



APPLICATION FOR LEVEL ONE CERTIFICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

CHURCH AFFILIATION: _____ ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER: Y / N

PASTOR'S NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF YOUR INTEREST IN BIBLICAL COUNSELING. WHY DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN THIS TYPE OF MINISTRY?

PLEASE LIST ANY DEGREES OR PREVIOUS TRAINING YOU HAVE RECEIVED IN COUNSELING AS A WHOLE.

PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY TRAINING YOU HAVE RECEIVED SPECIFIC TO BIBLICAL COUNSELING.

IN WHAT WAYS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH?



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ARE GODLY MEN OR WOMEN IN YOUR LIFE WITH WHOM YOU SHARE PERSONAL STRUGGLES AND FROM WHOM YOU RECEIVE ADMONITION, PRAYER, AND ENCOURAGEMENT? IF SO, WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN YOUR LIFE?

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY? IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION.

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN FORMALLY DISCIPLINED BY A CHURCH? IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION.

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

PLEASE USE THE SPACE BELOW (AND ON THE PAGE TO FOLLOW) TO SHARE YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY IN PLACING YOUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.



FAITH STATEMENT: I BELIEVE AND WILL UPHOLD THE BELIEFS THAT

God Rules the Universe: God is creator and sustainer of all creation. He is the one true God revealed in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Our Biggest Enemy is the Enemy Within: Mankind is naturally a slave to sin, and can by no means of his own power obtain salvation from God. Since the law of sin is perpetually at work within him, his attempts to obtain salvation by works or good deeds are futile.

Grace is Sweet beyond Measure: Since mankind is bound by the law of sin and therefore helpless to satisfy the righteous requirements of the Law, God, who is full of mercy and love, sent his own Son, Jesus Christ, to pay the penalty of sin for all who, by faith, believe upon Him.

God Gloriously Transforms Lives: God continues His redemptive work in the life of the believer by progressively transforming him or her into the image of Jesus Christ. The Christian is instructed by Scripture to pursue holiness in God, and should seek to do so, however, the ultimate hope of the believer in transformation and persevering in the faith rests in the hands of the eternal God who assures completion of the work He alone initiated.

Love is Key: All the Bible's teachings may ultimately be summed up in two phrases according to Jesus: love God, and love your neighbor. This is the highest call to all who believe on the name of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

God's Word is Life: The Bible is inerrant and inspired by the living God. It is a fountain of living water that flows from the very heart of God. It consumes the barren soil of self-reliance, and promotes a harvest rooted in the worship of God eternal. It is from these ever-flowing waters that the River of Life, found in the person of Jesus Christ, is revealed. Sufficient for the most parched of souls, Christ alone is the Truth that sets us free.

The Gospel of the Cross Alone Brings Peace: The Biblical message of sin, depravity, repentance, forgiveness and sanctification is built upon the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross and His glorious resurrection. Faith in Christ alone brings freedom from both the penalty and power of sin. Man is unable to find freedom or peace by himself or in himself. It is only in Christ that man can draw near to God, have his sins forgiven, receive the hope of eternal life and experience the protecting power of God in the midst of sin and the trials of life.

I affirm my agreement to the above proclamations as evidence by my signature below:

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



STATEMENT AND AGREEMENT TO UPHOLD ABC PHILOSOPHY

PLEASE CHECK THE BOXES BELOW IF YOU UNDERSTAND, AGREE, AND AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

I understand that the official position of the *Association of Biblical Counselors* on the ministry of counseling is that the Bible possesses supreme authority as it regards mankind, human nature and motivation, the purpose and process of change, and man's relationship to God. I recognize that secular attempts to answer the ultimate questions of psychology and counseling (i.e., Who is man? Why do people do what they do? How do people change? Why should a person change?) fall short in their answers since they do not acknowledge the reality of a personal God in whose presence mankind is always functioning and developing. I affirm the Bible's sufficiency in constructing a comprehensive model of biblical counseling. I affirm that the work of biblical counseling is an endeavor in which all believers should participate, and that it is a work to be shared by the entire body of Christ. I recognize that holding a certification from the Association of Biblical Counselors does not mean I have "cornered the market" in my church as it regards biblical counseling ministry, but bears the responsibility of equipping and training others so that the Church may be strengthened in its commission to "make disciples". In other words, I agree I will not hoard what I have learned, but will seek to work diligently to share my knowledge and skill by training others in how to fulfill their call to disciple others. _____ (initials)

