



Counseling Observation Agreement

Counseling Approach

Hope Community provides biblical counseling as a ministry of the church. Our goal is to help people to meet the challenges in their life by coming alongside them and guiding them to the grace and truth of Jesus Christ as found in the Scriptures. This process is dependent on the work of the Holy Spirit to bring heart change. Counseling is given in order for people to learn to live in a way that is pleasing to God, find joy and peace through the gospel, and make choices for lasting life change.

Counseling Observation

In order to continue to equip new counselors for the work of the ministry (Ephesians 4:12-16), our counselors will have observers who are being trained in biblical counseling. This is a benefit to the counselee, a benefit to the observers as they learn, and a benefit to the counselor in caring for the counselee (Proverbs 15:22).

What Is Your Role in Counseling?

We ask that you would be courteous, inconspicuous, and prompt so that the counselor and counselee are able to proceed without any distractions. Please only participate if the counselor asks you to do so.

In sessions you will be privy to very personal information, often regarding sin in the counselee's life, as well as deeply painful events from his or her past. As part of honoring God and loving the counselee well, it is incredibly important that all information shared with you in counseling remains confidential. Should an issue concerning safety arise, the Hope Counseling counselor will address potential recourse based on the confidentiality limitations.

As a trainee, you will be expected to exhibit Christ-like character in your communication throughout and following the counseling process in regard to any information you hear during sessions—letting no communication that is unwholesome/destructive come from your mouth, but only that which is good for building up (Ephesians 4:29-31).

Should you ever be unable to attend a counseling session, it will fall to the counselor to decide whether to proceed with the session without you. Though we appreciate your participation and are eager to help in your training, the counselor will most likely not be able to adjust scheduling to the trainee, as sessions are planned around the counselee's time.

Observer Role

- Be prompt. Arrive 10 minutes earlier than the appointment time for counselee.
- Be inconspicuous. Choose a seat that is to the side or behind the counselee.
- Quietly take notes.
- Be confidential. Respect the privacy of the counselee.
- Pray for the counselor leading the session and for the counselee receiving help.

I have read and agree to abide by the above information.

Observer Signature: _____ Date: _____

Observer Print Name: _____