

Gospel Conversations...
Let's Talk Equipping the Church to Counsel

Session 1:
4 Callings for the Church Today
More Than Counseling: Catching God's Vision for the Entire Church



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Presentation Focus

It's fine to talk about a church saturated with one-another ministry and biblical counseling.

But how do we really move from the idea to implementation?

How do we engage leadership in the mindset shift from referring out or from only pastors ministering, to every Christian being a one-another minister?

In this session, we'll learn from Ephesians 4:11-16

God's vision for pastors, leaders, and all Christians.

We'll learn 4 callings for the church today, and we'll paint the big picture for launching and leading a growing biblical counseling ministry in the church.

4 Callings for the Church Today
More Than Counseling: Catching God's Vision for the Entire Church
Ephesians 4:11-16

Sharing Together

1. What is God's primary calling for pastors and church leaders? What is the primary role that God calls pastors and church leaders to fulfill? Where would you look in Scripture for this?
2. What is God's primary calling for God's people? What is the primary role that God calls Christians to fulfill? Where would you look in Scripture for this?

Introduction

- **The Big Picture:** Are You Milton Berle or Ed Sullivan? (Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Timothy 2:2)
 - ◆ Is God calling you to center stage to monopolize the ministry; or is God calling you to share the ministry by calling others to center stage?
 - ◆ Is God calling you only to do the work of the ministry; or is God calling you to equip His people to do the work of the ministry?
 - ◆ Is God calling you to a ministry of addition—being one caregiver; or is God calling you to the ministry of multiplication—training a church of caregivers?

I. God's Grand Vision for His Church: Ephesians 4:11-16

- How do we effectively disciple the body of Christ for one-another ministry in the church and to the community? How do we leave a legacy of loving leaders?

A. The Résumé of Jesus: Ephesians 1:1-4:10

- Jesus has every _____ and all _____ to tell us our _____

B. The Résumé of God's Leaders: Ephesians 4:11-12

- To _____ God's people for works of _____

C. The Résumé of God's People: Ephesians 4:15

- To _____/live gospel truth in love so we all _____ in Christ

II. 4 Callings for the Church Today: “Don’t Take a Back Seat to Anyone!”—Ephesians 3:17-19; 4:11-16

- **The Big Question:** In equipping counselors, what are we trying to accomplish and create?
 - ◆ Our goal is **not** to equip _____ counselors; our goal is to equip _____ and _____ Christians.
 - ◆ Our goal is **not** a church _____ biblical counseling (a program); our goal is a church _____ biblical counselors (transformed people).
 - ◆ Our goal is Both/And: “_____ Biblical Counseling” and “_____ One-Another Ministry”

- **The Big Picture:** Saturating the Congregation with Confidence in the Sufficiency of Scripture and the Competency of the Saints to Transform the Church (Progressive Sanctification) and Impact the Community (Evangelism and Discipleship)
 - A. Calling # 1: Grow in Confidence in the _____ and _____ of Scripture for Life in Our Broken World: Ephesians 4:15-16; Colossians 2:4-8; John 2-4**
 - Our Confidence/Content Goal: Our goal is **not** a church trusting in the wisdom of the world; our goal is a church saturated with trust in the wisdom of the Word—the sufficiency and relevancy of Scripture.
 - Jesus Knows People—Learn Counseling Wisdom from the Wisest Person Who Ever Lived

 - B. Calling # 2: Grow Up in Competence in Christ by Being a Church That Is a _____ Hospital Equipping _____ Physicians: Ephesians 4:11-16; Romans 15:14**
 - Our Competence Goal: Every member equipped to speak the truth in love one to another in every situation so that everyone grows up Christ (Ephesians 4:11-16).

**C. Calling # 3: Grasp the Gospel _____ with All the _____:
Ephesians 3:17-19**

- Our Church Community Goal: Our growth in Christlikeness is a community journey—it takes a congregation.

D. Calling # 4: Go into All the _____ and Make _____: Matthew 22:35-40; Matthew 28:16-20; Ephesians 6:19-20; Colossians 4:2-6

- Our Local/Global Community Goal: Biblical counseling is essential to fulfilling the Great Commandment and the Great Commission—impacting the Church and the community through one-another ministry.

III. 4 Realistic Steps toward Getting Started: “How to Get from Here to There”—The “4E” Ministry Training Strategy

A. _____: Unify a Core Team Around the Biblical Vision

- **Word Picture:**
- **Wisdom Process: Jointly Explore the _____ Teaching on _____ Counseling!**

B. _____: Saturate the Congregation and Select a Beta Test Training Group

- **Word Picture:**
- **Wisdom Process #1: Saturate the Church with “BC” Everywhere and with a “Launch Weekend” for Everyone**
- **Wisdom Process #2: Select a “Beta Test”/“Best Practice” Training Group for More Intensive “4C” Training**

C. _____: Facilitate a “4C” Training Process

- **Word Picture:**
- **Wisdom Process #1: Facilitate Interactive Lecture-Oriented Equipping**
- **Wisdom Process #2: Facilitate Relational Lab-Oriented Equipping**

D. _____/_____/_____: **Oversee Initial and Ongoing Ministry Experiences**

- **Word Picture:**
- **Wisdom Process #1: Oversee Initial Ministry Experiences**
- **Wisdom Process #2: Oversee Ongoing Ministry Empowering**

Conclusion

- “Dr. Kellemen, these are your grandbabies!”

Sharing Together

1. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Why or why not? “Christ’s grand plan for His church is for pastors/teachers to focus on equipping every member to do the work of the ministry.”
2. How would church ministry change if the following words were every church leader’s reason for existence? *“To prepare God’s people for works of service.”*
3. How would church ministry change if the following mission guided our ministry? *“Christ’s grand plan for His church is for every member to be a disciple-maker by speaking and living gospel truth to one another in love.”*
4. In your church, how could you begin to help your entire congregation to catch God’s vision for the entire church to be a church of confident, competent biblical counselors speaking gospel truth in love to each other? What specific steps would you like to see take place so that your church increasingly becomes an Ephesians 4 church?
5. Where is your church on the spectrum from envisioning, enlisting, equipping, and empowering? Wherever your church currently is on the spectrum, what next step(s) could you take toward moving further along the pathway?