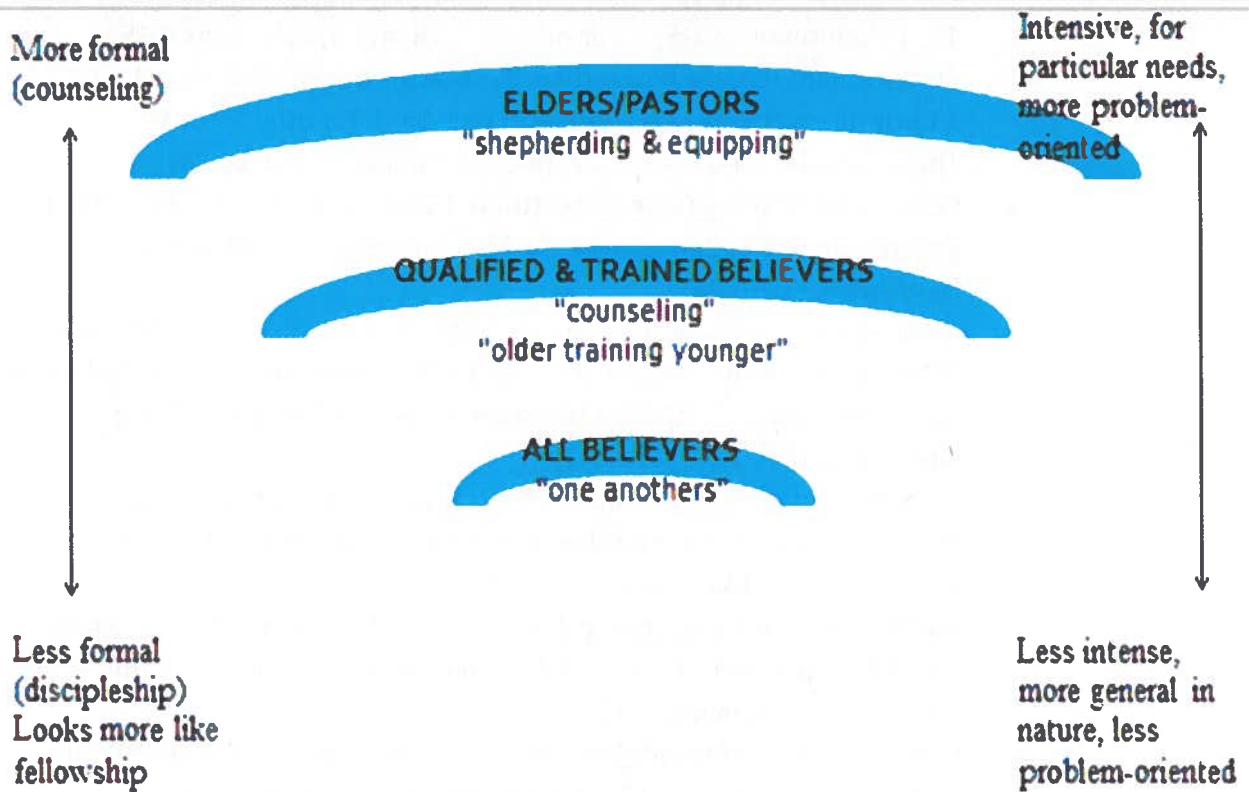


COUNSEL ONE ANOTHER: Helping One Another Apply Scripture

Session Four

Qualifications and Attitude of a Discip1er¹

Introduction (Eph 4:11-16)



1. The Goal of a Biblical Discip1er/Counselor
 - a. Ultimate goal – God’s glory – 1 Cor 10:31
 - b. Other supportive goals
 - i. Pleasing Jesus – 2 Cor 5:9
 - ii. Conformed to Christlikeness – Rom 8:28-29

¹ These Christlike qualities every Christian should aspire to but Church leadership is help to them (1 Tim 3; Titus 1)

