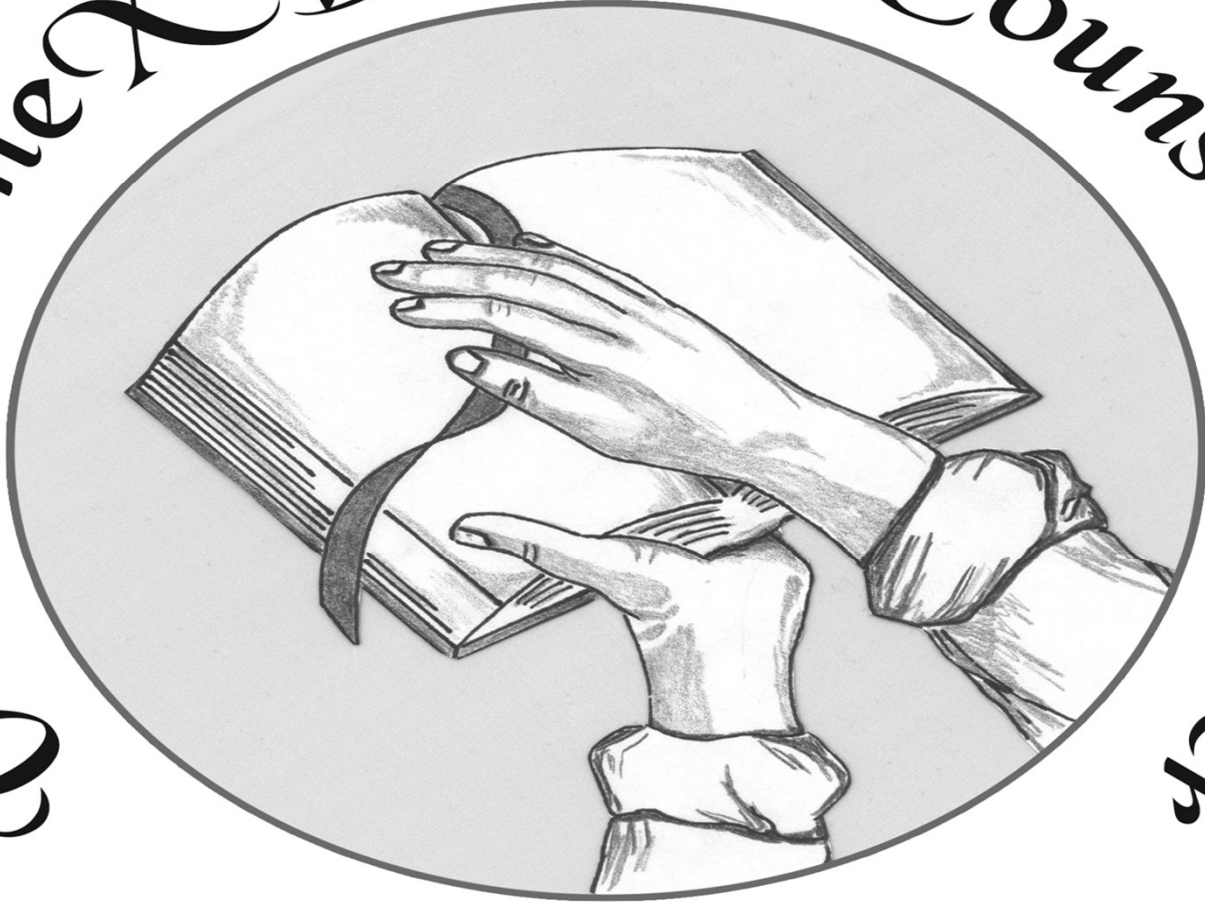
