



Introduction to Biblical Counseling (TH636) Course Syllabus

I. Learning outcomes for TH636

Introduction to Biblical Counseling will provide students with a sufficient 'lay of the land' of the biblical counseling movement, its origination, development, and present position.

II. Required Reading

Jay E. Adams, *Competent to Counsel: Introduction to Nouthetic Counseling*, (Simpsonville: Jay Adams Library, 1986).

J. Cameron Fraser, *Developments in Biblical Counseling*, (Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage, 2015).

Jeremy Lelek, *Biblical Counseling Basics: Roots, Beliefs, & Future*, (Greensboro: New Growth Press, 2018).

David Powlison, *The Biblical Counseling Movement: History and Context*, (Greensboro: New Growth Press, 2010).

Heath Lambert, *The Biblical Counseling Movement after Adams*, (Wheaton: Crossway, 2011).

Paul D. Tripp, *Instruments in the Redeemers Hands: People in Need of Change Helping People in Need of Change*, (Philippsburg: P & R, 2002).

III. Lectures

[Sessions 1-30](#) by BCDASoCal

IV. Assignments

Written assignments should be turned in together at the close of a course.

1. **Complete the assigned reading and lectures.**
2. **Write an adult Sunday school lesson designed to communicate to a congregation the origin of biblical counseling, its distinctives, its content, and why it matters.** This lesson should serve as a manuscript for a one hour lesson.
3. **Write a two to three page (double-spaced) reflection paper on the history of the biblical counseling movement.** A reflection paper identifies the subject(s) under consideration and gives a summarization of your reaction to the material with evidence from the material to support your suppositions. Reflection papers answer the questions



“Did you agree with the claims of the author?,” “What did you learn?,” “What misconceptions did you have that the author helped you correct?” Footnote all citations. For further help consult [How to Write a Reflection Paper](#).

4. **Write an six page essay (double-spaced) comparing the differences between secular psychology, integrationism, and biblical counseling.** Provide a general summarization of all three viewpoints followed by your critical evaluation. Footnote all citations.
5. **Write a four page essay on Jay E. Adams.** Cover his life, education, accomplishments, and his unique and remarkable contribution to the biblical counseling movement. Footnote all citations.