

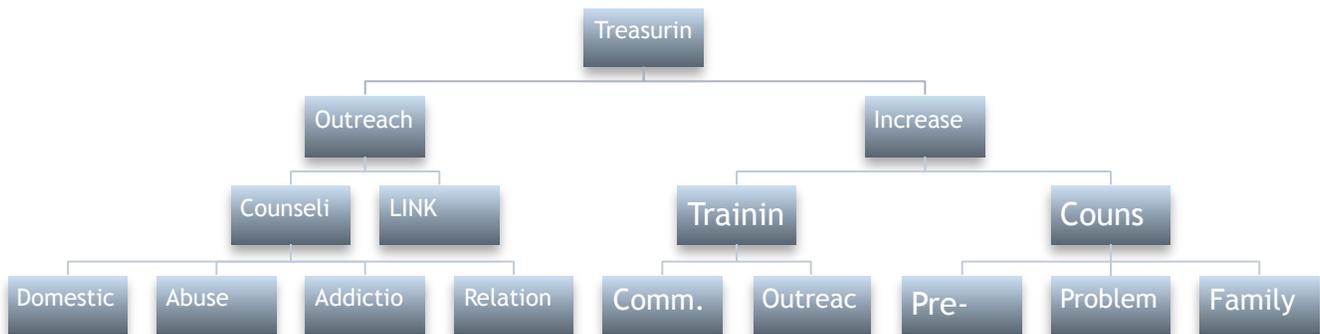
## WE EXIST:

To spread among all peoples a joyful love for Christ Jesus in all things for the glory of God. But we realize that people need help. They need discipleship, counsel, and the word of God. We realize that believers live between two cities, we live in this place but we are being prepared for another. Which is why we desire at Treasuring Christ Church to have available to our members and to our city a ministry dedicated to equipping the saints to counsel the word of God and to have available to our church and to our community a ministry dedicated to helping people gain for the first time or recapturing again a great and joyful love for Jesus Christ and a hope that is built firmly upon his coming Kingdom.

The basic thrust of this counseling ministry is two fold: 1) to develop a people of God armed with the counsel of Scripture to serve within the church to minister to the needs of our people, to help disciple them and prepare them for the heavenly city to which we are being called and 2) to develop an army of counselors to go out into our community to be an outpost of love and mercy pointing the way from the reality that they live in toward a heavenly reality that is coming.

## PROCESS

2 Peter 1:3 tells us that God's divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence. Our desire then is to develop two counseling arms to equip our church to be a conduit of God's grace to our members and our community through on going training and education and to make available to our members and community, as part of our Loving the City Center, a place to find counsel based on the only hope we have - Jesus. In the graph below you can see that these two arms are labeled "Outreach" counseling and "Increase" counseling. The following paragraphs will outline what each of these ministries will look like in the life of TCC.



## OUTREACH COUNSELING

To some this may seem like an impossible statement. How can we counsel the word of God to unbelievers? The word of God will not change a person until they are born again... YES! That is exactly our hope! That by being available to counsel the word of God and to speak truth into the lives of those in our community by offering counseling services to the members of our community we would see dead hearts turned to flesh and be made alive in the power of the Holy Spirit. We realize that our church is situated in a unique place and that by in close proximity to many who are in poverty or coming out of poverty that there are unique challenges that many in our community will have faced. This is why the training for this program will be more involved than the training that you will see is required for those desiring to be a part of the Increase counseling ministry to our church members. Those who desire to be a part of our Outreach Counseling Ministry need to be prepared to meet people who are in the middle of or coming out of abusive situations, addiction, and poverty. You will not only need to be gifted in counseling the word of God but also in evangelism.

This arm of our counseling ministry will be concerned primarily with the ministry of evangelism and counseling to our community in a counseling center type setting. Sessions will be scheduled for our counselors as part of our Loving the City Center downtown. These sessions will be more formal, requiring the counselee to agree to certain terms to be a part of the counseling process and to meet at scheduled times with our counselors. The aim of this ministry is to see those who are far away from Jesus develop a joyful love for him in all things and then to disciple that love through counseling and through the other discipleship ministries of our church.

