CARE & DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCE



HANDBOOK



Discipleship Care

OBSERVATION HANDBOOK

volume 1.1

I'm thankful for the counselors and "counselees" whose love of Christ and His people led them to give freely of themselves and their time for this project. I'd also like to give special thanks to Anthony, Christina, Craig and Pat who have made this project possible, and to Marsha and Betsy who keep things running smoothly behind the scenes. We pray that these videos will enable you to get a glimpse of the power of the Word of God to change lives.

> Jim Newheiser January 2014

OBSERVATION



Welcome to the IBCD Observation Course. Through this material you will have an opportunity to see the philosophy and methodology of "one another" biblical counseling as it is applied to the complexities of caring for each other through life's struggles. The four counseling cases you will observe have been chosen to give you a glimpse of foundational issues involved in this process. From the sincere Christian struggling with every day issues of trial and sanctification to more complicated situations, these scenarios will encourage you with the sufficiency of Scripture to help God's people in the local church.

How to Use this Observation Handbook

This Handbook will serve as a tool to help you make the most out of your video observation experience. It is divided into four sections, one for each case You will follow the progression of each case over the course of three sessions. We have provided information, note taking guides and questions to help you interact meaningfully with the material presented in each video.

Before Viewing

Each of the four cases begins with a brief synopsis and a form of helpful background information similar to the one used in our counseling center. We encourage you to review this before beginning a new case and to refer back to it as the case develops.

While Viewing

Each session includes a note taking organizer to assist you. You can use it to track the flow of the case including major topics covered, key passages of Scripture used, the counselee's response, etc. and to record specific homework given and questions about what you have seen. If you are viewing these videos as part of a group we encourage you to discuss these questions with one another.

After Viewing

At the close of each session we have included some questions to help you think through and evaluate what you have just watched. If you are pursuing ACBC certification, you will find that many of these questions come from the write-up you will submit for each of your 50 hours of supervised counseling. We have chosen to incorporate these questions for their value in helping to shape your thinking about the counseling session as well as to prepare you for that step in the process. The purpose of these questions is to help you engage with the material, not to get a "right answer." However, we have included a section with possible answers to the questions to help you understand what we were trying to convey in the videos.

LEVEL 3 REQUIREMENTS

This final level is aimed at the integration and development of all that has been covered in Levels 1 and 2 of the IBCD Care & Discipleship curriculum. Level 3 of the certification process involves four steps. 1) Read *The Peacemaker* by Ken Sande and *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands* by Paul Tripp and submit a Reading Response Paper for each text. 2) View the 12 sessions from the Observation Videos and write an Observation Reflection paper. 3) Request an interview with a church leader who deals with pastoral care and complete the CDC interview form. 4) Complete and submit the application form to the IBCD office.

Care Discipleship

The IBCD Care & Discipleship Certification (CDC) is designed to help churches develop one another care in the life of their own local congregations. All the material can be studied individually or as part of a group. Each level can be audited for free, or you may choose to complete the required paperwork and payment to receive certification from IBCD for each level.

Level

The first level of the certification process involves five steps. 1) Complete Section 1 of the Care & Discipleship Course. 2) Take the 10 question, open note, open Bible exam for Level 1. 3) Listen to any 3 electives from IBCD's messages on specific counseling issues. Any messages on the website, other than those in the Care & Discipleship Course, count as electives. 4) Request an interview with a church leader who deals with pastoral care and complete the CDC interview form. 5) Complete and submit the application form to the IBCD Office.

Level 2

The second level of the certification process involves five steps. 1) Complete Section 2 of the Care & Discipleship Course. 2) Take the 10 question, open note, open Bible exam for Level 2. 3) Listen to any 3 electives from IBCD's messages on specific counseling issues. Any messages on the website, other than those in the Care & Discipleship Course, count as electives. 4) Request an interview with a church leader who deals with pastoral care and complete the CDC interview form. 5) Complete and submit the application form to the IBCD Office.

Level 3

This final level is aimed at the integration and development of all that has been covered in Levels 1 and 2. Level 3 of the certification process involves four steps. 1) Read *The Peacemaker* by Ken Sande and *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands* by Paul Tripp and submit a Reading Response Paper for each text. 2) View the 12 sessions from the Observation Videos and write an Observation Reflection paper. 3) Request an interview with a church leader who deals with pastoral care and complete the CDC interview form. 4) Complete and submit the application form to the IBCD office.

