



New Life
community church

Policy for Biblical Coaching

New Life Community Church (NLCC) is committed to providing a balanced and Biblical approach to Biblical Coaching. By Biblical Coaching we mean that the Pastoral or Church Leader you are meeting with is a Christian with Biblical training and experience in applying the truths of the Bible to life. We believe that the Bible speaks to all of life and to all of its problems, but sometimes it takes careful thought and prayerful wisdom to know how to make those connections. We are not licensed therapists nor are we Marriage and Family Certified Counselors.

We believe that the Bible ultimately points us to a person and a relationship with Jesus Christ as our Savior and Redeemer. We believe that real change comes when people learn to see themselves and their problems in the context of a loving, vital relationship with Christ. This does not mean that you must be a Christian to profit from Biblical Coaching, although we believe that deep lasting change can only come through God Himself.

The Role of Scripture

Persons seeking Biblical Coaching services from NLCC are assured that all coaching will be conducted in accordance with the Pastor or Leader's knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures and the application of Scriptures to the issues of life. We believe that "all Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives". It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right (2 Tim 3:16)." Consequently, all our Biblical Coaching is Biblically based, and the Scriptures are the only authority in all cases.

In our working with people we value:

- **Inclusiveness**

All people matter to our Creator and it is God's desire that all should know this love. We will provide a safe and non-threatening place for all to seek a greater understanding of God and the purposes for which they were created.



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- Dignity

The dignity of people rests in their creation in God's image and the possibility God has made for their re-creation through Jesus Christ. The services of New Life Community Church are intended to enable individuals to come to a full appreciation of their worth before God through their partnership with us.

- Compassion

God is a God of compassion and mercy and we reflect that, as we make available to people all the resources at our disposal.

- Authentic Community

God intends that we experience community as we share our life experiences of joy and struggle. We are made for relationship in God's image and know most fully what it means to be human in relationship with God and others. As all that we are and do suffers the consequences of sin, so community too needs to be remade by the grace of God.

- Excellence

Excellence honors God and inspires people. Accountable stewardship of our resources, responsible management of our time and best Biblical Coaching practice that is culturally sensitive will reflect this excellence. Accountability includes evaluation and critical review.

- Kingdom Perspective

What New Life Community Church is doing is only a small part of God's work in our community and the world. We will rejoice in the sharing of our ministry and welcome support and encouragement from others with similar objectives.

The Individual's Responsibility in Biblical Coaching

It should be understood that Biblical Coaching involves two aspects: the Pastor or Church Leader will provide scriptural teaching relevant to the individual's concerns, and the individual will work toward making practical application of the same to his/her life. The individual is held fully responsible for how he/she implements that coaching.

To assist the individual in life application, each Biblical Coaching session may conclude with the Pastor or Church Leader assigning homework for the individual to complete which will be discussed at the next session. The goal of the homework is not to get the work done, but through it to cause growth in Christ.



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Since this is such a vital part of the Biblical Coaching process, completion of homework assignments is a requirement for Biblical Coaching to continue. If the individual is unwilling to complete the assigned homework, future Biblical Coaching sessions will not be scheduled until the assigned homework has been completed to the satisfaction of the Pastor or Church Leader.

Termination of Biblical Coaching

It is our desire that each individual benefit from Biblical Coaching after having gained the ability to apply biblical principles for growth and change in Christ, not only for the issue that brought them to counseling, but also for any future issues. At any time, either the individual or the Pastor/Church Leader can discontinue future sessions.

Non-Members of New Life Community Church

Please note that NLCC is committed to the spiritual health of its members thus, Pastoral Coaching of New Life Community Church members always takes precedence over all non-member related Biblical Coaching services.

Requirements For Those Participating in Biblical Coaching

Worship at New Life Community

NLCC is a Bible teaching church. We deeply care about the Bible and the application of its authority in each individual's life, therefore:

- we preach expositionally, systematically delving into its rich, inerrant truths
- we instruct appropriately, allowing the Word to transform children, students, men and women
- we lead Biblically, encouraging men to sacrificially love and lead their families and our Church
- we seek daily to have our minds renewed by Scripture's truths, applying them in all our relationships and responsibilities

We desire that these same benefits through the Word penetrate to the hearts of all those in our Biblical Coaching process. In our aspiration to achieve this goal, we require that all counselees fulfill, on a weekly basis, at least 1 of following options of worship at NLCC Church:



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- Attend one of the Sunday morning worship services
- Attend a Life Group
- Attend Training for Life or the New Life Institute
- Attend a Men's or Women's Bible Study
- Listen/watch the latest Sunday sermon, then write a summary of the major points, then explain the steps that will be taken for personal life application.