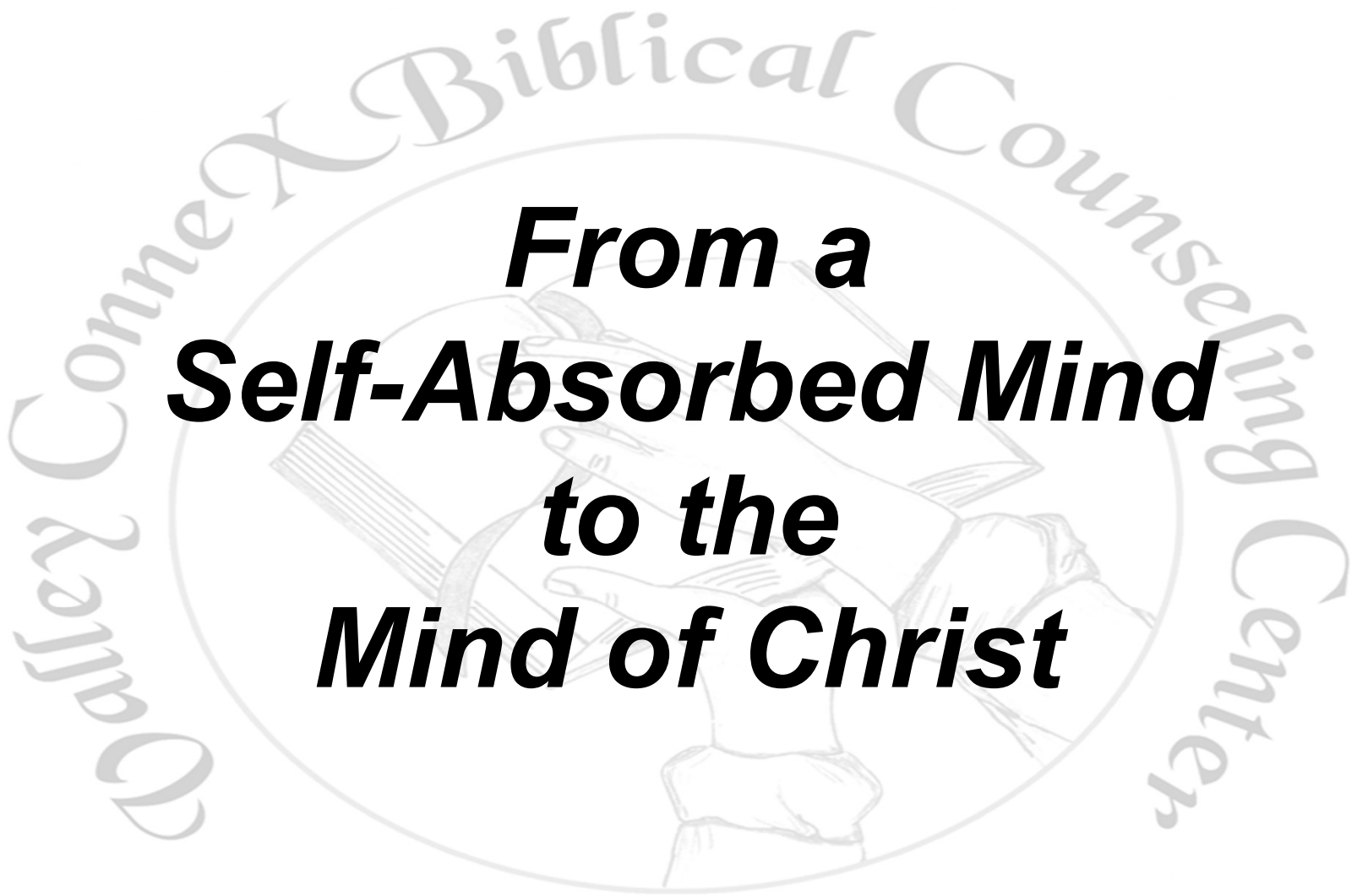


