

The Center for Biblical Living

Join us as we grow in 2024

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Since CBL began, we have used an image of a compass in many of our promotional pieces. When we decided to redo our logo we wanted to incorporate this ancient navigation tool. The compass is a directional guide magnetically fixed to an absolute truth, magnetic north and magnetic south. It tells you when you are heading in the wrong direction, which way to turn to get back on track, and when you are heading the right way.

God's Word also serves as a compass for our lives. 2 Timothy 3:16 says: "All Scripture is breathed out by God and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteous-



ness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." First, we see that the Bible comes from God, not man. He is the source for the truth of how to live. Second, we see that the Scriptures direct us on how to follow God's ways. Paul is reminding Timothy that the Bible teaches how to know when we are living the wrong way (reproof), which way to turn to get our life back on truth (correction), and when we are living in the right direction (training in righteousness). Paul says the purpose of using God's Word for reproof, correction, and training in righteousness is so that believers will be complete and equipped for every good work. That's our goal in counseling!

The Center for Biblical Living relies on the directional wisdom and fixed truth the Bible gives us as His people. The Scriptures are profitable for directing our own lives and the lives of those that we disciple and counsel. Reproof: Not that way, friend. Correction: This is His way, friend. Training in righteousness: Let's go His way together, friend.

At the center of the compass is what is referred to as a compass rose. Though not an exact cross shape we recognize that the cross of Christ is the true center of biblical living. One additional subtle adaptation to our compass is that there is a crown at the top rather than "N" for true north. This represents living joyfully for our true King. Our King presides over, provides for, protects, and proclaims truth over His people. What an incredible reality that the righteous God and King of the universe is graciously near to correct us when we are heading in the wrong direction and loves us enough to walk with us as we submit to His ways instead. God, through His Word, shows us "true north" for our life and soul. This is why we use the compass as our logo.

CBL CONNECT

JOIN US AS WE GROW IN 2024

As we look ahead to 2024, we are excited for the Lord to expand our reach. The Center for Biblical Living exists to serve the local church by providing biblical counseling and enrichment care for ministry leaders around the world. With this in mind, we are praying for more opportunities in 2024, including:

- Hiring more counselors to extend our accessibility in the United States and around the world.
- Establishing a partnership with another seminary like we currently have with The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. This partnership allows us to provide biblical counseling and enrichment care to students in ministry training as well as to the regional churches surrounding the seminary.
- Improving and enhancing our technology systems to more efficiently serve ministry leaders.

To help us achieve these expansion goals, we are praying for extraordinary year-end giving. In November and December, would you **pray for and give toward an additional \$150,000** as 2023 comes to a close? Each person participating will help us reach these 2024 expansion goals. Will you join us in fulfilling our long-term vision of caring for 20,000 or more ministry leaders in all 50 US states and in every time zone throughout the world?

To give, go to www.cbl.org/donate or mail in the giving form on the back page of this newsletter.

May the Lord do it as we partner together!



"Biblical Counseling has helped me mentally and at a heart level understand my identity in Christ that we battle the flesh, the world, and the devil from a place of victory in Jesus Christ, and how our thoughts, desires, and actions are interconnected." - Ministry Leader

THANK YOU!

Why ministry leaders need counseling

CBL provides counseling and care to those who are currently serving or preparing to serve in vocational ministry. For people who are serving in or pursuing full-time ministry or are married to someone who is, there can be a sense of being put on a spiritual pedestal, and it can feel isolating. There are also the questions of whom to trust with sharing their struggles and whose counsel to trust. Another hindrance for this demographic is how to afford counseling services, as the cost can add up and be too expensive for a ministry salary or seminary budget. Each of our counselors can relate from personal experience. CBL recognizes these unique needs, questions, and hindrances and desires to make counseling affordable and accessible to struggling ministry leaders. Our prayer is to be a trustworthy source of biblical hope, encouragement, and counsel. By God's grace, CBL is helping encourage and strengthen weary, struggling ministry leaders, seminary students, and their spouses.

We could not do what we do without our financial and prayer partners. We are so thankful for our donors who enable us to provide affordable counseling to hurting ministry leaders!

Here are what two former counselees had to say:

"These past four months in Biblical Counseling with my CBL counselor have been a huge blessing for me, exiting a season of ministry and life burnout and not wanting to stay there. Biblical Counseling has helped me mentally and at a heart level understand my identity in Christ (as shown through the Bible), that we battle the flesh, the world, and the devil from a place of victory in Jesus Christ, and how our thoughts, desires, and actions are interconnected. It has also provided me with some extrabiblical resources to help guide me in the process of working through matters throughout my sessions. I'm grateful to The Center for Biblical Living!"

– Ministry Leader

"Through my CBL counselor's counsel of the Word I felt more equipped to handle ongoing issues in my family by depending on the spirit. It was entirely biblical. I have seen a lot of growth in my maturity and faith because of how she used the Word to point out my sin, then backed it up using the Word. It exceeded my expectations. I feel more equipped to not only deal with issues, but to counsel others through theirs. As someone seeking a counseling degree, my CBL counselor taught me through her own experience what it needs to look like as a biblical counselor to be dependent on the Word and to use the Word in the midst of sessions to encourage and call out sisters in Christ."

