

Equipping Counselors for Your Church
Appendix 4.4
Vision Catching Probes

Vision Catching Probes:
What's the DNA of Our Congregation and Community?

In each area (past, present, future), select three or four questions to discuss with your group.

- **Probing Our Past**

1. In what unique ways has our congregation provided one-another ministry to each other?
2. What stories do we tell about special times of one-another ministry in our church's history?
3. How have we spoken the truth in love to one another in the past?
4. What words describe the ways in which in the past we've offered biblical counseling, either formally or informally?
5. Have we ever attempted a ministry like this before? If so, what was it like? If not, why not?
6. How have we significantly impacted our community through speaking the truth in love?

- **Probing Our Present**

1. What amazing work is God doing in our church through the personal ministry of the Word?
2. What are you excited about in how we currently provide one-another ministry?
3. What are some of the strengths and weaknesses in the way we provide biblical counseling?
4. Where is biblical counseling already occurring effectively?
5. What persons in our church seem to "embody" speaking the truth in love? How?

6. What special “gift-mix” does our congregation have and what biblical counseling focus would those gifts best support?
7. Where do we ache for other people?
8. What other churches are offering biblical counseling? How would our ministry be different?
9. How could our biblical counseling vision advance our congregation-wide vision?
10. What are some of the biblical counseling issues faced by people in our congregation?
11. What are some of the biblical counseling issues faced by people in our community?
12. When people in our community think of how we provide “biblical counseling,” what comes to mind? What stories might they tell—positively or negatively?

- **Probing Our Future**

1. What are our dreams for the biblical counseling ministry in one year? Five? Ten? Twenty?
2. Read Ephesians 3:20 and dream as if we could not fail. What do you think God will do with our biblical counseling ministry in the future?
3. If time, training, and money were no objects, what would our biblical counseling ministry look like?
4. If we were to create a cover page for our biblical counseling brochure, what words might capture the essence of the ministry?
5. What words picture how we want our biblical counseling ministry described in five years?
6. What would “success” look like for our biblical counseling ministry?
7. How could we turn our community upside down for Christ through biblical counseling?

- **What Other Questions Would You Ask or Information Would You Share?**