To learn more visit: www.ibcd.org/cdc



We believe that certification from the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC) is a very helpful process for individuals pursuing biblical counseling training, and it is incredibly beneficial to the local church.

All of the training in IBCD Care & Discipleship Levels 1-3 has been designed to assist people in pursuing ACBC Certification. We have found that many people who are first being introduced to biblical counseling are not immediately ready to pursue the rigors of the ACBC process. The CDC program breaks the ACBC process into smaller steps with certifications along the way to indicate overall progress. One who has completed CDC Levels 1-3 will find himself very prepared to continue the final steps required to receive ACBC Certification if desired.

Those seeking ACBC Certification from the start do not need to take the CDC Course to become certified. IBCD's CDC material, however, can be used to meet ACBC's requirements. Here is a description of how the CDC Course can be used toward ACBC Certification:

Phase 1.1 of ACBC Certification is to complete a Basic Training Course. The IBCD CDC Level 1 and Level 2 material is an approved Basic Training Course. Watching all of Levels 1 and 2 on DVD or listening to it on mp3 meets this Phase 1.1 requirement. You do not have to do the CDC assignments for ACBC, nor do you have to communicate with IBCD that you are using our course. Your completion of the material is indicated when you fill out the ACBC application, and it can be done as follows:

Basic Training Course Name of Certified Agency: IBCD Completion Date: date finished listening to/watching the material City, State: your city and state Instructors and Courses: Jim Newheiser and Laura Hendrickson, IBCD Care & Discipleship Course

Phase 1.2 of ACBC Certification is to complete a minimum of 10 hours of counseling observation of an ACBC certified counselor. This is also a requirement of CDC Level 3. Watching the IBCD Observation Videos satisfies this requirement.

Phase 1.3 of ACBC Certification is a reading requirement of 1,000 pages from the Approved Reading List. CDC Level 3 requires you to complete a total of 500 pages of reading from two books on the ACBC Approved Reading List, *The Peacemaker* by Ken Sande, and *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands* by Paul Tripp.

The remaining ACBC requirements to be fulfilled by the individual are: Phase 1.3 - finish the remaining 500 pages of reading Phase 2 - Exams and Application Phase 3 - Supervised Counseling

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CASE 1 - "JESSE"

For your first observation case you will follow three sessions with a man name Jesse who has come to seek counseling from the pastor of his church. Jesse, like many counselees, has been a believer for some time and is a regular attender of a church where he and his wife are both members. No major crisis of faith or circumstance has driven Jesse to seek counseling. Rather, his represents the common case of the struggle for sanctification through the trials of life. Everyday pressures and conflicts of work, finances, marriage and family have left him wondering if he can take it much longer. He senses he lacks the joy and peace that he knows are said to accompany the Christian life. Is this all there is? How can he persevere when there is no perceivable end in sight? Is he missing something? It is our hope that these sessions will illustrate for you how the gospel is the best hope for the "Jesses" in this world.



PERSONAL DATA INVENTORY (Confidential*)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Name: Jesse Smith	Sex: M	Age: 35		
Place of employment: First	Choice Financial Pla	anning		
Marital Status: Single Wid	Married X Goin owed Divorced	<u> </u>	eparated	
Education (last year compl	eted): College I	Degrees or cert	tificates: B.S. in Bu	siness
HEALTH INFORMATION:				
Rate your health (check): '	Very good Goo	d X Average	e Declining	Poor
Weight changes recently:	Lost Gained	(number of p	oounds) N/A	
List all important present of	or past illnesses or ir	njuries or handi	icaps: N/A	
Date of last medical exami	nation: April 2012			
Report: High Blood Pressu	ıre			
Physician's name and addr	ess: Dr. Brisee 55	W. Main St. Es	condido, CA	
Are you presently taking m	nedication? Yes	No X If yes	s, list	
Have you ever been arrest incidents in your past have				y serious
When?				
State circumstances:				

If the counselor believes that it would be helpful to see your social, psychiatric or medical reports, would you be willing to sign a release of information form? Yes X No

* All information provided on this form will be kept confidential in the same manner as that disclosed during counseling sessions. Please see our Confidentiality Policy.

RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND:

Membership: Members of Grace Bible Church Church attendance per month: 4 times Church attended in childhood: none Religious background of spouse (if married): Christian Do you believe in God? Yes X No Uncertain Do you pray to God? Never Occasionally Often X Are you saved? Yes X No Not sure what you mean Have you been baptized? Yes X No At what age? 20 How frequently do you read the Bible? Never Occasionally X Often Do you have regular family devotions? Yes No X

Explain any recent changes in your religious life: Nothing has really changed but I just feel dry and empty when I try to read and pray, like I'm not getting through.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY INFORMATION:

Name of spouse: Sarah	Spouse's age: 30
Occupation: Homemaker	Education: B.A. in Comparative Literature Religion: Christian
Is your spouse willing to cor	me for counseling? Yes X No Uncertain
Have you ever been separat	red? Yes No X When?
Has either of you ever filed	for divorce? Yes No X When?
Date of marriage: July 6, 20	03
Your ages when married: Hu	usband 27 Wife 22
How long did you know you	ar spouse before marriage? 2 years
Length of dating with spous	e: 1 year Length of engagement: 8 months

Give brief information	on abou	ut any	previous m	arriages: N/A	
Information about c	hildren	:			
Name	Age	Sex	Living?	Education	Marital Status
Jonathon Paul	2	М	yes		
If you were reared b	y anyoi	ne oth	er than you	r parents, briefly o	explain:
How many older bro	others	1 si:	sters c	lo you have?	
How many younger	brothe	rs	sisters 1	do you have?	
Have there been an	y death	is in th	e family du	ring the last year?	Yes No X
Who and when:					
PERSONALITY INFO	JRMAT	ION:			
Have you ever used	drugs	for oth	er than me	dical purposes?	Yes X No
What: marijuana			When: b	efore I got saved	in high school and college
Have you ever had a	a severe	e emot	ional upset	? Yes No X	
Explain:					
Have you ever had a	any psy	chothe	erapy or co	unseling before?	Yes No X
If yes, list dates:					
What was the outco	me?				
Which of the follow active ambitious se impulsive moody c shy good-natured submissive self-con	elf-confi often-bl introve	ident ue exc rt extr	persistent citable ima overt likab	nervous hardwor ginative calm se le leader quiet	rious easy-going
Have you ever had l	nallucin	ations	? Yes	No X	
How many hours of	sleep c	do you	average ea	ch night? 7	



COUNSELEE Jesse	e Session	# <u>1</u> COU	NSELOR Jin	n Newheiser
	Flov	w of the Case		

Homework Given

Questions You Have



1. As the counselor is data gathering, what significant background information do you learn about the counselee?

2. Give a brief summary of the counselee's reasons for coming in for counseling.

3. What main problems were discussed in the course of this session?

4. What unbiblical habits of thinking and/or behaving do you observe in the counselee?

5. How was the gospel brought out in relation to the counselee's problem?

6. How was hope or encouragement given in this session?

7. What biblical solutions were presented to the main problems discussed?



Counselee	Jesse	Session # _ 2_	COUNSELOR	Jim Newheiser

Flow of the Case

Homework Given

Questions You Have





1. What changes were made by the counselee since last session (as a result of applying last session's counsel and performing last session's homework)?

2. What main problems were discussed in the course of this session?

3. How was the gospel brought out in relation to the counselee's problem?

4. How was hope or encouragement given in this session?

5. What biblical solutions were presented to the main problems discussed?



Counselee	Jesse	SESSION # <u>3</u>	COUNSELOR	Jim Newheiser

Flow of the Case

Homework Given

Questions You Have





1. What main problems were discussed in the course of this session?

2. How was the gospel brought out in relation to the counselee's problem?

3. How was hope or encouragement given in this session?

4. What biblical solutions were presented to the main problems discussed?

5. If you were meeting with this counselee, what goals might you have for future sessions?

ANSWER SHEETS - CASE 1



1. As the counselor is data gathering, what significant background information do you learn about the counselee?

Jesse and his wife have been attending Jim's church for four years. They have a child, probably a young child, but we don't hear how old. They are regular attenders, but don't know Jim well.
Jesse works in the financial industry doing financial planning, annuities, etc. He has school loans, car payments and a mortgage that they feel like they can just barely meet. His wife worries about the financial situation.