*Valley Connect Biblical Counseling Center*





***From a  
Self-Absorbed Mind  
to the  
Mind of Christ***

# Nebuchadnezzar- a case study

- God actively pursues the self-absorbed to give them the opportunity to yield in submission to Him.
  - Daniel 2-Dream and interpretation of the kingdoms of the world
  - Daniel 3-The golden image and the fiery furnace
  - Daniel 4-The dream, interpretation and humiliation of Nebuchadnezzar

# Nebuchadnezzar- a case study

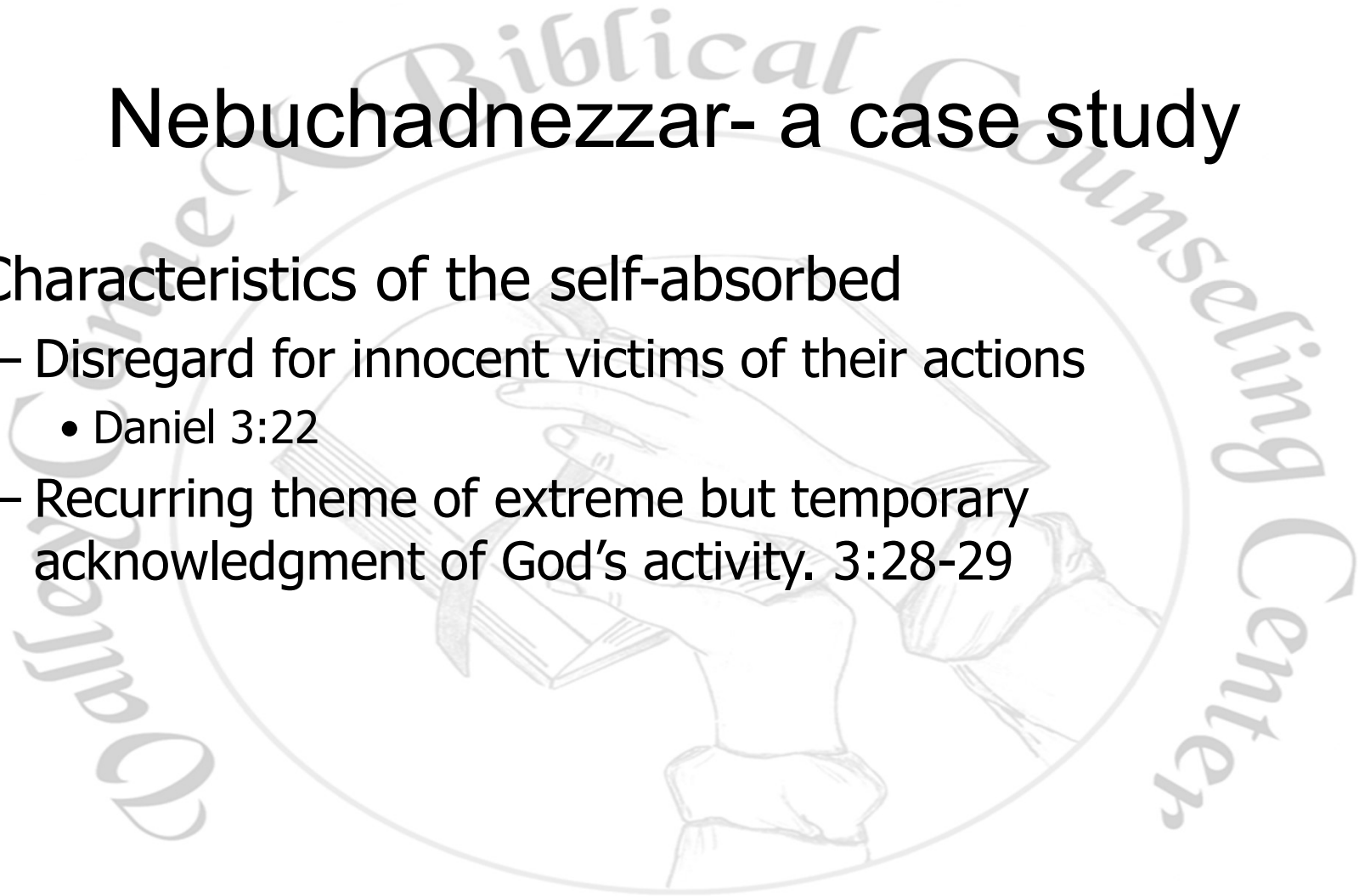
- Characteristics of the self-absorbed
  - Expect others to respond to their unrealistic expectations
    - Daniel 2:5-11
  - React with anger and rage when the unrealistic expectations are not met.
    - Daniel 2:12-15
  - Extreme but temporary acknowledgment of God's unmistakable activity.
    - Daniel 2:46-49

# Nebuchadnezzar- a case study

- Characteristics of the self-absorbed
  - Recurring incidents of self-aggrandizement.
    - Daniel 3:1-7
  - Complete intolerance of those who do not support these attempts at self-aggrandizement
    - Daniel 3:16-18
  - Punishment for those who do not feed their egotistical forays. (Note the continuing theme of anger and rage.)
    - Daniel 3:19-21