- Seminary Student



Tom & Robyn Scott Founders/Counselors



Patrick Voelker Director of Organizational Advancement



Allie Klein Operations Manager



Alexa Schaffner Administrative Assistant



Colin McCulloch Biblical Counselor



Mike & Maya Johnson Biblical Counselors



John Reilly Biblical Counselor



Tim Rinker Biblical Counselor



Karen Zuleger | Biblical Counselor

Karen joined CBL as a counseling intern in February 2020 after graduating with an M.A. in biblical counseling the previous December. During the summer of 2020, she was asked to raise support to come on as a full-time counselor, and God provided funding quickly in the midst of a pandemic. With experiences as an overseas missionary and missions intern at a church, Karen saw a need for people in ministry to receive counseling and went into seminary with the desire to counsel missionaries and pastors' wives. She was blown away to see God provide her with the opportunity to do just that so soon after graduating! "I am humbled and grateful to have the opportunity to work for CBL. It is my dream job, and I couldn't ask for a better team to work alongside. I love meeting with the women I counsel and watching God transform them before my eyes. It is a privilege to be used by God in their lives."

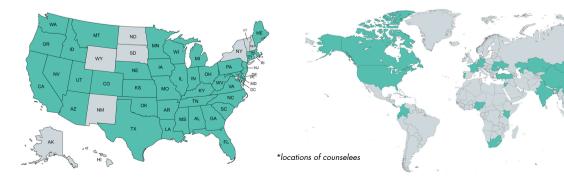
THE IMPACT OF COUNSELING

Being a biblical counselor is extremely rewarding. I often share with others, including my counselees, how amazing it is to get to witness the transformation process between the first and final sessions. So much growth and sanctification take place that sometimes the counselee almost seems like a different person by the time they successfully conclude counseling. It is also extremely humbling. The counseling session sets the stage for the deep, transformative work the Spirit does in the counselee between sessions. The words I speak have no power without the Spirit using them mightily by ministering them in the person's heart.

I met with a woman who was absolutely broken over a sin she had committed. She was emotionally and spiritually exhausted and wept through most of our initial sessions. She had never thought she would be capable of doing what she did, and it shattered her to experience the reality that she had fallen in that way. It was a humbling experience for her, as God used her sin to reveal and sanctify her of her pride and perfectionism. She felt like she needed to be punished and face a more severe consequence for her sin. What she needed was to be reminded of the gospel and Christ's finished work on the cross that already paid the price for her sin. She needed to fight the temptation to lose sight of her identity in Christ and position as a justified, redeemed, forgiven sinner saved by grace through faith in Christ.

During our months of counseling, we worked through Scripture passages that focused on the gospel, God's character, and her identity in Christ. Some of the passages that encouraged her were Psalms 23, 94, and 131; Exodus 14; 1 Peter 1:3-9 and 5:6-11; Hebrews 12:1-13; and Romans 5:1-11 and 8:1-39. We also spent time combating lies she was believing and replacing them with truth from God's Word. By God's grace, she was able to deepen her faith and trust in Christ's finished work, cease her own striving for perfection, trust that true freedom is found in full submission and obedience to Christ alone, believe that God fights for her, shed her shame, grow in hope, and see herself as a beloved saint. It was an immense privilege to walk alongside her and see the healing and growth God did in her heart as I sat across from her every week. She said, "I am grateful to God for the way He has brought me through this season more in love with Him." One year later, she is walking closely with the Lord – not in perfection but in freedom, strength, and resilience through Christ – and is on staff at a local church as a women's ministry director and biblical counselor.

CBL'S IMPACT AROUND THE WORLD







JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM

CBL exists to strengthen the church by providing biblical counseling and care to ministry leaders around the world. This is serious and weighty work for our counselors as they serve ministry leaders who are facing their own sin and/or the trials of this fallen world. Both our staff and the ministry leaders we counsel need prayer. It is only through the Lord's work that we are able to help anyone.

Therefore, we invite you to join the CBL prayer team. This team will pray for the staff and ministry of CBL every day.

Jesus' prayer for the church in John 17 is the model for CBL's prayer team. In John 17:13-19, Jesus prayed the following for His disciples and those who would believe and follow:

"But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth."

In keeping with Jesus' outline, we seek to pray:

- 1. That Jesus' joy may be fulfilled in us and those we serve (verse 13).
- 2. That we and those we serve would not run from the world but would be kept from the evil one while in the world (verses 14-16).
- 3. That our lives would be set apart and centered on God's Word, which is truth, as we work around the world (verses 17-19).



Please contact us if you would be interested in joining our prayer team. Monthly, we will provide you with general and specific prayer requests to pray through that month and hopefully keep you informed on answered prayers. We hope you will join us as we pray that Christ is glorified through the work of CBL (Eph 3:20-21).

You can email us at info@cbl.org or call 502-530-0903 to let us know you'd like to be a part of this critical team!

GIVE NOW TO CBL! I would like to partner with CBL by giving a Donation amount: Donation type: financial gift to help continue the work of caring \$50 monthly for ministry leaders. Name: \$100 quarterly \$250 annually Phone No: \$500 one time Other: \$_ Email: Please make checks payable to The Center for Biblical Living or give online at cbl.org/donate. All gifts are incometax deductible and are requested with the understanding that The Center for Biblical Living has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. 502-530-0903 info@cbl.org $(\mathbf{0})$ PO Box 436825 Louisville, KY 40253

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