

50 Foundational Biblical Counseling Passages

As part of a *4E Ministry Training Strategy Questionnaire* that I distributed, two dozen best practice churches answered the question:

“What are the foundational Scriptures upon which you founded and based your biblical counseling ministry?”

Collated below are the fifty passages listed most often.

1. Psalm 1:1-2
2. Proverbs 15:23
3. Proverbs 18:13, 21
4. Proverbs 25:11
5. Proverbs 27:6
6. Isaiah 9:6
7. Isaiah 11:1-4
8. Isaiah 55:11
9. Matthew 22:34-40
10. Matthew 28:16-20
11. Mark 12:30-31
12. John 1:1-18
13. John 6:32-33
14. John 8:38
15. John 10:10
16. John 14:15-31
17. John 17:1-26
18. Acts 2:40-47
19. Acts 20:17-38
20. Romans 6:1-14
21. Romans 8:1-39
22. Romans 12:1-2
23. Romans 12:15
24. Romans 15:14
25. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
26. 2 Corinthians 1:3-11
27. 2 Corinthians 3:16-18 and 4:16-18
28. Galatians 6:1-5
29. Ephesians 1-3
30. Ephesians 4:11-16
31. Ephesians 4:17-24
32. Ephesians 4:29
33. Philippians 1:9-11
34. Colossians 1:25-29
35. Colossians 2:1-10
36. Colossians 3:1-16

- 37. Colossians 4:2-6
- 38. 1 Thessalonians 2:8 (all of 1 Thessalonians 2)
- 39. 1 Thessalonians 4:13
- 40. 1 Thessalonians 5:14
- 41. 2 Timothy 2:2
- 42. 2 Timothy 2:24-26
- 43. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- 44. Hebrews 3:7-16
- 45. Hebrews 4:12-16
- 46. Hebrews 10:19-25
- 47. James 4:1-4
- 48. 1 Peter 2:5-9
- 49. 2 Peter 1:3-4
- 50. 1 John 4:7-21

Biblical Categories and Concepts

Many participants not only included specific verses, but also categories or concepts. Collated below you will find those that were listed the most often.

1. One-Another Verses
2. Body Life Verses
3. Verses on Comforting the Suffering
4. Verses on Counseling the Sinning
5. Verses on the Sufficiency of Scripture
6. Verses on Sanctification and Growth in Grace
7. Verses on Listening
8. Verses on Seeing God's Eternal/Gospel-Centered/Christ-Centered Perspective
9. Verses on Spiritual Formation/Spiritual Discipline
10. Verses Using *Noutheteo* (Greek for confronting out of concern for change)
11. Verses Using *Parakaleo* (Greek for comfort, encourage, console)

Join the Conversation

What biblical passages, categories, or concepts would you add to this list of foundational biblical counseling verses?