



The Importance of a Biblical View of God in Counseling

The beginning point of obedience to God is to accurately embrace who He is.

- ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.
Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)

How do we know God?

- God has revealed Himself through creation—General Revelation
- God has revealed Himself through interaction with people in history and preserved this revelation through His Word—Special Revelation

God's revelation of Himself makes all people accountable before Him.

- Creation reveals to all people that God exists and that He is divine and all powerful. Romans 1:19-20
- Unrighteousness is the result of the suppression of this revelation. Romans 1:18

This is our biblical basis for biblical counseling with all people, including those who are not followers of Christ.

Down through history, and ultimately in Jesus Christ, God has revealed Himself, His purposes and His ways.

- ¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power...
Hebrews 1:1-3 (ESV)

Down through history, and ultimately in Jesus Christ, God has revealed Himself, His purposes and His ways.

- Scripture must be our source of an accurate view of God.
- This will include a careful and thorough study of the life of Jesus in the Gospels.

Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- The following truths about God are all equally true at the same time. God is never conflicted but exists in perfect harmony with every attribute expressed perfectly and appropriately.
- As counselors we will focus sometimes on one or more of these attributes but must keep all in focus.

Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

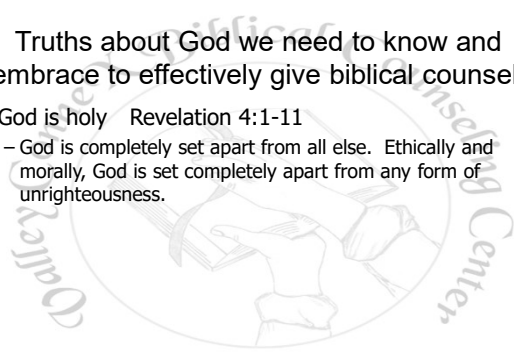
- God is sovereign. Isaiah 44:24-45:13
 - God has the authority to fulfill His will. No one can override what God purposes to do.

Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is faithful. Genesis 15:1-16
 - God makes and keeps promises.

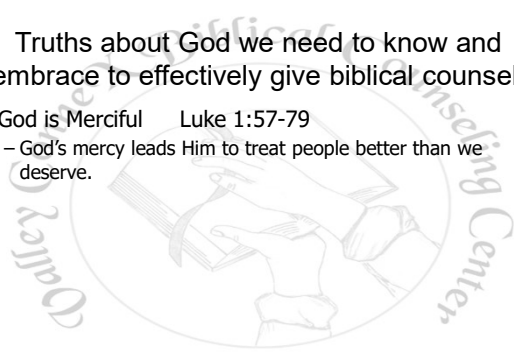
Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is holy Revelation 4:1-11
 - God is completely set apart from all else. Ethically and morally, God is set completely apart from any form of unrighteousness.



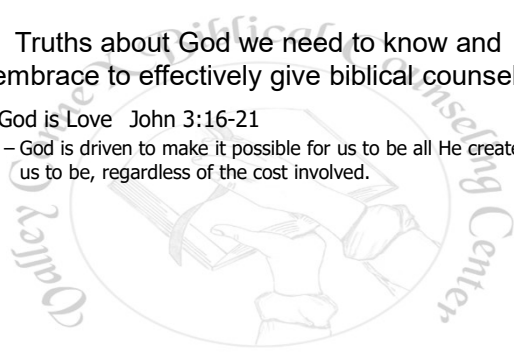
Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is Merciful Luke 1:57-79
 - God's mercy leads Him to treat people better than we deserve.



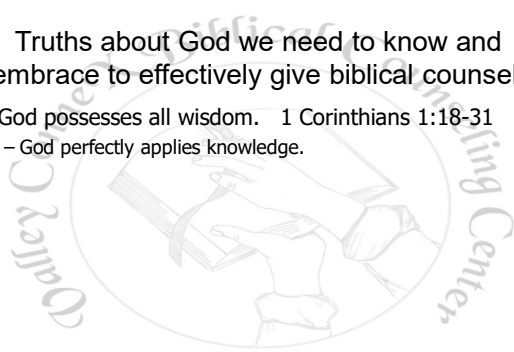
Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is Love John 3:16-21
 - God is driven to make it possible for us to be all He created us to be, regardless of the cost involved.



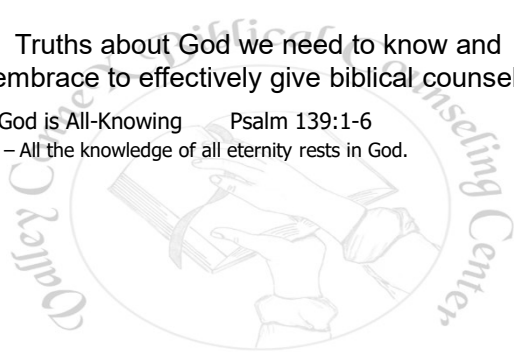
Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God possesses all wisdom. 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
– God perfectly applies knowledge.



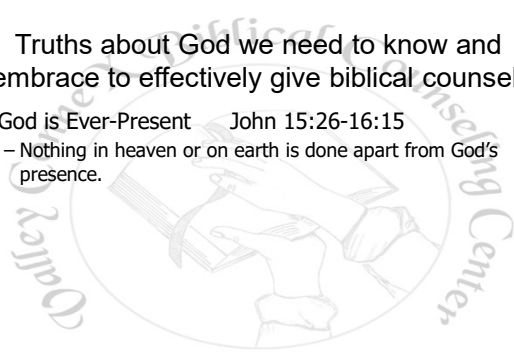
Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is All-Knowing Psalm 139:1-6
– All the knowledge of all eternity rests in God.



Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is Ever-Present John 15:26-16:15
– Nothing in heaven or on earth is done apart from God's presence.



Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is All-Powerful Isaiah 40:18-31
– God has the means to accomplish all He determines to do.



Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is Truth John 1:1-18
– God sets the standard for reality.



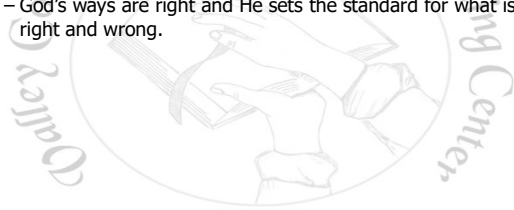
Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is Just Romans 3:21-26
– God does the right thing in every situation.



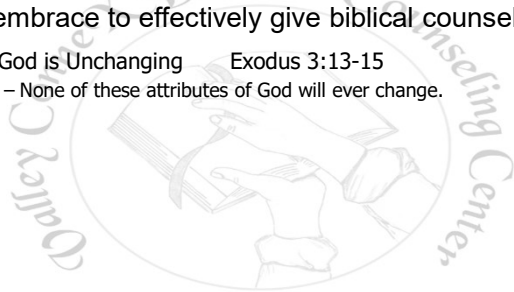
Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is Righteous Psalm 119:137-144
 - God’s ways are right and He sets the standard for what is right and wrong.



Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- God is Unchanging Exodus 3:13-15
 - None of these attributes of God will ever change.



Truths about God we need to know and embrace to effectively give biblical counsel.

- The Wrath of God Romans 1:18-20
 - God’s stance toward all unrighteousness and ungodliness.

