

When Your Counselee Wants to Quit



Introduction Issues

1. Is this person saved or unsaved?
2. Is this person a church member?
3. Is this person attending your church services?
4. Is this person experiencing any extenuating circumstances?
5. Have you started with the end in mind?



I. Initial Assumptions

A. Counselee is initially repentant

B. But as time wears on, the battle still rages



I. Initial Assumptions

C. Like God, be patient with unfaithful people

We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

1 Thes. 5:14



I. Initial Assumptions

D. Focus on the person(s) in the midst of the problem

1. A key area of growth is to place ALL of their hope in God vs. things, people, circumstances, self (1 Co. 10:13; Phil. 4:13)
2. Understanding what it means to live purely for the glory of God (1 Co. 10:31;5:9)



II. Initial Corrections

A. In the Word?

B. Regular time in biblical prayer?



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II. Initial Corrections

C. Involved with the local church?

1. In submission to leadership (Heb. 13:17)
2. Demonstrating a special love for his church family
(Jn. 13:34-35; 1 Jn. 3:23; 4:11; 4:20-5:3)
3. Serving in humility (Eph. 4:16; Mt. 28:19-20)
 - Church family, community, etc.



II. Initial Corrections

4. Regular worship (Col. 3:16)
 - (Corporately and privately) preaching, teaching, singing, fellowshiping, ...
5. Regular fellowship
6. Has a “Paul” ... “Barnabas” ... “Timothy”



III. Give Proper Instruction

A. Yes, You Can!

1. God has done everything to make your sanctification certain and secure
 - Eph. 1:3-14
2. There is a great power at work in you
 - Eph. 1:15 – 2:10

Outline 1-4 adapted from:

Seymour, Matthew. "Counseling Better from Ephesians." *The Journal of Modern Ministry*

Vol. 6, Issue 3 (Fall 2009): 53-70.



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III. Give Proper Instruction

3. God has an immeasurable love for you
 - Eph. 2:1-10; 3:13-21
4. God's work in you is an important part of His plan for unity among His covenant people
 - Eph. 2:11-21



III. Give Proper Instruction

5. God has limited your trouble in scope and duration

No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

1 Co. 10:13

Outline 5 adapted from:

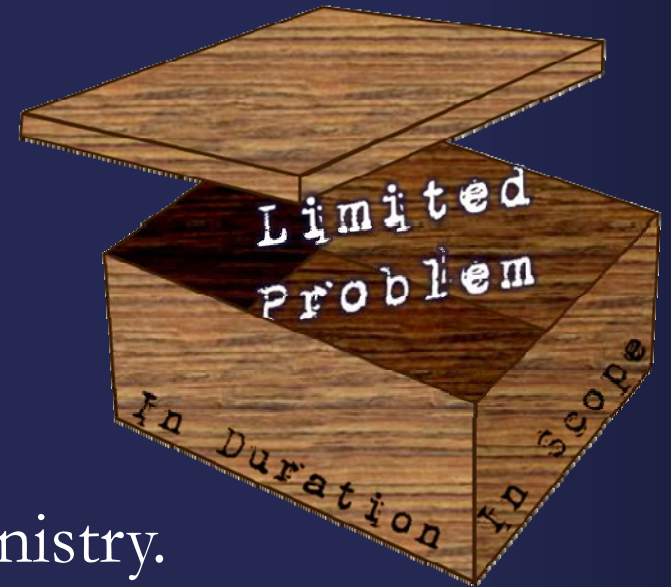
Priolo, Lou. *Divorce: Before You Say "I Don't"* (Phillipsburg: P&R Publishing, 2007), 12-16.



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III. Give Proper Instruction

- a. There are others (even Christians) who are basically in the same box as you right now!
- b. Remaining in the box will prepare you for greater ministry.
- c. Remaining in the box will strengthen your relationship with God.