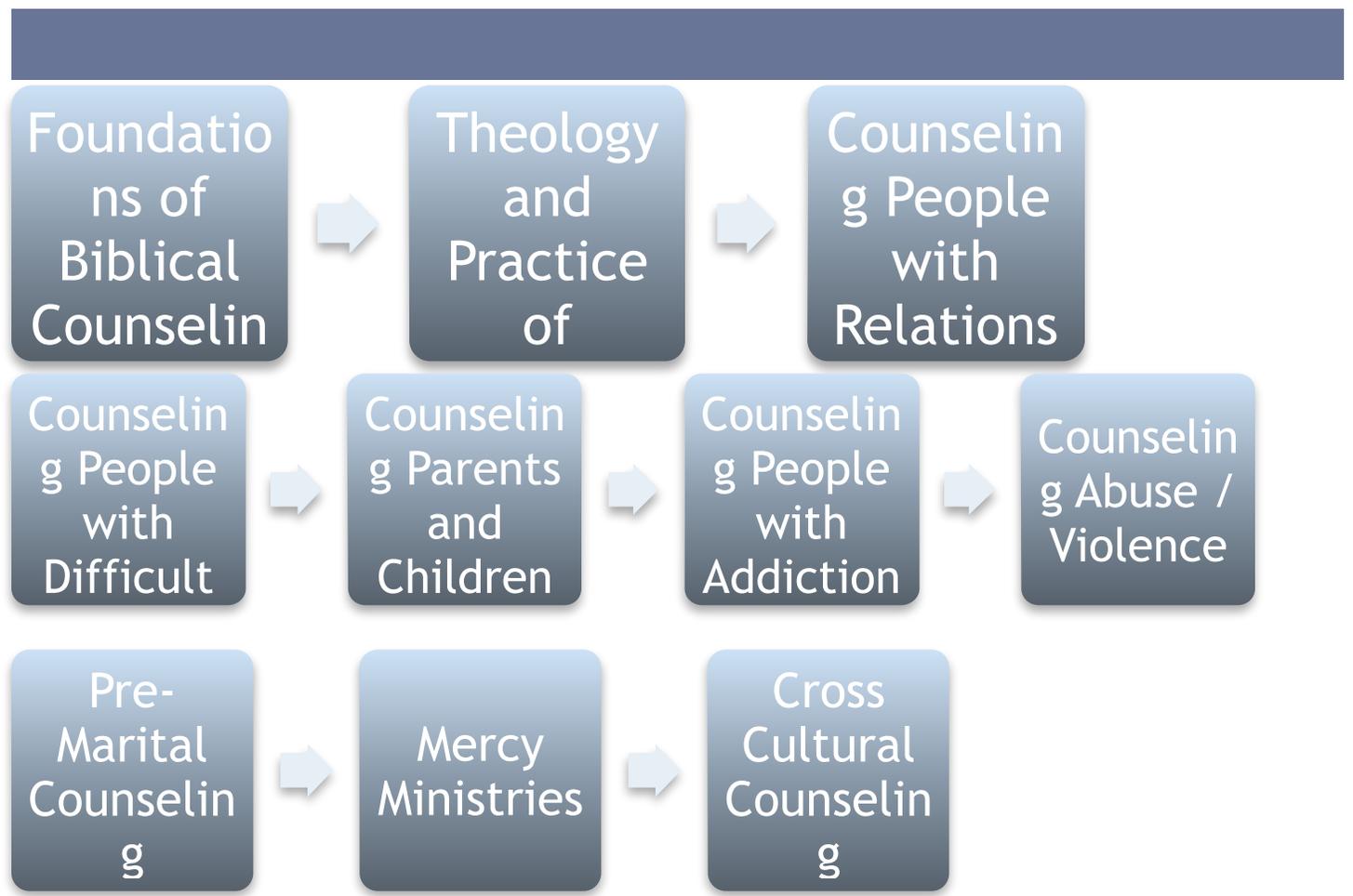
Lastly - you may be wondering what the LINK is on the chart. This is where the existing discipleship ministries of TCC will help our counseling ministry LINK the person move from the outreach counseling ministry into the life of the church. These ministries such as O2 Groups, community groups, bible study, and prayer meetings are vital to help those that come to know Christ through this ministry find a home at TCC.

## INCREASE COUNSELING

2 Corinthians 4 speaks of a people of God though afflicted in every way know God intimately. They know the God who has raised our Lord Jesus, and who will raise us also and bring us into his presence. Because of this truth that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase among God's people thanksgiving to the glory of God. Our hope is that by training a group or believers to counsel the word of God to themselves and one another that thanksgiving and love for God would increase in our church and in our city. The Increase counseling ministry has two primary aims: to equip believers in the church for counseling ministry to our city and church and to make available to our church a counseling ministry where a joyful love for Jesus might increase.

## TRAINING

The training portion of this ministry will be involved primarily with teaching the people of God basic truths and principles by which they may effectively use God's word to offer counsel to others. You can see the courses that we will initially offer below:



As you can see above there are seven core counseling courses and three elective courses that will be offered initially as part of our training program. To be involved in Outreach counseling you will need to complete:

1. All seven core counseling courses
2. Mercy Ministries and Cross Cultural Counseling Electives
3. 20 hours of supervised counseling

To be involved in Increase counseling you will need to complete:

1. Five of the seven core counseling courses (ending with counseling parents and children)
2. 10 hours of supervised counseling

The goal is to have these courses available in a classroom type setting and also to make them available online for viewing at home (though to complete the course you would need to complete the majority of your courses in person). These courses would be offered once a week for a month, over a long weekend, or in other formats to try to help make it accessible for the members of our church. The core courses will be longer courses taking approximately 3-4 hours each, while the electives are shorter and more intensive and would be about 1 hour long. The aim in what the scheduling of these courses looks like is to make this material available for the largest number of people in the life of our church.



## INCREASE COUNSELING

The hope is to not only equip our church to counsel themselves and one another but to put that into action. The hope is to have all of our community group leaders and other leaders in the life of our church equipped to minister and counsel the word to those in our body who are experiencing various trials and struggles. This counseling would be less formal than our Outreach counseling but would still have some structure to it. The primary goal of this ministry is to live out the “one another” passages through deep community and study/counsel of the Scriptures.