

A TOPICAL STUDY OF THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

Lesson 12

**SECTION : YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS
TOPIC: YOU AND YOUR COUNSELING**

INTRODUCTION

For many of us, counseling is considered a skill that can only be practiced by trained professionals. In some cases, it is important to seek out the wisdom of a professional. However, members of God's family are also competent to give and receive wise counsel from one another. A definition of Biblical counseling is "*communicating with someone for the purpose of clarifying, instructing or changing areas in need of attention in his or her life.*" This week, we will look at Biblical references to counseling as well as how to apply them to *our* lives.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

This part of your homework highlights the scriptures found in Proverbs on this topic. Look up and comment on some or all of those listed below.

INSIGHTS TO COUNSELING

Proverbs 1:5 _____

Proverbs 1:25-33 _____

Proverbs 8:14 _____

Proverbs 11:14 _____

Proverbs 12:15, 20 _____

Proverbs 13:10 _____

Proverbs 15:22 _____

Proverbs 19:20, 21 _____

Proverbs 20:18 _____

Proverbs 21:30 _____

Proverbs 27:9 _____

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INGREDIENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE COUNSELOR

Confidentiality (11:13) -

Timing (15:22-23, 28) -

Listening (18:13,15) -

Discernment (18:17) -

Understanding (20:5) -

Honesty (24:24-26) -

Love (27:9) -

BENEFITS OF COUNSELING

Healing of Hurts (12:18, 25) -

Decision Making (15:22, 16:9, 19:21, 20:18) -

Imparts Wisdom (12:5, 13:10, 19:20) -

SCRIPTURE RESEARCH

Look up each of the following verses. How do they minister to you about the subject of counseling?

Deuteronomy 11:18-19 _____

Job 12:13 _____

Psalms 64:2 _____

Psalms 33:10-11 _____

Isaiah 9:6 _____

SCRIPTURE REACTION

Have you ever thought of yourself as a counselor? Has this study has helped you to develop a new concept of counseling? How?

What qualities do you look for in an effective counselor? Although we have looked at some, you will discover more by reading through chapter 15, 16,17, or 18 of Proverbs. As you read, write down the desirable qualities in a counselor along with the scripture references.

Verse	Quality

SCRIPTURAL ACTION

Look at the qualities of an effective counselor that you listed. How do you measure up in each of those areas? What are your strengths? Weaknesses? What actions can you take to be more effective?

Verse	Quality	Personal Assessment	Action Needed

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SCRIPTURE CHALLENGE

Look up the following examples of both good and bad counselors. What principles did you learn from these situations?

Examples of Wise Counsel

Jethro (Exodus 18:14-27) -

Mordecai (Esther 4:1-17) -

Daniel (Daniel 4:18-27) -

Pilate's Wife (Matthew 27:17-19) -

Gamaliel (Acts 5:34-39) -

Examples of Unwise Counsel

Rehoboam's Elders (I Kings 12:6-20; II Chronicles 10:-6-11) -

Job's Wife (Job 2:1-10) -

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

*"Ointment and perfume delight the heart,
And the sweetness of a man's friend does so by hearty counsel."
Proverbs 27:9*