III. Give Proper Instruction

- d. Rejoice & rest in Christ's work & God's character as revealed in the trial (express your gratitude!).
- e. Recognize that obedience is always possible.
- f. As long as God desires it, your safest and happiest place is obedience in the trial!



III. Give Proper Instruction

B. Yes, You Must!

Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Jas. 4:17

but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.”

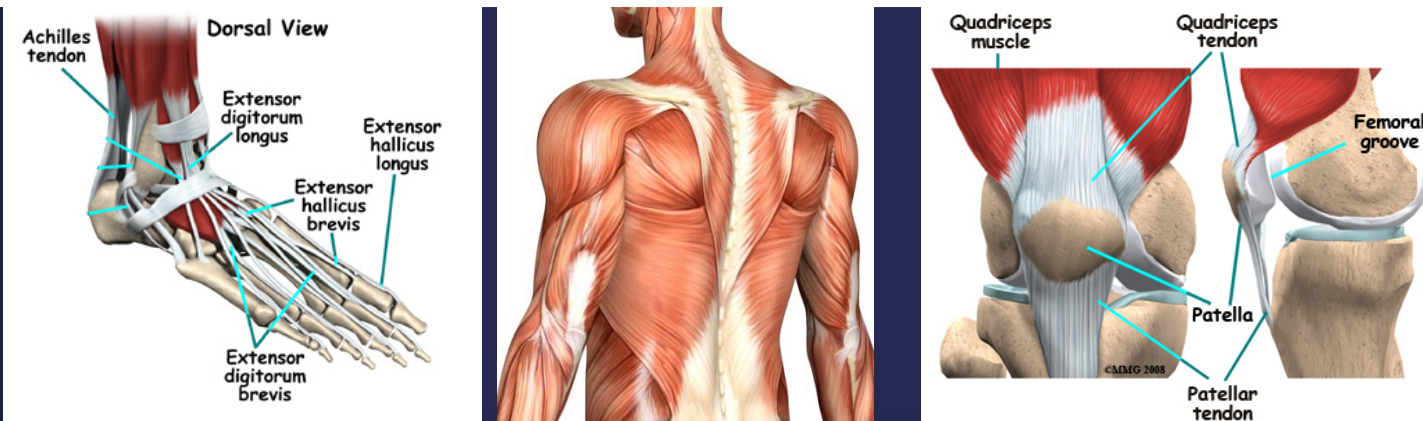
1 Pe. 1:15–16



III. Give Proper Instruction

from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

Eph. 4:16



III. Give Proper Instruction

Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

Ro. 6:16–18



III. Give Proper Instruction

C. The Harvest Mentality

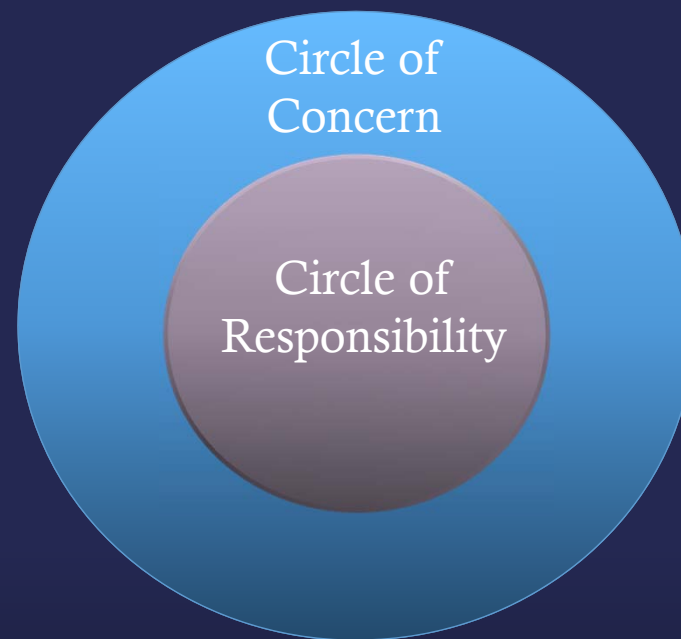
1. Often needs correction here



III. Give Proper Instruction

C. The Harvest Mentality

2. His responsibility v. What to trust God



III. Give Proper Instruction

C. The Harvest Mentality

- Gal. 6:7-8
- Ro. 2:8-10
- Jer. 17:5-8
- Jas. 1:25
- Ps. 32:10
- Pro. 13:15
- ... and many more

