



Our Uniqueness: We train and prepare Christians to begin a ministry career in biblical counseling!

About Us

Think LifeChange Institute for Biblical Counseling is founded upon the works of two men, Dr. Henry Brandt and Dr. Kerry L. Skinner. God has and is using the message He developed in their lives to help people deal with the issues of life.

Basic Premises

1. If sin is the problem, there is no human remedy for sin.
2. Confession of sin is common, but repentance is rare.
3. Repentance is the most positive word in the Bible.
4. Repentance is God's cure for our sin problem.

The Purpose

After leading hundreds of conferences and hearing the call from people to provide a place for biblical counselor training and a way to practice counseling through local churches, a system has been developed to:

1. Enable a candidate to learn the message and process of biblical counseling.
2. Prepare people who can help the pastor multiply his ministry through counseling.
3. Help the church understand that if sin is the problem, God's people should be the best equipped to provide help.
4. Provides a licensing program for Christian counselors that allows the candidate to provide a ministry career in biblical counseling through the church.

Christian Certification

As Dr. Skinner traveled and led conferences for many years, individuals would inquire of him where they might receive training and certification for the message that he was sharing. At the time he knew no place to send them.

Many believers, from members of a church to trained pastors and counselors seek a way in which to counsel using the Scripture without the agent of the state limiting what they could share in the consulting room. In most states, licensure limits one to the regulatory laws that govern counseling with the practice of psychology.

Think LifeChange Institute does not provide a state license nor does it provide training to lead one toward state licensure. Though laws vary from state to state, most states have a distinction between general counseling (psychology based) and pastoral counseling. *Think LifeChange Institute* provides the training, and then the local church must recognize that training by commissioning you into what

we call the pastoral counseling category or a ministry career as a LifeChange Certified Biblical Counselor.

A commissioning service by a church is simply the presenting of a Commissioning Certificate (which we can provide) that is signed by the pastor recognizing you as a person who has completed the *Think LifeChange Institute* training and presents you to the church as a Certified Biblical Counselor.

Your certification through the *Think LifeChange Institute* would be identified as: **LifeChange Certified Biblical Counselor**.

Requirements:

1. Complete Application. Fees for entire training program: \$4000 (50% due with application, 50% due at the beginning of the practicum)
 - What is included in the pricing?
 - 1 week residency training
 - 6 textbooks
 - 6 online training courses
 - 10 *Heart of the Problem* workbooks for use in the practicum.
2. Attend a one week residency with Dr. Skinner to begin the program.
3. Complete the 6 online training courses within 6 months after the residency.
4. Complete the 10 person practicum training within 8 months after the online training.

Think LifeChange



Dr. Henry Brandt-Pioneer in Biblical Counseling

For over five decades, Dr. Henry Brandt—international consultant, educator, counselor, author, and conference speaker—impacted the lives of countless people. With a focus on individual development as well as marriage and family living, the legacy of his ministry has been written in the hearts and lives of generations of men, women, and children around the world.

Henry received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology and Sociology from Houghton College in 1947, his Master of Arts Degree in Clinical Psychology from Wayne State University in 1949, and his PhD in Marriage and Family Relations from Cornell University in 1952.

After completing his doctorate at Cornell, Henry accepted what he thought would be his life's vocation—serving as Dean of Men at his alma mater, Houghton College. After two years, he realized that God had other plans. Subsequently, Henry was invited to take a one-year sabbatical replacement position teaching Speech at North American Baptist Seminary. The experience taught him far more than he had anticipated: it set the course of his career in public speaking.

Throughout Henry's career, he taught in a number of institutes, colleges and seminaries, including The General Motors Institute, Houghton College, North American Baptist Seminary, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Christian Heritage College, and Palm Beach Atlantic University. He was instrumental in founding departments of psychology for both Christian Heritage College and Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Henry rightly has been honored with the title: "The Father of Modern-Day Biblical Counseling." For decades he has counseled individuals to evaluate their heart attitudes and behavior in the light of biblical teaching and to guide them to a godly solution.

In 2003, the American Association of Christian Counselors presented Henry with their "Care Giver Award" for his lifetime achievements in counseling. With a focus on individual development as well as marriage and family living, the legacy of his ministry has been written in the hearts and lives of generations of men, women, and children around the world.

Over the decades, Henry's wisdom and skill as a communicator has also authored numerous books with a focus on individual development and marriage and family living. His work, which has been translated into many languages, has circulated the globe.



Dr. Kerry L. Skinner, Author, Speaker, Counselor

Kerry L. Skinner, D.Min. has served in pastoral roles for more than 40 years with an emphasis in Christian discipleship and pastoral counseling. Through his writing and teaching, Dr. Skinner is recognized internationally as an advocate of biblical sufficiency.

He has traveled extensively through North America teaching conferences for pastors, counselors, and lay leaders on topics such as revival, repentance, holiness, and biblical counseling.