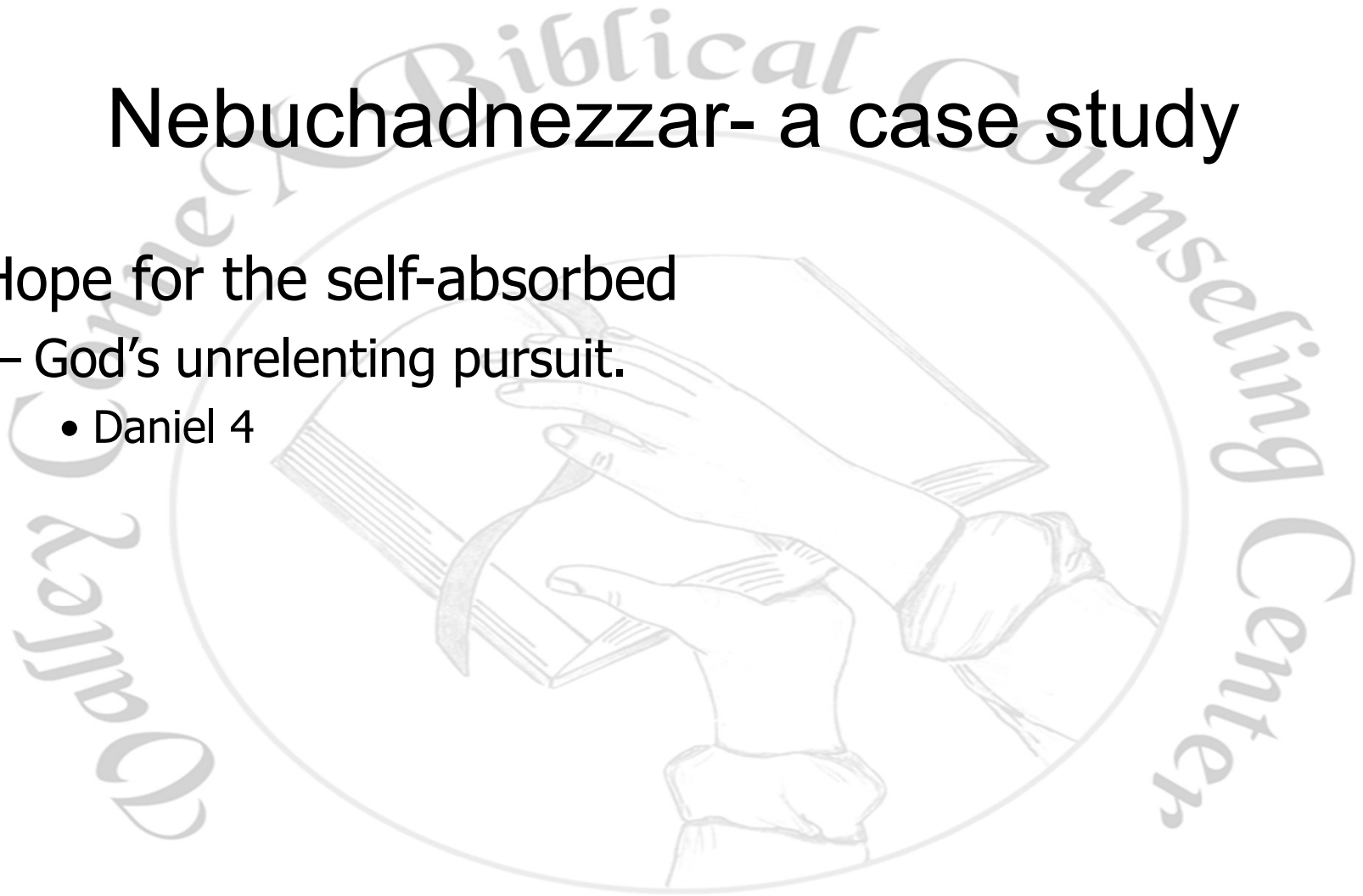
# Nebuchadnezzar- a case study

- Characteristics of the self-absorbed
  - Disregard for innocent victims of their actions
    - Daniel 3:22
  - Recurring theme of extreme but temporary acknowledgment of God's activity. 3:28-29