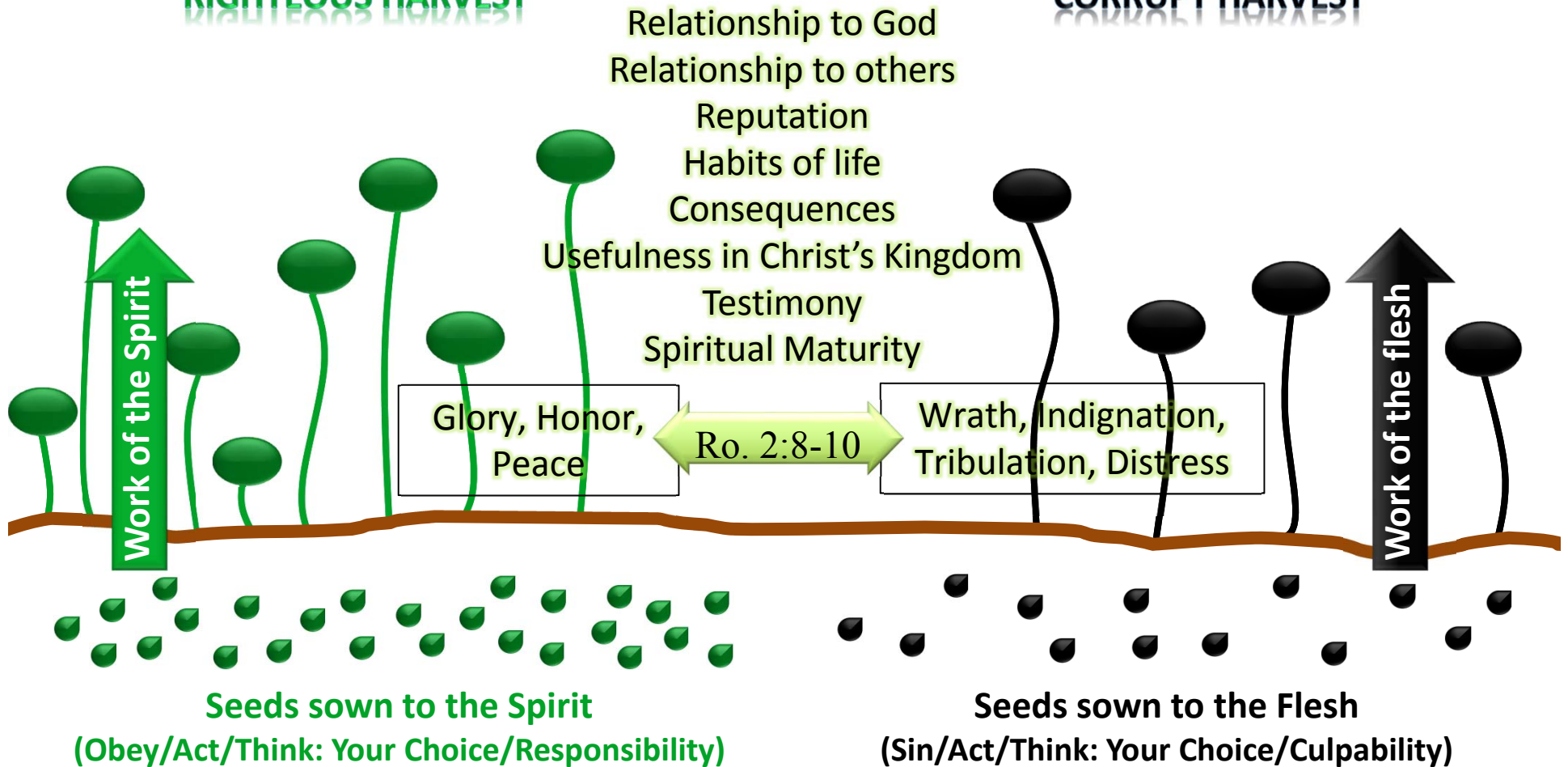


Gal. 6:7-8

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

RIGHTEOUS HARVEST

CORRUPT HARVEST



IV. Give Hope

A. Rest on the character of God

1. He is faithful
2. He is infinitely wise
3. He is perfect in love
4. He is completely sovereign
5. He is holy, holy, holy!

B. Be satisfied with obedience



V. Give Homework

(... may be in addition to your regular HW)

A. Scripture memory

B. Think list



V. Give Homework

C. Email/journal every day:

5 opportunities you had to sow

1. What happened?
2. Did you sow to the Spirit or to the flesh?
 - If to the flesh: How you plan to repent?
 - If to the Spirit: Did you give thanks?
3. Identify complications from present corrupt harvests



V. Give Homework

Date: 7/13/11

Sowing Report:



Event	Seeds sown to:		Harvest:	
	Spirit	Flesh	Righteous	Corrupt
not being overtly kind to students. just tried to make it through the day. I just go through the activities and am not really considerate of their needs or feelings.		X		
not being very kind at work to co-workers. I do not really engage them but just ask question when needed.		X		
My heart is hard towards students and coworkers				X
Read Scripture but came away discouraged (This means I did not read Scripture properly)		X		
washed dishes for my wife	X			
listened to other teachers at lunch--tried to ask them about their lives and families	X			
Frustrated my wife		X		
Took a walk to pray, but came away discouraged (wrong prayer)		X		



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V. Give Homework

Corrupt seeds to replace (copy and paste this table into every report):

Corrupt seed	Date Sown:	Plan	Date Completed:
Rude to my sister on the phone	6/8	Call her <u>asap</u> – ask forgiveness – encourage her with truths I have learned/been reminded of and how I am now following counsel	
