

CENTER FOR BIBLICAL LIVING

November 28, 2021

Dear Friend,

Every year we share how the Lord is using The Center for Biblical Living (CBL) in the lives of those whom God brings our way. This year we decided to simply let the testimony of one couple be our letter to you, to thank you. Thank you for your prayers and financial support that enable us to serve those in vocational ministry. We feel humbled and privileged that the Lord is allowing us to assist ministry marriages in this way.

When my husband and I first began seeing Tom and Robyn Scott at The Center for Biblical Living in the fall of 2020, we were much like those old dry bones [in Ezekiel that were] left for dead in the wilderness. The life and love of our 10-year marriage had dried up, and we had reached the point where there was no breath left, no hope. We had reached the point of having discussions of separation and divorce. It seemed that we were beyond help and the best thing to do was just to end it and go our own ways.

Thankfully, the Lord had servants in place, ready to intercede. After much argument, eye-rolling, and finally, an exasperated last-ditch effort, we scheduled a joint appointment to see Tom and Robyn. Truthfully, we didn't think it would make a difference. We had sought counsel from others in the past, yet quickly and easily slipped right back into the same old sinful habits that got us there in the first place. BUT GOD. Session after session, the Scotts peeled back the layers of our relationship to get to the roots of our issues. They spoke truth into us, they prayed with us, they lovingly rebuked us, they laughed with us, and they taught us that we were never going to make any progress if we kept trying to rely on our own selves to make things better. Rather, it was only through the supernatural power and grace of the Holy Spirit doing a work in our hearts that we would begin to see any real change.

We still have a long way to go and will probably always be a work in progress, but nearly a year after first beginning our sessions with Tom and Robyn, to be writing these words now is nothing short of a miracle of God. A year ago we were done. We had given up on our marriage, on our vows, and on our covenant with God, and had submitted to the inevitable sentence of divorce. Yet in His infinite mercy and grace, there is life in what was once a dry wilderness. There is laughter, joy, and love again. There is prayer, hope, and peace in our home and a bright future for our marriage and our daughter. We are eternally grateful for The Center for Biblical Living, its impact on our family, and its commitment to the work of the Lord!

J&A

What is CBL? We are a ministry centered around Jesus Christ that exists to minister the gospel to ministers of the gospel. We seek to provide biblical counseling, mentoring, and encouragement to pastors, missionaries, seminary students, and their families. Families just like that of J&A in the story above. Many ministers are desperately in need of soul care, and when their souls are weary the advancement of the gospel is negatively impacted. We know there are more families like J&A's that need counsel and encouragement. We are fortunate to provide that care and your financial gift supports us to that end. Will you partner with us in this essential ministry?

As the demand for counseling increases we are in need of more staff to help support our counseling and administrative load. We are asking the Lord for \$50,000 through year end giving. We would be honored if you would give towards this goal. Your donation will support our search to fill new staff positions (~\$20,000), help promote CBL at various pastor and missionary conferences around the country (~\$20,000), underwrite the cost of providing biblical counseling to ministers and their families around the world (~\$5,000), and cover increased operational expenses (~\$5,000).

Friend, Robyn and I thank you for prayerfully considering a generous gift to this appeal.

Exalting Christ,



Tom and Robyn Scott, Founders and Biblical Counselors
The Center for Biblical Living

2021 Year In Review



Growing - Last year we asked for support to help expand our counseling team. We're excited that we now have 6 official CBL counselors and 2 part-time CBL administrators. In the upcoming year we are looking to add a full-time Director of Operations.



Training - We've had the joy of working with 3 counseling interns this year. These interns have the opportunity to learn from more experienced counselors while having a chance to counsel on their own. We hope some will eventually become CBL staff!



Networking - We are seeking to expand our connections with pastors, mission agencies, and seminaries so more vocational ministers know there are counseling resources available to them through CBL. We were represented at one pastors' conference this year. In 2022 we look forward to having a booth at Together for the Gospel, Bethlehem College and Seminary's Conference to Pastors, and Radius International's Missiology Conference.



Teaching - We hosted 4 Datenight IN marriage seminars for couples this year, taught a discipleship Bible study for men and women in seminary, and served as graders for a biblical counseling class where we had the opportunity to mentor 30 counselors in training.



Counseling - We had the privilege of counseling more than 150 people this year in over 500 sessions.



Scholarshipping - Through generous donations to our Starr Scholarship Fund we provided counseling scholarships to 12 pastors and missionaries this year.