

The Counselor's Preparation

1. Make sure there is no un-confessed sin in your life. (Sin Chart).
2. Confess any know sin and by faith receive the cleansing that is promised.
3. Run your eye down the left-hand column of chart. If you are clean in heart, you are now eligible to claim the fullness of the Spirit by faith.
4. Ask the Lord to fill you with that Spirit of truth as you listen to the person's story you are about to hear.
5. Your plan is to listen to the counselee's story until a violation of a biblical principle is revealed.
6. Continue to listen until the counselee's story confirms your judgment and they agree.
7. Let the counselee look at a biblical mirror (Sin Chart)
8. Ask questions that require biblical answers.
9. You must judge when the counselee is ready to face sin in their life. If the counselee accepts the truth it becomes their truth. Client is stalled until they can admit truth.
10. If people repent, they should be encouraged to approach God on their own when needed.
11. Get the counselee started in *The Heart of the Problem* workbook.
12. Follow up. Make a date for the next appointment.
13. Remember, there were three involved in that interview: the counselee, the Holy Spirit, and you. Reflect for a moment and recall how God led you.

***Daily walking in a love relationship with Jesus Christ is essential preparation for biblical discipleship.**

Table 4: Spirit-Controlled Living vs. Sin Controlled Living

Spirit-Filled Mind		Sins of the Mind	
forgiveness hope appreciation willingness impartiality self-control mercy	humility thankfulness confidence wisdom faithfulness gratitude	unforgiveness evil thoughts covetousness greed lust arrogance senselessness spitefulness	pride ingratitude selfish ambition deceitfulness heartless faithless conceited
Spirit-Filled Emotions		Sinful Emotions	
love peace gentle spirit gladness joy	long-suffering kindly spirit patience compassion	hatred rebelliousness bitterness envy bad temper	anger unloving attitude jealousy malice rage
Spirit-Filled Mouth		Sins of the Mouth	
truthfulness thankfulness gentle answer encouragement tact	praise timeliness soothing tongue pleasant words	lying complaining yelling provoking strife boasting gossiping	slandering disputing backbiting argumentative blaspheming insulting
Spirit-Filled Behavior		Sins of Behavior	
kindness righteousness obedience goodness courage endurance considerate	gentleness cooperation sincerity servant spirited submissive impartiality	fornication adultery drunkenness murder rioting rude/disrespectful showing no pity dissension builder	brutality no self-control stealing violence disobedience to parents brawling favoritism