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- iii. Making disciples – Mat 28:18-20; Col 1:28-29
- iv. Loving others – 1 Tim 1:5
- v. Careful attention to oneself – Ezra 7:10; 1 Tim 4:16
- vi. Careful attention to our doctrine – Ezra 7:10; 1 Tim 4:16
- vii. Careful attention to others around you “flock” – Acts 20:28

2. The Commitments and Qualifications of a Biblical Counselor

a. General Commitments²

- i. Commitment to Scripture (Psalm 19; 119:25, 40, 50, 105, 107; Proverbs 6:23; 10:17; Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3:1-17; 2 Peter 1:3-21)
- ii. Commitment to Jesus (Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 6:1-4; 10:8-13; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 4:4-6; Ephesians 4:15)
- iii. Commitment to Care (Proverbs 3:27; Matthew 22:34-40; John 15:12-17; 1 Corinthians 9:1-18; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; 1 Timothy 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12; James 2:14-17; 1 John 2:7-11; 3:11-24)
- iv. Commitment to the Church (Matthew 16:16-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 5:1-5; Ephesians 2:19-21; 1 Timothy 3:15; Titus 1:10; Hebrews 3:13; 10:25)
- v. Commitment to Humanity (Genesis 1:26-27; Proverbs 4:23; 20:5; Mark 7:14-23; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 11:2-16; 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:4; Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 5:3, 22-33; Colossians 3:18-19; 1 Timothy 2:9-15; 5:23; Titus 1:6; James 1:19-27; 4:1-2)
- vi. Commitment to Purity (Exodus 20:17; Proverbs 5; Matthew 5:27-32; Romans 13:13-14; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; Ephesians 5:1-8; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; Hebrews 13:4; James 1:14-15)
- vii. Commitment to Competency (Proverbs 18:13, 17; John 15:1-11; Matthew 12:33-37; Ephesians 3:14-21; 5:11; Colossians 1:9; 3:16; 1 Timothy 4:15; 2 Timothy 2:2, 15; James 1:19)
- viii. Commitment to Methodology (Acts 26:17; Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 3:18, 10:5; Ephesians 4:17-32; Colossians 3:1-17; Hebrews 4:16)
- ix. Commitment to Authority (Matthew 20:25-28; Acts 5:29; Romans 13:1-7; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 5:9; Ephesians 5:22-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 2:13-25)
- x. Commitment to Integrity (Exodus 20:16; 23:1; Leviticus 19:11; Deuteronomy 16:19; Proverbs 19:5; 24:28; 25:18; Zechariah 8:16; Matthew 5:37; 2 Corinthians 4:2; Ephesians 4:25; Colossians 3:9)

² Can find these Commitments more clearly defined and explained in the ACBC Standards of Conduct (www.biblicalcounseling.com).

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- xi. Commitment to Reconciliation (Psalm 32:1-5; Proverbs 28:13; Matthew 5:9; 23-24; 6:14; 7:1-5; 18:15-35; Mark 11:25; Luke 17:3; Galatians 6:1; Ephesians 4:31-32; Colossians 3:12-13; James 3:18; 1 John 1:8-9)

b. Specifically ³

We can gain more insight into the kind of person we should be from what God has said concerning male leadership in the church. In the Scriptures we find two very precise lists of positive and negative qualities by which leaders are to be measured: one found in 1 Timothy 3:2-7 and the other found in Titus 1:6-9.

