

APPLICATION REFERENCE FORM

Dear: _____

I am applying to the Gateway Biblical Counseling and Training Center (GBCTC). I will be enrolling in either the Advanced or Certificate Track to become a CERTIFIED BIBLICAL COUNSELOR. Would you please complete the reference material below for me and forward it to GBCTC as soon as possible? Your prompt attention to this would be very much appreciated as my application will not be processed until the organization receives this recommendation from you.

Sincerely,

Signature of applicant

NOTE from GBCTC: GBCTC is a ministry of Edgemont Bible Church in Fairview Heights, Illinois. GBCTC is recommended by Master's Divinity School and the International Association of Biblical counselors. The staff at GBCTC offers Biblical counseling at no charge. The Center also conducts training of qualified Christians in the area of Biblical counseling.

What is Biblical Counseling? Biblical counseling is also known as Nouthetic Counseling. The counselor believes all that is needed to help a person love God and his neighbor as he should, is found in the Bible.

There is a warm family note to Biblical counseling, which is done among God's children who seek to help one another become more like Christ. Thus, Biblical counseling is considered to be part of the Christian growth (sanctification) process whereby one Christian helps another get through difficulty that is limiting spiritual growth. One Christian gives counsel to another from the Scriptures, not with his own ideas or the ideas of others. He limits his counsel strictly to that which may be found in the Bible. Thus, Biblical counselors lovingly confront people out of a deep concern in order to help them make the changes God requires.

Moreover, Biblical counselors are concerned that counseling is always done to benefit the counselee in the spirit of **I Corinthians 4:14**.

All forms of counseling, Biblical, Christian or secular, seek to effect change. Biblical counselors believe God's Word is sufficient to deal with all of our problems. Thus, Scripture is totally sufficient to help us change. This concept is expressed clearly in **II Timothy 3:16-17**.

How can I become a Biblical Counselor? Consistent with **Romans 15:14**, we believe all Christians are to counsel. Moreover, there are those who are called to counsel in more of a formal atmosphere. It is these people with whom GBCTC is prepared to train.

The need for Biblical counselors is illustrated in **Galatians 6:1-5**. Those considering becoming a Biblical counselor are to be spiritual people, as the Holy Spirit produces the correct attitude, values and appreciation for God's Word. Counselors must learn to restore others to fellowship, be honest about themselves, take sin seriously, have complete confidence in God's Word and apply Biblical principles to all areas of their lives.

Training to become a Biblical counselor must then be geared toward applying God's Word in the life of the counselor as well as the ability to teach or convey those principles to others.

GBCTC is concerned that the certified counselor be a person of godliness, purity, and of strict integrity. The process of certification can only be as good as you make it by careful, candid, and truthful reporting.

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED REFERENCE WITHIN A WEEK. YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

CONFIDENTIAL

PERSON COMPLETING THIS REFERENCE:

(Church/Organization) _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Reference's Name: _____

Position: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: Office: () _____ Home: () _____

I have known the applicant for _____ years.

Filling Out the Questionnaire

Read each question carefully and then circle the number that best represents the applicant. This list is based on I Timothy 3:1-7 & Titus 1:5-9. A Biblical counselor needs to have those qualifications as the Pastors and leaders are called to counsel.

Demonstrates a good reputation among fellow believers and non-Christians.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Demonstrates faithfulness in relationship with his/her spouse.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Demonstrates sharing of his/her resources with others.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Able to communicate Biblical truth.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Has the ability to handle those who may disagree.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Demonstrates the ability to relate to other people without being self/centered and controlling.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Demonstrates an ability to control his/her anger.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Demonstrates gentleness in his/her tongue.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Demonstrates gentleness in his/her relationships with others.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Is non-argumentative.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Demonstrates the ability to manage his /her household well.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Demonstrates the ability to “overcome evil with good”.

Disqualified 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

Please mail or fax the completed form to:

GBCTC

5100 N Illinois Street

Fairview Heights, IL 62208

(p)618-277-3990

(f)618-825-0744

Thank you again for your time. If you have any questions or would like more information about GBCTC please call or visit our webpage at www.gateway-biblical-counseling.net