



Proverbs: Counseling One Another

Proverbs: Counseling One Another Message

*For biblical counseling,
Proverbs provides you
with encouragement,
instruction and
practical help*

Christianity is counseling one another

“Self-sacrifice brought Christ into the world. And self-sacrifice will lead us...into the midst of men...Wherever men suffer, there will we be to comfort. Wherever men strive, there will we be to help. Wherever men fail, there will we be to uplift”

(B. B. Warfield, “Imitating the Incarnation”, quoted in Powlison, *How Does Sanctification Work?*, p. 111)



I. Proverbs encourages you to do biblical counseling

Biblical counseling is just biblical friendship (27:5-6).
Friendly hurts bring healing.

Sweet is the language of disciples (27:9; 16:24; 15:23; 25:11 Isa 8:16-20; 50:4).

Biblical counseling is just intensive discipleship (27:17).
Constructive criticism makes each a sharp and useful instrument.

I. Proverbs encourages you to do biblical counseling

God provides the necessary resources (28:5; 29:7; 15:22, 28).

Biblical counseling depends on God's heart-penetrating insight (20:27; 16:2; 17:3; 21:1).

Biblical counseling draws upon God's inexhaustible wisdom (2:6-7; 30:5-6; Dt 4:2).

I. Proverbs encourages you to do biblical counseling

Biblical counseling works from an accurate understanding of how sin works

- 1) Sin entices us by tapping into our desire to find delight (1:10)
- 2) Sin appeals to the cravings of our flesh (9:17)
- 3) Sin can never satisfy (27:20)
- 4) Unbiblical methods breed more sin (10:19)

II. Proverbs teaches you how to do biblical counseling

Listen before drawing conclusions (18:13, 17)

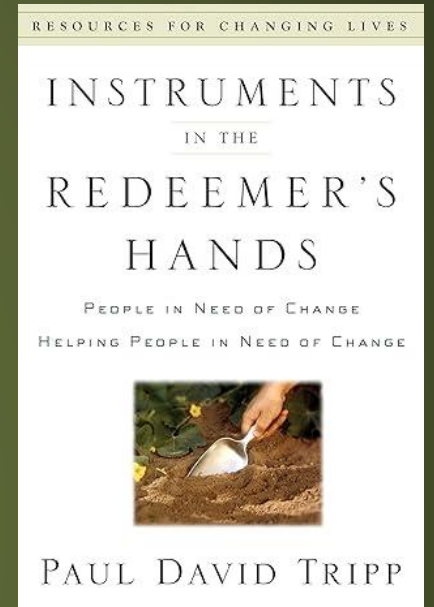
Enter into their grief (25:20)

Give hope (18:14; 13:12; 23:17; 23:18; 24:16)

Be faithful to reprove those in sin (28:23; 12:18; 15:4)

Help others see what is concealed in their heart (20:5; 27:19; Paul Tripp, *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands*, ch. 9)

Identify what they want most (6:25; 1:19)



II. Proverbs teaches you how to do biblical counseling

Give them a clear goal for their walk with God

- 1) Pursue a humble, personal relationship with Yahweh and His Son (1:7; 9:10; 8:22-31; 30:4)**
- 2) Discover God's path and how to stay on it (2:20; 4:10-19; 2:12-22; 13:6; 14:16)**
- 3) Remember that your path is a matter of life and death (10:16)**
- 4) Pursue happiness through obedience (3:13ff; 14:2; 10:8; 29:6)**

II. Proverbs teaches you how to do biblical counseling

Give them a clear goal for their walk with God

5) Be a doer of the word and not a hearer only (14:23)

6) Your deeds either honor God or they dishonor Him (14:31)

Warn those who resist heart change (29:1; 1:25; 26:11; 27:22; 28:26)

III. Proverbs provides practical help for common issues

Addictions (23:29-35). They think the substance can provide what only God can.

Fear of man (29:25; 24:19). Avoid the “Chicken Little” syndrome! It’s a trap!

Anxiety (12:25). What we know and what we think drives everything we feel and do.