Kerry received his B.A. from Campbellsville University, his M.A. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and his D.Min. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Dr. Skinner's key mentor was Dr. Henry Brandt, Pioneer of Biblical Counseling. They met one another in West Palm Beach when Kerry was the Associate Pastor of First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, where Dr. Brandt was a member. When they became acquainted, they realized their hearts, minds, and messages had been knit together for the purpose of expanded the wonderful message that, "If sin is your problem, there is no human remedy, but praise God, Jesus is a cure!"

Over the next 17 years, Kerry and Henry spent countless hours together leading conferences, writing books, and developing a system to train churches in how to develop biblical counseling ministries.

Dr. Skinner also served as associate to Dr. Henry Blackaby in the office of Prayer, Revival, and Spiritual Awakening for the North American Mission Board. He also has served a number of churches as Education Pastor, Teaching Pastor, and Senior Pastor.

His most recent books are, *The Joy of Repentance* and *The Christian Life: A Human Impossibility*. He has written numerous books with Dr. Henry Brandt, including, *The Heart of the Problem*, *The Word for the Wise*, *Breaking Free from the Bondage of Sin*, *I Want to Enjoy My Children*, and *Marriage God's Way*.

Complete list of books authored or co-authored:

Authored–*The Christian Life: A Human Impossibility*, (KLS LifeChange Ministries, 2012)

Authored–*The Joy of Repentance* (workbook), (KLS LifeChange Ministries, 2011)

Authored–*The Joy of Repentance*, (KLS LifeChange Ministries, 2007)

Co-authored–*Chosen to be God's Prophet* with Henry Blackaby, (Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2003)

Co-authored–*Called & Accountable* with Henry Blackaby, (New Hope Publishers, 2002)

Co-authored–*I Want to Enjoy My Children* with Henry Brandt. (Multnomah Publishers, 2002)

Co-authored–*Created to be God's Friend* (workbook edition), with Henry Blackaby, (Thomas Nelson, 2000)

Co-authored–*Marriage God's Way*, with Henry Brandt, (Broadman/Holman, 1999) which was selected as a finalist in the 2000 gold Medallion Awards Competition, sponsored by the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association

Co-authored–*The Power of the Call*, with Henry T. Blackaby and Henry Brandt, (Broadman/Holman, 1997)

Co-authored–*The Heart of the Problem* (book and workbook), with Henry Brandt, (Broadman/Holman, 1995), Also available in Spanish.

Co-authored–*The Word for the Wise* with Henry Brandt, Broadman/Holman, 1995)

Co-authored–*Breaking Free from the Bondage of Sin* with Henry Brandt, (Harvest House Publishers, 1994)

Benefits of Think LifeChange Institute for Biblical Counseling

1. Provides a network to other like-minded biblical counselors.
2. Provides biblical training to have the right message and methods of biblical counseling.
3. Provides credentials that gives comfort to a pastor/church in having you serve as a pastoral/ biblical counselor in the church.
4. Provides course training in professionalism, ethics, and legal requirements.
5. Guides the counselor in seeking professional liability insurance and credentials.

The basic requirement for a biblical counselor is character, not academic training. Paul taught Timothy to be "a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15).

Four character qualities identify a biblical counselor:

1. The Lord's servant does not quarrel.
2. The Lord's servant is gentle to everyone.
3. The Lord's servant is able to teach.
4. The Lord's servant gently instructs opponents.

Distinctives of *Think LifeChange* Institute Teachings

1. Focuses on helping people use the Scriptures to see the condition of their heart. Jesus said, "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man" (Mark 7:20).
2. Reveals that if sin is the problem, there is no human remedy.
3. Teaches that while sin is negative, repentance is the most positive word in the Bible and is the process used for eliminating the sin problem.
4. Guides the counselee into receiving a cure instead of simply getting relief.
5. *Think LifeChange Institute* teaches the biblical counselor to compare the counselee's situation with a fixed standard, the Bible.
6. *Think LifeChange Institute* trains the biblical counselor to guide the counselee to understand how to use the Scriptures to compare the areas in which their experience agrees or differs with the standard of life that God sets forth in Scripture. Bringing the counselee to this point is the distinctive of biblical counseling.
7. *Think LifeChange Institute* provides the biblical counselor with a way to help the counselee determine if they are living by the Spirit or by the desires of the sinful nature.

Copyright

Think LifeChange Institute materials are proprietary and protected by copyright. The purpose of the *Think LifeChange Institute* certification program is to guard the copyrighted material from unlawful infringement.

The *Think LifeChange Institute* certification program is not to be identified nor confused with state licensing in any way. It is intended for a person who wants to practice biblical counseling in and through a local church body, guided by pastoral counseling guidelines, not state guided psychological based counseling.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

God

There is one and only one living and true God. ...The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being. Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ, He was conceived of the

Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. ...He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross, He made provision for the redemption of men from sin.

Man

Man is the special creation of God, in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. ...By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. ... The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore every person of every race possesses dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

Salvation

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification.

Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. ...Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly...the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell. ...The righteous... will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

Stewardship

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions.

The Christian & the Social Order

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society... in the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death...