‘Come immediately and sit down to eat?’ ⁸But will he not say to him, ‘Prepare something for me to eat, and properly clothe yourself and serve me until I have eaten and drunk; and afterward you will eat and drink?’ ⁹He does not thank the slave because he did the things which were commanded, does he? ¹⁰So you too, when you do all the things which are commanded you, say, ‘We are unworthy slaves; we have done only that which we ought to have done.’”

John 1:1-4 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. ⁴In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

Revelation 21:1-7 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them, ⁴and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." ⁵And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true." ⁶And He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. ⁷"He who overcomes shall inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.

Read through the following resources in *A Christian Growth and Discipleship Manual*

Page 3 Getting to Know Yourself Inventory

Page 181 Relating to Other People Biblically (“One Another”
Passages)

Complete and turn in the following study from *A Christian Growth and Discipleship Manual*

Page 187 Self-Image and Self-Love