



Why Counsel?

Additional Notes:

I. Because human beings have always needed counsel to fulfill their p u r p o s e

A. M a n ' s o r i g i n

1. Created in the image of G o d

Genesis 1:26 *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."*

2. Created to be d e p e n d e n t on God and His Word

Genesis 2:16-17 *The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; ¹⁷but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."*

B. M a n ' s f a l l

1. S a t a n ' s Counsel: Distortion of God's Word

Genesis 3:1-5 *Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; ³but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'" ⁴The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die! ⁵"For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

2. M a n ' s Response: Rejection of God's counsel

Genesis 3:6 *When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make*



one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

Romans 5:12-14 *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned--¹³for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. ¹⁴Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.*

3. S i n ' s Result: Man's need for counsel intensified

Genesis 3:8-19

C. Man's Challenge T o d a y (2 Timothy 3)

1. Will he follow the f a l s e teachers in his culture?

a. Wholesale i n i q u i t y (vv. 2-4)

1) S e l f lovers

2) C o v e t o u s lovers of money

3) B o a s t e r s

4) Unholy, p r o f a n e

5) Unnatural affection – u n l o v i n g

6) W i t h o u t self-control (2 Pet. 2:14-19)

7) Haters of g o o d

b. Wholesale h y p o c r i s y (vv. 5-7)

c. Wholesale a p o s t a s y (vv. 8,9)

d. Wholesale p e r s e c u t i o n (vv. 12,13)

2. Will he reject the t r u t h ?

2 Timothy 3:16-17 *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*

Additional Notes:



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- a. For t e a c h i n g
- b. For r e p r o o f
- c. For c o r r e c t i o n
- d. For t r a i n i n g in righteousness

II. Because of how the e a r l y c h u r c h emphasized the ministry of God's Word

A. In v a r i o u s settings

1. L a r g e group

Acts 20:7-8 On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight. ⁸There were many lamps in the upper room where we were gathered together.

2. S m a l l group

Acts 20:20teaching you publicly and from house to house

3. I n d i v i d u a l l y

Acts 20:31 ...for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

Hebrews 10:24-25 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

B. Where the Word of God is c e n t r a l

1. Note the emphasis on biblical t r u t h in Acts 20

20:2given them much exhortation

20:7prolonged his message until midnight

20:27I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.



2. Note the emphasis on biblical truth at the c l i m a x of Acts 20

20:32 *And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.*

a. The word of God's g r a c e

b. Which is able to b u i l d u p

c. Which is able to give the i n h e r i t a n c e among all those who are sanctified

C. With various a p p r o a c h e s

1. E n c o u r a g e & comfort

1 Thessalonians 4:18 *Therefore comfort one another with these words.*

Hebrews 3:13 *But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.*

2. T e a c h

Colossians 1:28 *We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.*

3. A d m o n i s h

Romans 15:14 *And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another.*

Colossians 1:28 *We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.*

4. B u i l d u p

1 Thessalonians 5:11 *Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.*

Additional Notes:

5. C o n s o l e

John 11:19 *and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary, to console them concerning their brother.*

6. H e l p

1 Thessalonians 5:14 *We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.*

D. Where the incarnate Word is our e x a m p l e

III. Because the p r i v a t e ministry of the Word is an important part of the overall discipleship ministries of the church

A. N o r m a l discipleship

B. P r e p a r a t o r y discipleship

C. Remedial / C o n c e n t r a t e d discipleship

**Additional
Notes:**