
Gateway Biblical Counseling

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www.gatewaybiblicalcounseling.com



Client Information and Consent

Welcome to Gateway Biblical Counseling (GBC) and thank you for considering us for your counseling needs. This document contains important information about our services. If you have any questions or want to discuss the forms further, please consult your spiritual director.

Spiritual Direction

What it is –

Spiritual direction is biblical approach to counseling built upon the foundation that each of us was created to deeply relate with others. Spiritual direction is a collaborative process of looking at relationships that are not operating in this deeply relating manner. Through reflection on past and present events, the purpose of the spiritual director is to help expand the client's awareness of their own story, their heart, and ways their wounds have shaped them. This shaping plays out in our own thought patterns and the way we relate to others. It gives insight into the prisons we have created and leads us towards freedom.

What it is NOT–

Spiritual direction is **not** a regulated industry within the state of Texas. It will be solely the responsibility of the client to determine the effectiveness of the services rendered and competency of the spiritual director. Spiritual direction is a form of counseling but it is **not** psychotherapy; we do not assess, diagnose or treat mental disorders as identified by the American Psychiatric Association.

Appointments

Appointments are made by contacting your spiritual director. We ask that you provide us with a 24-hour notice in the event you need to cancel or reschedule an appointment. We will do our best to reschedule at a date and time that works for both the client and the spiritual director.

Insurance

Gateway Biblical Counseling operates as a private-pay entity. Insurance is not accepted.

Professional Fees and Payment of Services

The standard fee for the initial intake and each subsequent 60-minute session is \$130.00. We understand that not everyone may be able to accommodate this fee. Please talk to your spiritual director if you need a discounted rate. Gateway is a ministry and we work hard to accommodate every financial situation. We believe God is bringing people to Gateway to be cared for and we accommodate those financial constraints. However, we do require that you pay each week even if you need to cancel in order to reserve your spot and help us offset the lower fee.

Payment for services is due at the beginning of each week. Payments may be made by check, cash, or credit card. Payments made by credit card will be automatically withdrawn each Monday to reserve your appointment time unless otherwise arranged with your spiritual director. There will be a \$25 fee charged for any returned checks. If paying by cash or check, weekly appointment fees are due during the time of service regardless of cancellation unless otherwise arranged with your spiritual director. Please note that we reserve the right to adjust our fees at any time.

Confidentiality

Discussions between the spiritual director and client are confidential. No information will be released without the client's written consent unless mandated or permitted by law. Possible exceptions to confidentiality include but are not limited to the following situations:

- Child abuse and abuse of the elderly or disabled
- Court orders; criminal prosecutions; child custody cases.
- Situations when, in the spiritual director's judgement, it is necessary to warn, protect, notify, or disclose harm to oneself or harm to another.
- For consultations with other professionals at Gateway. Any consultation with is strictly for your case and no identifying information will ever be given during such a consult.
- At times, we may be able to offer meeting in a location other than our offices; coffee shop, restaurant, park. Confidentiality cannot be maintained in locations outside our primary offices.

After-Hours Emergencies

Please note that your spiritual director and Gateway Biblical Counseling **do not** provide twenty-four (24) hour crisis or emergency counseling services. Should you experience an

emergency necessitating immediate mental health attention, immediately call 911 or if you are able to safely transport yourself, go to the nearest hospital emergency room for assistance.

Contacting Your Spiritual Director

Each spiritual director has their preferred method of contact outside of weekly sessions. Please speak with your director to understand their personal preferences.

Consent to Spiritual Direction Counseling

By signing this Client Information and Consent form, I acknowledge that I have read, understood and agree to the terms, conditions, and information it contains.

Signature of Client

Date