# Nebuchadnezzar- a case study

- Hope for the self-absorbed
  - God's unrelenting pursuit.
  - Daniel 4



# Nebuchadnezzar- a case study

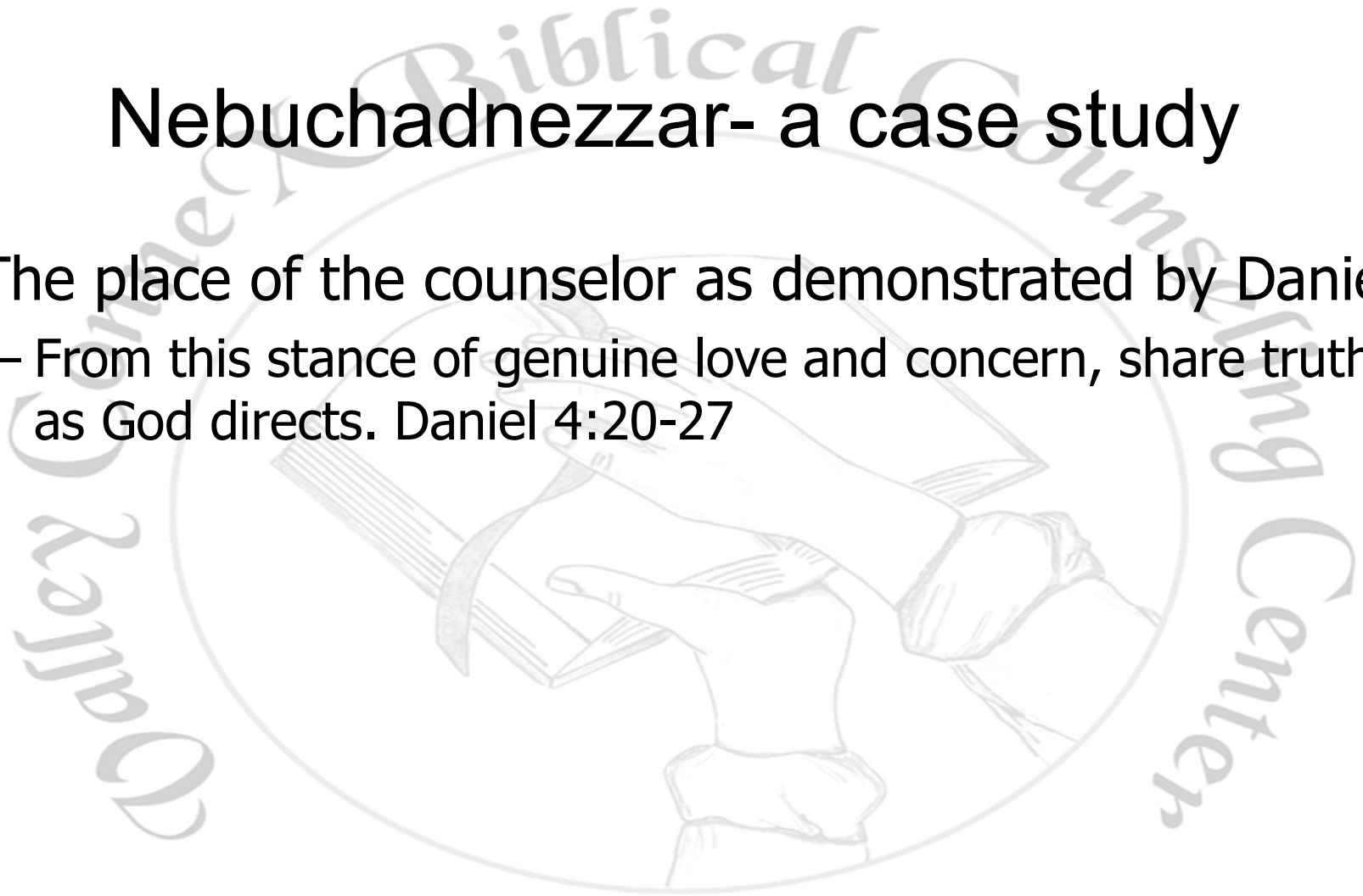
- The turn from self-absorption
  - Exaltation of self is replaced with the exaltation of God
    - Daniel 4:34-35
  - Personal relationship with God replaces a casual acquaintance.
    - Compare Daniel 2:47; 3:28-29 and Daniel 4:2-3 and 4:34-35

## Nebuchadnezzar- a case study

- The place of the counselor as demonstrated by Daniel
  - Trust that God has and will provide the revelation needed to approach the self-absorbed person. Daniel 2:16;27-28
  - Pray and enlist others to pray. (Make sure you do this in such a way as to not break any confidentiality.) 2:17-18
  - Commit to stay with the counselee. Daniel 2-4
  - Keep a genuine love and concern for the counselee who is hard to love. Daniel 4:19

