



Elizabeth Allan's Policy for Biblical Counseling

The biblical counselor, by definition, is committed to the Old and New Testaments as the only authoritative rule of faith and practice. Both the faith and conduct of the biblical counselor, as well as her counseling theory and practice, are formed by the standards of Scripture.

Therefore, I affirm:

- 1) that the Bible is the only inspired, infallible and authoritative Word of God;
- 2) that there is only one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- 3) the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His substitutionary and atoning death through His shed blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father and His personal return in power and glory;
- 4) that for the salvation of lost and sinful man, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential;
- 5) that a person becomes justified by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ;
- 6) the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life;
- 7) the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation;
- 8) the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ and His church.

Because of this, my policy to meet with someone who requests counsel is:

---I will meet with women from our church as requested and as I am able.

---Biblical counseling is different than lay counseling. Biblical counseling affirms transparency in relationships. I will not gossip, but I am under the authority of eldership. Therefore, I will report to the Elders so that they can provide guidance for me, as well as be in prayer for those that they give an account for. In certain situations, I may partner with them. As well, if there are safety concerns due to abuse or talk of suicide, I will also let proper authorities know.

--- Any person that I counsel will be asked to do homework—always out of the Bible and possibly a study approved by the Elders.

---If a person is unwilling to comply, then we will discontinue meeting.

---I am happy to meet a person who does not attend our church to hear their testimony. I delight in opening the Word to encourage and possibly introduce them to our Lord. However, if their understanding is not aligned with Scripture in regards to manhood, womanhood, and marriage, I will not be able to meet with them to counsel them.

---If I meet with someone outside of the church, I have the right to contact the leadership of their church to encourage their shepherding of this woman.

I have read & understood the terms of this policy:

Name

Date