• Jesse first heard and believed the gospel in college when he randomly decided to attend a Campus Crusade rally. He explains his understanding of the gospel as surrendering his life to Christ, dying to himself and in doing so, gaining everything that Christ was and is for him and on his behalf.

• Jesse tries to spend time in the Word on his own. He estimates two or three times a week he will read a Psalm and try to read something else from the Bible.

2. Give a brief summary of the counselee's reasons for coming in for counseling.

• Jesse feels like so many different pressures have built up in his life at work, at home and with other relationships that he is at a loss for how to begin to address them. He feels like the pressure is building so much that he may be approaching a breaking point.

3. What main problems were discussed in the course of this session?

• He identifies that work is his biggest stressor because he is working as hard as he can but is not experiencing the success that he thinks should result from that. He feels like there is no end in sight and no reason for him to think that things are going to change.

• It comes out later on that Jesse's wife is the one that wanted him to come for counseling and that he feels demeaned by that and ashamed that he couldn't figure things out on his own.

• He is frustrated by his wife's worrying comments about their financial situation because he feels like she doesn't think he's doing enough. He says that it has been years since his wife has been happy or they have had fun. They argue quite a bit and nothing seems to be changing, though he is working hard and doing the best he can. They only come together sexually about twice a month and he says it seems like his wife views it as a chore.

4. What unbiblical habits of thinking and/or behaving do you observe in the counselee?

• As Jesse talks you begin to see that what he really wants at home and at work is success and appreciation. When he doesn't get it, he gets frustrated. This shows misplaced priorities in that he is seeking the approval of man rather than the approval of God.

• Jesse is greatly concerned about having his trials taken away so that life will be easier. He doesn't want to be in the heat any longer. He needs to learn to rejoice in trial and love the fact that the Lord is working in him a desire for Christlikeness more than for his own comfort.

5. How was the gospel brought out in relation to the counselee's problem?

As this was the first session, Jim spent some time probing for the counselee's own understanding of the gospel and explaining the importance of remembering the gospel as we work through problems.
Jim explains how the gospel itself, knowing that though you were a sinner God sent his Son to rescue you, helps to put problems into perspective. This God who had that purpose in saving us also has a purpose in keeping us until the end. He references Romans 8:32 that if God gave His own Son for us we can also trust that He will give us all things, whatever we need.

• Just as when Jesse believed he admitted that he was spiritually bankrupt and in need of a Savior, so in trial, he can admit that he lacks wisdom and strength and can ask the Lord for it.

6. How was hope or encouragement given in this session?

• Right at the outset Jim affirms that he knows that the Word of God has answers for all life's struggles.

• Jim points out that though Jesse feels frustrated in his ability to provide for his family, it is evidence of the good work of the Lord that he even has a desire to do so.

• He encourages Jesse for making the effort to even come to counseling. He tells him that he doesn't think less of him for seeking help, but rather thinks more of him because he believes Jesse is there because he wants to learn how to be a better husband and father.

• Jim encourages Jesse for his efforts to spend time in the Word and for turning to God in prayer in his problems.

7. What biblical solutions were presented to the main problems discussed?

• Jas 1. Jim points out that becoming a Christian does not make our trials go away, but rather as James says, God has a purpose in our trials and He uses them to perfect us and build endurance in us. God is more interested in making Jesse like Christ and working endurance in him than in making his trials stop. Jesse needs to learn to want to love Christlikeness more than his own comfort. According to this passage he also needs to pray for wisdom to handle these trials in a Christlike way that he might be strong in the Lord and endure no matter what comes into his life.

1 Cor 13:7. Jim reminds Jesse that he ought to assume the best of his wife's motives for wanting him to come in to counseling because love hopes and believes all things. He also explains the benefit for coming into counseling and receiving encouragement from the Word of God "as iron sharpens iron."
Jer 17:5-8. Jesse is being tempted to think that if his circumstances would change (better situation at work, more appreciation from his wife) then things would get better. The root of this is putting his hope in people to find security and happiness. According to this passage Jesse will dry up like a bush in the desert if he continues to put his hope there. On the other hand, if Jesse's hope is in the Lord, regardless of circumstances he can be fulfilled, like a bush planted by a stream. The more we make God the most important thing and our earthly pleasures less important, the more we will look like the bush planted by the stream.