Unkind to students	7/13	Speak kind words to them with proper “body language”	
Unfriendly to coworkers	7/13	Engage them – smile, show interest, socialize	
Frustrated my wife	7/13	Ask her forgiveness – ask her for how I can encourage her and do it!	

Hope List: (copy and paste this list into every report):

(list statements, truths, revelations that have given you hope ... even if only for a moment ... so you can remember them)



VI. A Reminder to Counselors

A. 1 Th. 5:14

We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

1 Th. 5:14

B. Life is long.

C. Life is short.

D. God is faithful.



VI. A Reminder to Counselors

E. Evaluate the success or failure of the action plan:

1) Problem with the plan itself?

a. Confusing?

b. Too difficult/unrealistic given the maturity and understanding of the CE?

c. Inappropriate (principles not applied in a way that fits the situation)?

d. Lacking help of outside resources (church, family, etc.)?



VI. A Reminder to Counselors

E. Evaluate the success or failure of the action plan:

2) Problem with the counselee?

a. Not following through?

b. Significant others obstructing?

c. Others giving alternative interpretation/plan?

d. Counselee needs a stronger accountability structure?



VI. A Reminder to Counselors

E. Evaluate the success or failure of the action plan:

3) Evaluate, address and adjust the plan where needed.



VI. A Reminder to Counselors

F. Self-Counsel Questions To Ask

- 1) Am I setting the wrong goal as victory?
- 2) Am I working in the wrong area? What has the counselee gripped?
- 3) Is my spirit right? Am I being judgmental?
Am I communicating hope with my spirit?
Am I communicating love?
Do I seem patient?



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