



### **Our Goal**

The purpose of biblical counseling is to help you meet the challenges of life in a manner which is pleasing and honoring to the Lord Jesus Christ. Our counseling is offered free of charge as a ministry of Community Bible Church of Central Point, an Oregon non-profit corporation. Counselees are welcome to make a donation to the ministry; however, this is not a required condition for counseling. You have no obligation, express or implied, to pay fees for the counseling you receive through ABC; however, donations are appreciated and will help ensure that the ministry continues.

### **Biblical Basis**

**Counseling received through ABC is strictly religious in nature and is conducted under the authority and leadership of Community Bible Church in Central Point, OR.**

We believe that the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, provides thorough guidance and instruction for faith and life (cf. II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:3-4). Our counseling is based solely on the principles of Scripture and does not employ the teachings or methods of modern psychology or psychiatry.

**Counselee Initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Other Professional Advice**

If you have significant medical, legal, financial, or other technical questions, you should seek the advice of a competent, independent professional. Our counselors will cooperate with such advisors and will help you consider their counsel in the light of biblical principles.

We urge our counselees to properly care for their physical bodies and to seek medical treatment for all physiological problems. Our counselors will assist you in responding to such problems in a godly manner, but our counsel is not intended to replace the services of a qualified physician in the treatment of organic problems.

### **Confidentiality**

Confidentiality is an important part of the counseling process. As ABC differs in some respects with traditional guidelines regarding confidentiality, we have developed a policy which specifically addresses this issue. Said policy is attached to, incorporated in and subject to the other provisions of this Consent to Counseling Agreement.

## **Conflict Resolution — Arbitration**

On rare occasions, a conflict may develop between a counselor and a counselee. The Bible commands that Christians make every effort to live in peace and to resolve disputes with each other in private or within the Christian Church (cf. Matthew 18:15-20; I Corinthians 6:1-8), without involvement of the secular courts. Therefore, in order to ensure faithfulness to this biblical principle, we require all counselees to agree that any claim or dispute arising under, out of, in connection with, or relating to, the counseling received at ABC or any dispute with a counselor thereof, or with Community Bible Church of Central Point, shall be settled by biblically-based mediation and, if necessary, legally binding arbitration in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Christian Conciliation of the Institute for Christian Conciliation (a copy of which is available on request).

The arbiters will be the elders of Community Bible Church of Central Point. If one or more elders of Community Bible Church of Central Point is a party to the dispute, then the three arbiters will be selected from the elders of churches in the Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals (nationwide), with each party to the dispute choosing one arbiter, and the two arbiters then selecting the third. It is expressly understood that, by consenting in advance to arbitration, the counselee is waiving his right to trial in the civil courts.

**Counselee Initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Cancellation Policy**

We do not charge for counseling, but we do charge if you do not show up for an appointment. We would appreciate a 24 hour notice to let us know you will not be able to make your appointment. If that happens, we will not schedule you for another appointment until we receive a check for \$30. The reason we must do this is that some of our counselors travel a long distance to get here. Their time is valuable and we want to be sure not to waste it. The simple way to avoid this problem is to call and change your appointment as soon as you know you will not be able to keep it. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Counselee Initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

Having clarified the principles and policies of our counseling ministry, we welcome the opportunity to minister to you in the name of Christ and to be used by Him as He helps you grow in spiritual maturity and prepares you for usefulness in His body. If you have any questions about these guidelines, please speak with your counselor. Your signature below indicates your informed consent to these guidelines.

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Robin Hulce**

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