# Nebuchadnezzar- a case study

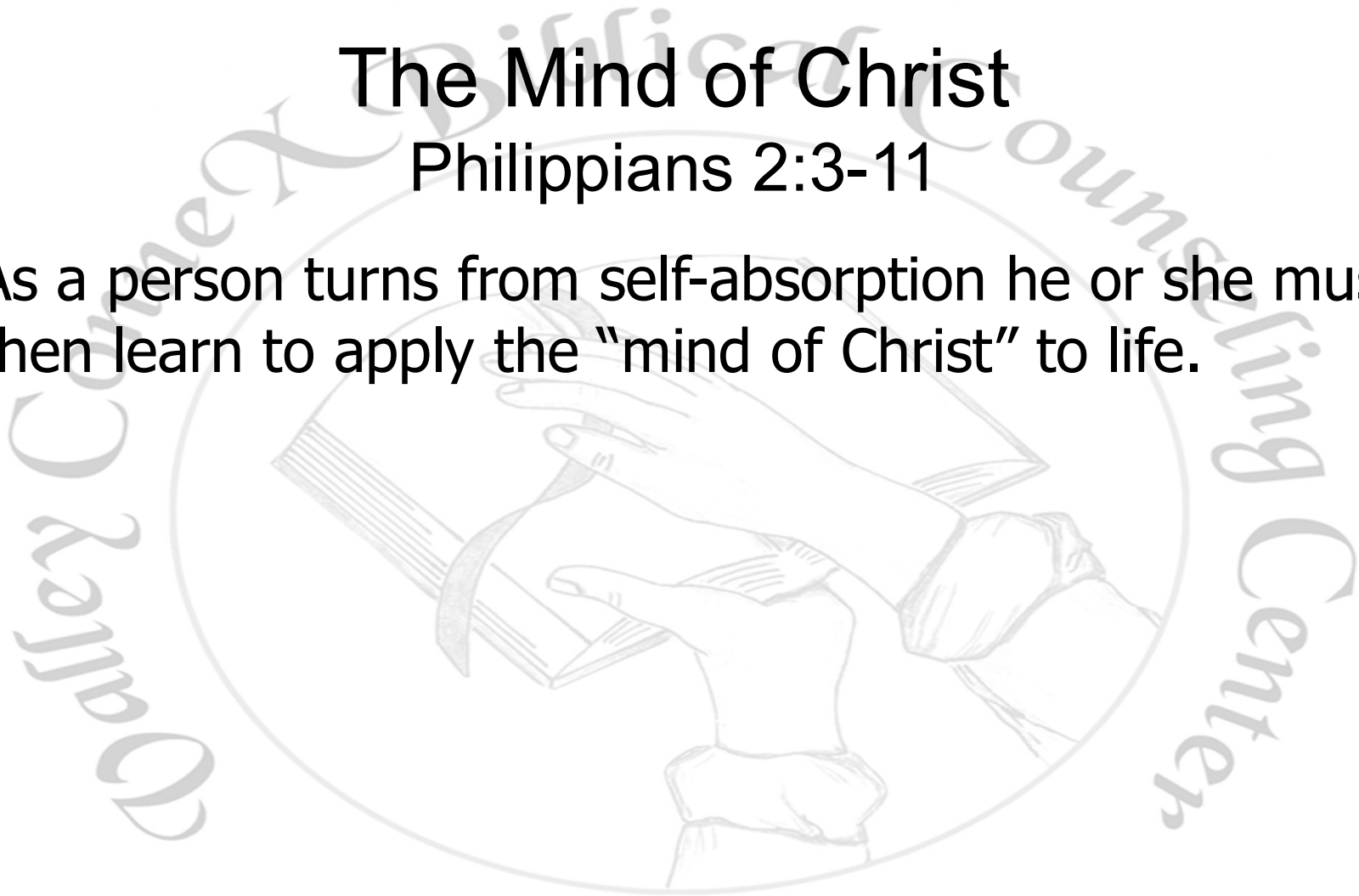
- The place of the counselor as demonstrated by Daniel
  - From this stance of genuine love and concern, share truth as God directs. Daniel 4:20-27



# The Mind of Christ

Philippians 2:3-11

- As a person turns from self-absorption he or she must then learn to apply the “mind of Christ” to life.



# The Mind of Christ

Philippians 2:3-11

- Nothing motivated by selfish ambition or conceit 2:3a
- Always consider the impact of your words and actions on others. 2:3b
- Ask, "What is the greater good?" and/or "What will benefit the most people?" 2:4;6-7
- Obedience to God always overrides self interest or personal desires. 2:8
- Trust God with your reputation. 2:9-11