• 1 Cor 10:13. These trials and pressures that Jesse is facing are common for humanity, but God promises not to allow His children to be tempted beyond what they are able. Though he may feel like he is getting to a "breaking point" he can remind himself that God is faithful and has promised never to cause that to happen but to always make a way of escape.



1. What changes were made by the counselee since last session (as a result of applying last session's counsel and performing last session's homework)?

• Jesse did do his homework and memorized and meditated on 1 Cor 10:13. He shared that what stood out to him was the way of escape God would provide: that he might be able to bear up under it, not necessarily to get out of it. This shows some growth in his understanding of how God works in and through trial, whereas last week his primary focus seemed to be on getting out of the trial or having it come to an end.

2. What main problems were discussed in the course of this session?

Jesse had a client this week who wanted to pull out investments and set up a trust. From his point of view, his co-worker commandeered his client and took the case over. This made him very angry.
Jesse thought the things that Jim was saying about anger sounded good and right, but wanted to know how to actually flesh them out in the moment when something tempts him to anger.

3. How was the gospel brought out in relation to the counselee's problem?

• Jesse was wanting to know more about what it means to "abide" in Christ. Jim went to Romans 6 and discussed how the foundation and motivation for all obedience is the gospel. It is important for Jesse to understand that it is not just learning the right things to do to be a better husband, etc., but it is first understanding how much Christ has done for him. He is a new creation who is now united with Christ and capable of living a life pleasing to Him.

• According to the gospel, God has every reason to be angry with Jesse for his sin, yet he does not treat him as his sins deserve. Ephesians 4:31-32 tells him to get rid of his anger and be kind and compassionate, because in Christ, God has done this toward him. This is what will enable, empower and motivate him to forgive. If Jesse will really meditate on his own sin and the great mercy that God has shown to him in Christ he will find that he can't stay angry at the sins others commit against him. The parable of the unmerciful servant in Matthew 18:23-25 further illustrates this concept. 4. How was hope or encouragement given in this session?

• Jim commended Jesse for doing his homework and memorizing the verse, and he affirmed the things Jesse was learning through the homework.

• Jim reminded Jesse of his testimony that he gave last week and shared how he was encouraged to hear him talk about the mercy that God had shown to him.

5. What biblical solutions were presented to the main problems discussed?

• Rom 6:11. When Jesse is provoked and tempted to lash out in anger according to the flesh, he can remember that that person died with Christ.

• Eph 4:20-26. He can get angry, but not sin. He needs to remember that he is now alive to Christ and can live accordingly, not governed by the impulses of the flesh. Though as a human he will be tempted to be angry, he can choose to fight that with the truth of the Word.

• Jas 1:20. The anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God. Ultimately Jesse's trust needs to be in the Lord to take care of him and provide for him at work and to deal with the injustices like the one that took place with his co-worker.

• 1 Pet 2:21-23. When Jesse is tempted to be angry he can think about Christ's example. Though He was reviled and suffered, He did not retaliate, but entrusted Himself to God the righteous judge.

• Jim referred back to the word "consider" in Romans 6:11. The first part of the battle is to really think about these things. This does not come naturally to anyone but requires careful and intentional practice. This is not just "positive thinking" but rather Jesse needs to learn to call himself to remember the most important realities of life, what Christ has done for him and who he is in Christ. Then he can live day to day moments in the light of those realities rather than being governed by emotion.



1. What main problems were discussed in the course of this session?

• In conflict Jesse and Sarah exhibit a very typical pattern for couples; there is a "fighter" and a "runner". Jesse's tendency is to avoid and walk away from problems while Sarah's is to take the issues head-on and not let up. Jesse will get overwhelmed or angry and want to walk away before he loses control, but this makes Sarah feel like he is not listening or is disengaging from the issue, particularly when he walks away without explanation.

• Jesse and Sarah both approach conflict in a selfish way, wanting to be heard and get their point across, rather than in a godly way, seeking to listen and understand one another. This leads to them rarely resolving conflict and usually feeling like nothing was accomplished through their discussions.