Confidentiality

Absolute confidentiality is not scriptural. In certain circumstances the Bible requires that facts be disclosed to select others (Matt. 18:15). In these areas we will follow the policy and procedures of NLCC. By Law, there are certain situations in which information about individuals undergoing Biblical Coaching may be released with or without their permission. These situations are as follows: (Romans 13:1-3):

1. Where it is proven that children are physically abused, neglected, or sexually abused.
2. In emergency situations where there may be proven danger to the counselee or others, as with homicide or suicide, confidentiality may be broken.
3. If a court of law issues a legitimate subpoena relating to a child abuse case, we are required by law to provide the information specifically described in the subpoena.
4. If an unreported life-threatening felony has been committed, we are required by law to report it to the police.
5. The Pastor or Church leader involved in the Biblical Coaching is submitted to and under the covering of the leadership of NLCC. Therefore, the church leadership of NLCC has access to any and all information disclosed in the Biblical Coaching sessions.
6. If a person persistently refuses to renounce a particular sin (habitual unrepentant rebellion against the Word of God) and it becomes necessary to seek the assistance of others in the church to encourage repentance, restoration, and reconciliation (see Matthew 18:15-20). Please be assured that we prefer not to disclose personal information to others, and will make every effort to help you find ways to resolve a problem as privately as possible.

At any time during the Biblical Coaching, for reasons sufficient to the Pastor or Church Leader – as also the individual – shall have the option of terminating the Biblical Coaching.



Our Commitments to You in Biblical Coaching

You have read our term “Biblical Coaching.” We would like to explain what we mean by it. Biblical Coaches are spiritual friends who commit to the historic roles of *soul care* and *spiritual direction* through:

- *Sustaining*: Empathizing with your suffering, helping you to understand that “*It’s normal to hurt.*”
- *Healing*: Encouraging you to see life from a biblical perspective, helping you to know that “*It’s possible to hope.*”
- *Reconciling*: Examining and exposing your current responses to life and suggesting new ways of handling problems, helping you to see that “*It’s horrible to sin, but wonderful to be forgiven.*”
- *Guiding*: Exploring how and empowering you to mature through Christ, helping you to grasp that “*It’s supernatural to mature.*”

Because we care about *you*, our desire is for you to be drawn closer to Christ and to become more like Christ, which we see as *your inner life increasingly reflecting the inner life of Christ*:

- *Relational Maturity*: Loving God wholeheartedly and loving others sacrificially.
- *Rational Maturity*: Wisely living according to the truth of Christ’s Gospel of grace.
- *Volitional Maturity*: Courageously choosing to pursue God’s purposes in your life through the Spirit’s power.
- *Emotional Maturity*: Deeply and honestly experiencing life with integrity, fully open to God while managing your moods for God’s glory and with a ministry focus.

Your Commitments to Christ, to Yourself, and to Us in Biblical Coaching

We ask that you commit to:

- Honestly and openly sharing your hurts and struggles.
- Evaluating your own emotions, actions, motivations, beliefs, and relationships.
- Actively participating in the growth of renewed emotions, actions, convictions, and affections.
- Coming to each meeting prepared to review your progress throughout the



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last week (including the completion of personalized “homework” assignments) and prepared to share your goals for the present meeting.

Because the Scriptures teach that growth in Christ requires all the resources of the Body of Christ (not only biblical coaching, but also discipleship, worship, fellowship, stewardship, and ambassadorship), we believe that it is essential that those seeking Biblical Coaching at our church commit themselves to the following:

- Regular church attendance (at NLCC).
- Active participation in a Life Group or Training for Life.

In Summary:

New Life Community Church Biblical Coaching Ministry is solely provided as a source of spiritual guidance and support to its recipients.

You (the individual) understand that Biblical Coaching is provided under the following conditions:

1. The Pastors or Church Leaders are engaged solely in spiritual, Biblical Coaching based on their understanding of the Bible, and they are not engaged in the practice of psychology, professional counseling or psychotherapy.
2. California State law requires us to report allegations of child/elder abuse to civil authorities.
3. Statements made in confidence to a pastoral care person in the course of counseling will be documented and filed.
4. The Pastor or Church Leader will keep any statements made in confidence during the course of Biblical Coaching in strict confidence, with the exception notifying the senior leadership within NLCC and with the exceptions as noted above. The duty to maintain confidences does not apply in the context of child abuse. Further, the Pastor or Church Leader may reserve the right to disclose confidential information in specified situations (such as threats of suicide or intent to harm another person).



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5. Should such an occasion arise, you (the individual) agree not to subpoena the Pastor or Church Leader for the records to appear in court.

***** Initial here if you understand and agree: release New Life Community Church from any and all liabilities _____.**

I Further state that I have voluntarily sought Biblical Coaching on my own and I am under no obligation to accept or reject Biblical Coaching, further more I release New Life Community Church from any and all responsibility.

Your Name

Parent if Minor

Date

** Please note: Biblical Coaching information will be documented and filed for future reference.