A Godly Man

MUST BE	MUST NOT BE
Above reproach (<i>anegkletos, anepileptos</i>): blameless, not able to be accused, having a good reputation	A drunkard (<i>paroinos</i>): not addicted to strong drink
A one-woman man (<i>andra</i>)	Violent (<i>plēktēs</i>): violent, quickly angered, explosively angry
Sober-minded (<i>nēphalios</i>): temperate, alert, clear-headed, watchful	Quarrelsome (<i>amachos</i>): contentious, argumentative
Self-controlled (<i>sōphrōn</i>): in control of thinking, emotions and passions	A lover of money (<i>aischrokerdes</i>): covetous, greedy for money, materialistic
Respectable (<i>kosmios</i>): orderly, in time, in responsibilities and behavior, not chaotic	Arrogant (self-willed) rather than a steward (<i>authadas</i>): pushing his own ideas, desires, goals or gain
Hospitable (<i>philō xenos</i>): welcoming to others, loves strangers, serves others	Double-tongued (<i>dilogos</i>): saying two different things to people, gossiping
Gentle (<i>epieikēs</i>): considerate, gracious, patient, kind in dealing with others	Quick tempered (<i>orgilos</i>): inclined to anger habitually, soon angry
Managing his own household well (<i>proistēmi</i>): governs, presides over, has authority over, is faithful to lead spiritually, cares for, protects; has children who are not riotous or	

³ Taken from *Biblical Manhood* (Focus Publishers).

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insubordinate; oversees and/or fulfills affairs of the home	
A lover of good (<i>philagathos</i>): loves virtue and good men	
Upright (<i>dikaios</i>): just, upholds righteousness	
Dignified (<i>semnos</i>): serious, stately, not foolish or silly	
Holding firm to the Word (<i>antechomai</i>): learns and upholds sound doctrine, holds to like glue, able to exhort and convict	
Holy (<i>hosios</i>): pure, devout	

Christlike Humility: The Attitude of a Disciple⁴

Introduction

Charles Spurgeon, in a sermon he presented in 1856, states, "There is nothing into which the heart of man so easily falls as pride, and yet there is no vice which is more frequently, more emphatically, and more eloquently condemned in Scripture."⁵

I. THE INDIVIDUAL MUST COME TO GRIPS WITH THE EPIDEMIC VICE: PRIDE

A. Biblical Terms

1. Old Testament
2. New Testament

⁴ Taken from, *From Pride to Humility*, Bemidji, Minnesota: Focus Publishers, 2000. Those desiring to obtain copies for use in ministry can be obtained by contacting them directly. 1-800-91-FOCUS

⁵ Charles Spurgeon, "Pride and Humility" (sermon, New Park Street Chapel, Southwark, August 17, 1856).

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B. Biblical Examples

C. Biblical Warnings

D. Pride Defined

1. Self-Worship
2. The Flip Side – Self-Pity and/or False Humility to gain praise
3. The Definition:

**The mindset of self (a master's mindset rather than that of a servant):
a _____ on self and the service of self, a
_____ of self-recognition and self-exaltation, and a
_____ to control and use all things for self.**

E. Manifestations of Pride

1. Complaining against or passing judgment on God (Numbers 14:1-4, 9, 11; Romans 9:20)
2. A lack of gratitude (2 Chronicles 32:25)
3. Anger (Proverbs 28:25; Matthew 20:1-16)
4. Seeing yourself as better than others (Luke 7:36-50)
5. Having an inflated view of your importance, gifts and abilities (Acts 12:21-23)
6. Being focused on the lack of your gifts and abilities (1 Cor. 12:14-25)
7. Perfectionism (Matthew 23:24-28)
8. Talking too much (Proverbs 10:19)
9. Talking too much about yourself (Proverbs 27:2; Galatians 6:3)
10. Seeking independence or control (1 Corinthians 1:10-13; Ephesians 5:21)
11. Being consumed with what others think (Galatians 1:10)
12. Being devastated or angered by criticism (Proverbs 13:1)
13. Being unteachable (Proverbs 19:20; John 9:13-34)
14. Being sarcastic, hurtful, degrading, talking down to them (Proverbs 12:18, 24)
15. A lack of service (Galatians 5:13, Ephesians 2:10)
16. A lack of compassion (Matthew 5:7, 18:23-35)
17. Being defensive or blame-shifting (Genesis 3:12-13; Proverbs 12:1)
18. A lack of admitting when you are wrong (Proverbs 10:17)
19. A lack of asking for forgiveness (Matthew 5:23-24)
20. A lack of biblical prayer (Luke 18:10-14)
21. Resisting authority or being disrespectful (1 Peter 2:13-17)