• Jesse and Sarah also exhibit the typical behavior of focusing on the other person's sin, rather than recognizing and repenting of their own sin.

2. How was the gospel brought out in relation to the counselee's problem?

• As Jim discussed the principles in Philippians 2:3-5 of needing to put their spouse's interests ahead of their own, he showed how the motivation for this is rooted in the gospel. Meditating on how Christ thought about our interests, not His rights, can help in an argument to seek to understand the other person's point, not just assert our own.

• Jim explains to them how the gospel is the basis for being able to give true forgiveness to one another even after real sin has been committed. Because of Christ's work on the cross, God grants a forgiveness to believers that gives them a status of perfection; they are treated as if they had never committed that sin. In the same way, they can forgive one another as they have been forgiven, not holding that sin against one another, but forgiving it completely.

3. How was hope or encouragement given in this session?

• Jesse actually sought to meditate on and apply the truths he's learning in counseling in the midst of conflict with his wife this week. He took time out to think about and rehearse the truths he wrote out for himself on a card. He doesn't recognize this progress but instead says he isn't "batting 1000." Jim points out the growth and how encouraging it is, reminding him that perfection will not come until heaven, but there is real growth that is taking place in him now and that is to be celebrated.

• As they are working through the very sensitive issue of recognizing and confessing their own sin, Jim commends them for their ability to see how the Scripture is speaking to them and their willingness to confess what they did wrong. This also is a work of the Spirit.

• Jim shares with them the hopes he has for the marriage in the future, that it can become a blessing for both of them. He tells them that where they are at right now, "pulling the weeds" is a hard and difficult process but helps them to look ahead and anticipate a time where they could be "planting flowers." For some couples it is almost impossible for them to imagine getting to that point and they can hardly see above the weeds in their marriage, so it can be very helpful for them to hear from the counselor a vision of what God can do.

4. What biblical solutions were presented to the main problems discussed?

Gal 5:16-19. It is legitimate for them to take a "break" in arguments if they realize they are getting tempted to react in the flesh. The purpose of this break needs to be to think and pray and seek to be led by the Spirit, not to just go "cool off" by watching TV or doing something else to distract themselves.
Phil 2:3-5. The Scripture says to consider others' interests as more important than our own. While Jesse and Sarah know this, they do not practice it in their communication. They need to seek to listen and understand the other person's point of view as more important than expressing their own,
Matt 7:1-5 When they are in a conflict, Jesse and Sarah need to practice the principles laid down by Jesus of going to one another and confessing their own sin first, thus "getting the log out of their own eye." As believers, it does not matter if the other person sinned first, or if they sinned greater, before God every believer is responsible for their own sin and must confess it and repent of it. The passage in James 4:1-2 can help them to recognize what that sin is. According to the passage the root of conflicts and quarrels is responding in a sinful way to unmet desires. As Jesse and Sarah honestly evaluate their conflicts in the light of these passages they can humbly recognize where they are contributing to the problem, rather than just heaping blame on the other person.

5. If you were meeting with this counselee, what goals might you have for future sessions?

• In the next session it would first be necessary to review the homework and see how they did with confessing their sin to one another and seeking one another's forgiveness. If they come in still at odds it would be obvious that they need more help and perhaps need a guided time of confession in the counseling session itself. They also may need more teaching on how to do this. On the other hand, if they come in reconciled to one another and maybe even with examples of how they applied these principles to other situations throughout the week, it would be a good indication that God has done a work in their hearts and they are ready to move on and discuss how to "plant the flowers."

• As Jim alluded to, after learning to confess their own sin to one another, they both need to be taught principles of godly confrontation outlined in Galatians 6:1. At this point they usually go to one another in anger and tear one another down rather than going to one another in love with the purpose of restoration.

• Although Jesse and Sarah are regular church attenders, it sounds like they may not have very many close friendships within the body. Perhaps none at all. Another goal for them would be to help them understand God's design for fellowship in the body and come up with a plan for them to start developing it (perhaps getting a mentor couple, joining a small group or Sunday School class, etc.). Like all Christians, they need ongoing discipleship to continue to grow in the process of sanctification.