

[CHURCH NAME]

**Church Counseling Policy (Sample)**

**Purpose:**

Be it resolved, that all counseling is to be Biblically based rather than psychologically based. Our counseling help reflects our Biblical training and is therefore aimed at spiritual issues and offers spiritual solutions. The Biblical premises for counseling is two-fold: Man is created in the image of God and man is fallen and twisted by the results of sin.

**Goal:**

The goal of Biblically based counseling is to attempt to negate the detriments of the fall so that one lives not through fallen motivations but by those consistent with being an image bearer of God. For example, to be recreated (*Ephesians 4:21-24, Colossians 3:10, Romans 8:29*).

**Guidelines:**

Whereas, all counseling is to be done within the following guidelines:

- No counseling of the opposite sex or person under the age of eighteen (18) shall be done without another person present.
- Counseling of the opposite sex or person shall be done so that it is visible to adjacent areas.
- Individual counseling of the opposite sex shall be limited to four one-hour sessions unless extended after review and approval by the Ruling Elders for additional specific number of sessions.
- Home visitation of the opposite sex or person shall not be made alone, but only if accompanied by another member of the Ruling Elders, staff or volunteer.
- Use the [Church Name] Counseling Application and Consent form at formal counseling sessions.

I have read the Church Counseling Policy and I understand and I agree to abide by the terms.

**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Church Counselor*

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

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_