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22. Voicing preferences or opinions when not asked (Philippians 2:1-4)
23. Minimizing your own sin and shortcomings (Matthew 7:3-5)
24. Maximizing others' sin and shortcomings (Matthew 7:3-5; Luke 18:9-14)
25. Being impatient or irritable with others (Ephesians 4:31-32)
26. Being jealous or envious (1 Corinthians 13:4)
27. Using others (Matthew 7:12; Philippians 2:3-4)
28. Being deceitful by covering up sins, faults, and mistakes (Proverbs 11:3; 28:13)
29. Using attention-getting tactics (1 Peter 3:3,4)
30. Not having close relationships (Proverbs 18:1-2; Hebrews 10:24-25)
31. Etc.

F. Promoters of Pride

G. A Righteous kind of boasting

H. The Proper Response

THE INDIVIDUAL MUST PUT ON THE ENDANGERED VIRTUE: HUMILITY

A. Biblical Terms

1. Old Testament

2. New Testament

B. Biblical Examples

C. Our Greatest Example – Jesus Christ

D. Humility Defined

1. God-Worship

2. The Definition:

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The mindset of Christ (a servant's mindset): a _____ on God and others, a _____ of the recognition and the exaltation of God, and a _____ to glorify and please God in all things and by all things He has given.

E. Manifestations of Humility

1. Recognizing and trusting God's character (Psalm 119:66)
2. Seeing yourself as having no right to question or judge an Almighty and Perfect God (Psalm 145:17; Romans 9:19-23)
3. Focusing on Christ (Philippians 1:21; Hebrews 12:1-2)
4. Biblical praying and a great deal of it (1 Thessalonians 5:17; 1 Timothy 2:1-2)
5. Being overwhelmed with God's undeserved grace and goodness (Psalm 116:12-19)
6. Thankfulness and gratitude in general towards others (1 Thess. 5:18)
7. Being gentle and patient (Colossians 3:12-14)
8. Seeing yourself as no better than others (Romans 12:16; Ephesians 3:8)
9. Having an accurate view of your gifts and abilities (Romans 12:3)
10. Being a good listener (James 1:19; Philippians 2:3-4)
11. Talking about others only if it is good or for their good (Proverbs 11:13)
12. Being gladly submissive and obedient to those in authority (Rom. 12:1-2, 13:1-2)
13. Preferring others over yourself (Romans 12:10)
14. Being thankful for criticism or reproof (Proverbs 9:8, 27:5-6)
15. Having a teachable spirit (Proverbs 9:9)
16. Seeking always to build up others (Ephesians 4:29)
17. Serving (Galatians 5:13)
18. A quickness in admitting when you are wrong (Proverbs 29:23)
19. A quickness in granting and asking for forgiveness (Colossians 3:12-14)
20. Repenting of sin as a way of life (Colossians 3:1-14; 1 Timothy 4:7-9)
21. Minimizing others' sins or shortcomings in comparison to one's own (Matthew 7:3-4)
22. Being genuinely glad for others (Romans 12:15)
23. Being honest and open about who you are and the areas in which you need growth (Philippians 3:12-14; Galatians 6:2)
24. Possessing close relationships (Acts 20:31-38)
25. Etc.

