



Christ Community Church

Discipleship & Counseling Ministries

1259 Route 12A, P.O. Box 276, Plainfield, NH 03781

(603) 675-5673

If you are interested in obtaining biblical counsel and discipleship from Christ Community Church (CCC) we request that you read and acknowledge that you understand the following.

Those who do formal discipleship and counseling at CCC do so based entirely on their personal knowledge of the Bible and its application to every day living. They are not trained or licensed by any government approved agency or institution. CCC is a church, and our mission involves making disciples of Jesus Christ by helping them understand God's Word and live it out in practical ways with the goal of being a faithful worshipper of God (John 4:23-24).

(1) Availability – The pastor(s) and other discipleship counselors at CCC may have limited time to meet with those requesting discipleship or counseling. In the case of a time conflict, or other time constraints, members of CCC would be prioritized over non-members (Galatians 6:10).

(2) Approach – The discipleship counseling received at CCC is based on biblical principles rather than those of secular psychology or psychiatry. We confidently believe the truth of the Bible, applied to the heart by the Holy Spirit, is sufficient for all matters of life and godliness for those who truly know Christ as Savior (2 Peter 1:3). God's Word is living and active, can expose our hearts (Hebrews 4:12), and is able to equip us for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17). There are no personal or interpersonal problems that the Bible fails to address either through general or specific principles. Our counseling involves giving loving biblical instruction and making practical application of the truth to each person, with the goal of becoming more like Jesus Christ.

Because of these truths the Bible is our only authority, and all counseling will be done in accordance with the counselor's understanding of the Scriptures. The Bible is the only infallible Word from God to help us understand our own hearts, our world, life's many problems, and how He desires us to live. Our counselors do not pretend to know all there is to know about the Bible and its application to life. However, your discipleship counselor will do all he or she can to learn the particular truths and principles needed to help you. When necessary they will seek help, input or advice from mentors or colleagues.

If you are not sure you are interested in biblically based counseling, you have the option of attending one or two sessions to discover what biblical counseling is like.

Please note that we do not give medical or legal advice.

(3) Commitments – Learning the Bible and living out its principles will take a certain level of commitment. Progress and growth can only take place if you make and fulfill this commitment to grow and change.

If you are attending a church other than CCC, we encourage you to invite the pastor or one of those in leadership at your local church to accompany you during the counseling sessions. We recognize and respect the responsibility of your pastor for shepherding the flock, as well as the authority and discipline of your local church. Your pastor(s) have a God-given responsibility for the care of your soul (Hebrews 13:17) and should be involved in the process. You should seek counsel from them first, and we will require that they at least be informed that you are receiving counseling here.

If you are not attending a church, we will expect you to attend CCC on a regular basis as long as counseling continues.

If you are unable or unwilling to make or keep these commitments, counseling will need to be postponed until you are able or willing. This decision will be made by the discipleship counselor.

(4) Confidentiality – Information disclosed in counseling sessions will be held confidential to the extent that the counselor believes the Bible or the state requires. Complete and absolute confidentiality in all cases is not scriptural. The laws of the state may require that facts related to certain crimes be disclosed. As well, cases of unrepentant sin may require the disclosure of certain facts to others (Matthew 18:15-20). If your church leadership should inquire, we will disclose to them only the information that we believe is necessary for them to effectively and biblically fulfill their responsibility to shepherd you. If you have questions about this necessary policy please ask us.

(5) Fees – The discipleship counseling is done free of charge as a ministry of CCC. However, part of the weekly homework assignments will usually require the purchase of materials that correspond to the counseling. Those materials are yours to keep. If, out of gratitude, one wishes to express his thanks in a tangible way, donations should be made to Christ Community Church.

(6) Mediation – On rare occasions a conflict may develop between a discipleship counselor and a counselee. In order to make sure conflicts are resolved in a biblically faithful manner, both parties must agree to resolve the dispute outside the secular court system. Conciliation will be sought under submission to, and at the direction of, the elders of Christ Community Church.

(7) Trainees – Because we offer both counseling and counselor training at CCC, your counselor may have one or two others either assisting or observing during the counseling session. They will maintain the same degree of respect and confidentiality outlined above. If you have any questions about this policy, please ask your counselor when they contact you.

(8) Conclusion – We welcome the opportunity to minister to you in the name of Jesus Christ and to be used by Him as He helps you grow in spiritual maturity through His Word and prepares you for greater usefulness in His kingdom.

If you have any questions that are not answered here, please do not hesitate to call us at the number given above.

If you are interested in receiving biblical discipleship and counsel, please sign below to indicate your agreement to abide by the above guidelines and return it to the church. Please be sure to also fill out the "Background Information" form and an "Initial Questions" form in order to expedite the counseling process. If you do not have these two forms, please call the church at the above number and we will send, fax or email them to you as soon as possible. You may also find these forms on our website at <http://www.redbarnchurch.org>.

When we have received these three forms, a counselor will call to schedule your first meeting.

I have read the conditions above and agree to receive discipleship counseling through CCC in accordance with them:

Signed _____

Date _____