

1

---

---

---

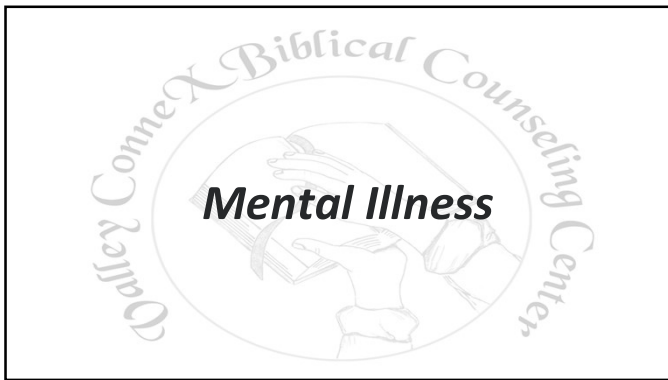
---

---

---

---

---



2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Definitions:

- Mayo Clinic: Mental illness, also called mental health disorders, refers to a wide range of mental health conditions — disorders that affect your mood, thinking and behavior...a mental health concern becomes a mental illness when ongoing signs and symptoms cause frequent stress and affect your ability to function.

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Definitions:

- American Psychiatric Association: Mental illnesses are health conditions involving changes in emotion, thinking or behavior (or a combination of these). Mental illnesses can be associated with distress and/or problems functioning in social, work or family activities.
- American Psychological Association: Mental illnesses are disorders that affect a person's mood, thoughts or behaviors. Serious mental illnesses include a variety of diseases including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder and major depressive disorder.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

4

Definitions:

- World Health Organization (WHO): A mental disorder is characterized by a clinically significant disturbance in an individual's cognition, emotional regulation, or behaviour. It is usually associated with distress or impairment in important areas of functioning. There are many different types of mental disorders.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

5

Definitions:

- National Institute of Health:
  - **Any mental illness (AMI)** is defined as a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder. AMI can vary in impact, ranging from no impairment to mild, moderate, and even severe impairment (e.g., individuals with serious mental illness as defined below).
  - **Serious mental illness (SMI)** is defined as a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder resulting in serious functional impairment, which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. The burden of mental illnesses is particularly concentrated among those who experience disability due to SMI.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

6

Definitions:

- Scriptural terms that would roughly parallel what is referred to as mental illness today are:
  - Madness Deuteronomy 28:28,34; 1 Samuel 21:14
  - Confusion of mind Deuteronomy 28:20,28
  - Insanity 1 Samuel 21:13
  - Distress Psalm 25:17; 31:9
  - Anguish Psalm 55:4
  - Demonized Mark 5:1-7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

7

Definitions:

- The condition in which a person significantly struggles with or ceases to engage life in such a way as to be and become all God created him or her to be.
  - This definition provides a “normal” as life as God created it to be.
  - The condition is marked by neglect or harmful behavior to self-and/or others.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

8

Can be faked 1 Samuel 21:12-15

• *“And David took these words to heart and was much afraid of Achish the king of Gath. So he changed his behavior before them and pretended to be insane in their hands and made marks on the doors of the gate and let his spittle run down his beard.” (1 Samuel 21:12–13, ESV)*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

9

Can be misassigned Mark 3:20-21; John 10:19-21; Acts 26:24

• *“Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “He is out of his mind.””* (Mark 3:20–21, ESV)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

10

Some possible causes

- God’s judgment Deuteronomy 28:28
- Traumatic experiences Deuteronomy 28:30-34
- Chaotic conditions Psalm 55:9-11
- Brutal betrayal Psalm 55:12-15;20-21
- Tragic loss Psalm 31:9-11
- Evil spiritual influence Mark 5:1-13

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

11

Case Study: Nebuchadnezzar Daniel 4:28-37

- Clearly a result of God’s judgment
- Would be diagnosed today as boanthropy
- The condition had a duration determined by God.
- One suffering such a condition would be incapable of self-care.
- This is an example of ministry that must take place with those directly affected by this person’s condition.

---

---

---

---

---

---

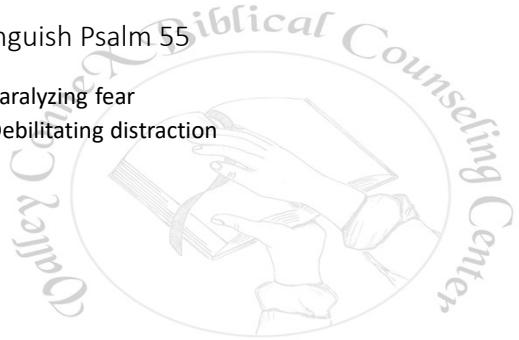
---

---

12

Anguish Psalm 55

- Paralyzing fear
- Debilitating distraction



13

---

---

---

---

---

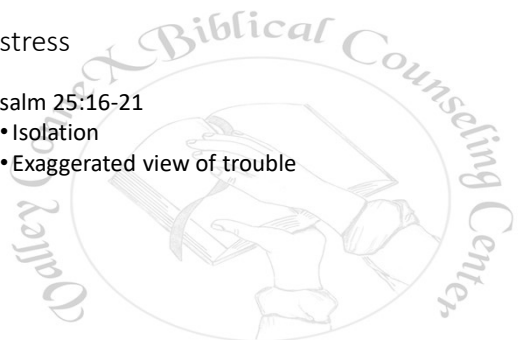
---

---

---

Distress

- Psalm 25:16-21
  - Isolation
  - Exaggerated view of trouble



14

---

---

---

---

---

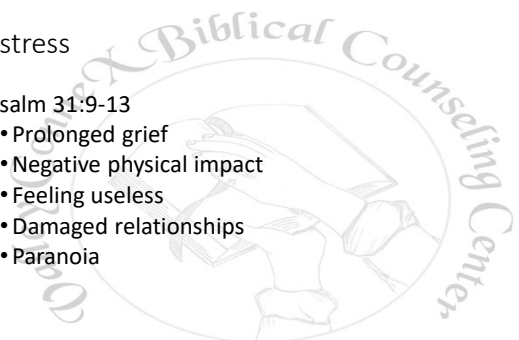
---

---

---

Distress

- Psalm 31:9-13
  - Prolonged grief
  - Negative physical impact
  - Feeling useless
  - Damaged relationships
  - Paranoia



15

---

---

---

---

---

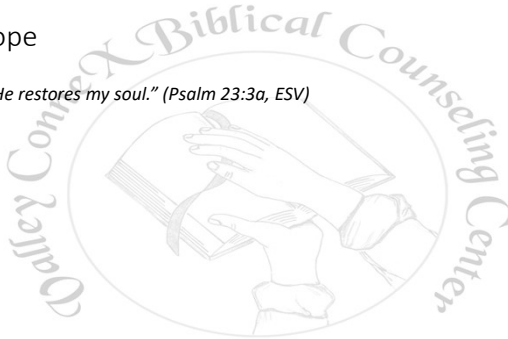
---

---

---

Hope

- "He restores my soul." (Psalm 23:3a, ESV)



The logo is circular with the text "Valley Community Biblical Counseling Center" around the perimeter. Inside the circle, a hand is shown holding an open book, with another hand pointing to a page.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---