II. THE INDIVIDUAL SHOULD BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT MOVING FROM PRIDE TO HUMILITY

- A. Humble yourself or ... (James 4:7-10) with the Gospel and a Cross-centered perspective

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B. Practical steps for the Individual

1. Pray for God to search your heart (by His Spirit with His Word) and help you repent of pride and to grow in humility (Ps 139).
2. Read the Law, Psalms and the Prophets often to gain a high view of God and a proper view of yourself.
3. Study Jesus (His earthly example; especially in the Gospels – Mt.11:28-30, focus on His humility).
4. Ask others if you come across proud in any way.
5. Spend as much focused time as possible worshipping God (e.g., praising, prayer, reading and meditating). Be sure to center in on the Love of God demonstrated at the Cross.
6. Practice the “one-another” commands (38+).
7. Work with the Holy Spirit to put off pride and put on humility at the level of your motives, thoughts, communication and actions.
 - a. Go back through the 30+ manifestations of pride and evaluations how and when you might evidence them.
 - b. Go back through the 24+ manifestations of humility and plan how you can be humbler in the typical situations you are in.
8. Have the mindset that humility must be a way of life (Phil 2:1-11).

Resources:

Richard Baxter, *The Christian Directory*

Wayne & Josh Mack, *Humility: The Forgotten Virtue*

Stuart Scott, *From Pride to Humility*

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- Those who are “spiritual” (Gal 6:1; Titus 2:1-10)

1. Marks of spiritual immaturity⁶

- a. Fragile
- b. Shallow roots
- c. Very dependent, needs constant nurturing by others
- d. Changes quickly, easily distracted
- e. Lacks strength, but not know how weak he is
- f. Easily deceived/lacks discernment, lacks stability
- g. Lacks broad wisdom
- h. Prone to be feeling oriented in his evaluations and decision making
- i. Overestimates his own strengths or weaknesses; tend to be unrealistic in self evaluation and understanding
- j. Tends to be a hero worshipper - I Corinthians 3
- k. Threatened by honest feedback
- l. Tend to take praise and/or criticism too seriously
- m. May be zealous but lack necessary knowledge
- n. Take successes too seriously and personally
- o. Tends to take credit that he doesn't deserve
- p. Tend to be jealous and envious of appreciation and credit given to others
- q. May want to be center of attention

2. Marks of spiritual maturity

- a. Has a deep, vital, personal relationship with Christ
- b. Committed to personal growth in holiness
- c. Takes the Scriptures seriously and seek to obey them in every area of life
- d. Possesses a servant's heart - primarily Christ's servant, sees self as instrument to move people closer to Christ; John 3:31ff.; I Corinthians 4:1ff.; motivated by love of Christ and for well being of counselee (Philippians 2:1-8; I Corinthians 4:5); able to meet people where they are and move them to where God wants them to be without dominating, controlling and manipulating; main concern isn't for personal glory, human applause, success of own agenda; able to adapt to the need of the moment; constantly looking for ways to serve, etc.
- e. Has personally experienced the life changing power of God's Spirit and Word
- f. Has confidence in God's ability to deal with any situation

⁶ Borrowed from Wayne Mack, Notes on Essential Qualities of a Biblical Counselor.

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- g. Regularly spends meaningful time in the Word and prayer
- h. Has godly friends with whom he shares himself openly and to whom he is accountable; loves God's people and wants to be with them
- i. Is committed to a body of believers and serving Christ there
- j. Has a Berean spirit about hearing and applying God's Word (Acts 17:11)
- k. Manifests the fruit of the Spirit in his own life
- l. Has a teachable spirit
- m. Doesn't overreact to criticism
- n. Doesn't seek or need constant reassurance
- o. Is comfortable with a diversity of opinion on secondary issues
- p. Bounces back after failure
- q. Laughs easily at himself
- r. Has a good mixture of seriousness and joy
- s. Acts calmly under stress and opposition
- t. Doesn't dominate persons and discussions
- u. Is basically comfortable with his own identity as a person; has learned contentment
- v. Expresses own ideas freely
- w. Can hear differing opinions without feeling threatened
- x. Doesn't take himself too seriously
- y. Has a realistic, accurate understanding of his own strengths and weaknesses and understands how to improve his weaknesses
- z. Seeks counsel from others. Wants and receives honest feedback
- aa. Is able to rejoice when others are appreciated and blessed and even achieve a measure of success that he hasn't