I affirm that I am a member in good standing of a church that professes Jesus Christ and upholds the efficacy of the Gospel as the only means to redeeming mankind. I will work diligently to discern and expose heresy and will seek to honor the Word of God in all counsel I seek to offer. As a member in good standing, I agree to function in my ministry under the authority of my pastor and/or governing elders. _____ (initials)

I affirm that I have researched the laws of my state regarding legal standards and prohibitions of practicing counseling. I attest that I am or will be operating within the legal parameters of my state or providence as it pertains to my counseling ministry and context. If I do not hold a license, I affirm to ABC that I am or will be practicing in a setting and context allowable by the state in which I reside. I understand that certification in biblical counseling is not a license, and therefore does not exempt me from the existing licensing laws of my state. _____ (initials)



LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

In order to be considered for the certification process through the Association of Biblical Counselors, the following must be included in your application:

1. Pastoral Letter: A letter of recommendation from your pastor stating (1) that you are a member in good standing, (2) that you are actively involved in worship, (3) a general rationale as to why he believes you are a good candidate for certification and (4) the intent of your pastor/elder to guide and support you as you develop in your role as a biblical counselor. ***This letter must be on church letterhead with contact information of the pastor included.***
2. Spouse: If you are married, your spouse will write a letter of recommendation stating the nature of your relationship, and why he or she believes you are a good candidate for certification. Your spouse's contact information must be included in the letter.
3. Friend: If you are not married, you will need to have a close friend or acquaintance write a letter of recommendation stating the nature of your relationship, and why he or she believes you are a good candidate for certification. Your friend's contact information must be included in the letter.
4. Three additional references with contact information (i.e., name, relation, phone, and email) will also need to be included.

PROCTOR(S)

The certification process will require that you find one or two proctors that will assist in oversight during your training. It is required that one proctor consist of either (1) your pastor, (2) a ruling elder, (3) an ordained minister currently working in a church setting, (4) a ministry leader in a church, OR (5) another certified biblical counselor. There will be various assignments and exams that he or she will assist in administering.

For those taking the ETC course in the context of your church (in a classroom setting), then the individual who is teaching the course will serve as the proctor for the certification process.

PROCTOR/INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

CHURCH: _____ CHURCH PHONE: _____

CHURCH WEBSITE: _____



PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING THAT APPLY:

- I AM THE APPLICANTS PASTOR
- I AM A RULING ELDER
- I AM AN ACTIVE PASTOR, THOUGH NOT THE APPLICANTS PASTOR
- I AM A MINISTRY LEADER IN MY CHURCH (LIST YOUR POSITION: _____)
- I AM A CERTIFIED BIBLICAL COUNSELOR (LIST WHERE YOU WERE CERTIFIED: _____)

I authorize any references listed in this application to give the Association of Biblical Counselors any information (including opinions) that they may have regarding my character and fitness for certification. I hereby release an individual, reference or any other person or organization, including record custodians, both collectively and individually, from any and all liability for damages of whatever kind or nature which may at any time result to me, my heirs, or my family on account of compliance or any attempts to comply with this authorization.

I understand that these searches will be used to determine eligibility of certification through the Association of Biblical Counselors. Therefore, I authorize and consent for full release of records to the authorized agents and associates to the full extent permitted by law from any claims, damages, losses, liabilities, expenses or any other charges or complaints filed with any agency arising from retrieving and reporting this information.

I waive any right that I may have to inspect any information provided about me by any person or organization identified by me in this application.

I may invoke my right to inspect any information provided about me by any consumer reporting agency.

The information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand and agree that any misrepresentation by me on this application will be sufficient cause for cancellation of this application and/or separation from the ABC's service if I have been accepted into the certification process.



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I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THE FOREGOING AND KNOW THE CONTENT THEREOF AND I SIGN THIS AS MY OWN FREE ACT.

Applicant Signature

Date