A Prayer for a Biblical Counselor Before Counseling Ernie Baker | Nov. 11, 2021 | BCC Blog

Father, You are the great and glorious God of the universe, and I am humbled to be called Your child through the shed blood of our Savior, Your Son.

**The Grand Vision**

Living for the glory of You, the great Triune God, is the main goal of life. May it be obvious in my counseling that this is my ambition.

Please help my counselees to catch a grand and glorious vision of the magnitude of who You are that can stabilize them during times of grief and remind them that You are the greatest treasure. May they learn to live as worshipers of You.

**To Know Christ**

Lord Jesus, I am so thankful for the forgiveness of my sins that You have made possible by Your death, burial, and resurrection. My goal in life now is to grow in Christlikeness to be like You. Help me to be like You, the wonderful Counselor.

May my counselees put their hope in You and not me. May they grow to be like You in all areas of life as the greatest God glorifier who has ever lived. May those who believe they are saved but have not experienced true saving faith be granted, by your grace, the gift of repentance to become Your child.

**A Powerful Spirit**

May the Holy Spirit guide me to understand the Word as I prepare for counseling. May the fruit of the Spirit be evident in my life as I seek to walk alongside others.

Unless the Spirit works in the hearts of my counselees, they will not change at the level of the heart. Please be gracious to them and grant them to understand truth, and by Your Spirit, grant them peace in the midst of suffering and repentance where necessary.

**Superior Authority**

You have blessed us with an amazing gift in Your living Word, the Bible. May it be obvious that the counsel I give is based on Your authority and not the authority of man; my fallible opinions or experience. Help me to be confident I have Truth in a world of theories.

My counselees hear many voices competing for authority in their lives. Please help them understand the nature of this book—The Book. May the result then be that they are awed by the wisdom they see and submitted to its direction for life.

**Hearts That Are Aware**

It is clear in your Word that the heart is the root system affecting the fruit in our lives. May I understand my own heart’s worship and how it influences my counseling. Please help me to be aware of my own inordinate desires so that I can be a helper of others in a wiser way. I need Your wisdom to draw out the purposes of my counselee’s heart.

Please help my counselee to grow in heart awareness, so it becomes clear that their heart’s desires are about worship. May my counselee firmly grasp that these desires are truly idolatry as the false treasures of their heart become obvious.

**Reminder of Love**

Lord, this world is full of hate and tensions in relationships. May each counseling session be a refreshing contrast to this for my counselees. Please help me to follow Your example and have a heart of compassion. Help me to display it in obvious ways.

Be gracious to my counselees, Lord, by the power of Your Holy Spirit so that they would understand and accept Your love as displayed in the gospel. They need your help to grow in love for You and others.

**Ears That Hear, Eyes That See**

I desire to understand my counselees. I need wisdom to listen well and to ask the right questions. Please help me.

As my counselees answer questions, may they see connections in their own souls, and may their eyes be opened to truth. Please help them to examine their priorities, what their hope is in, and what they are making their identity.

**Diligence to Grow**

Lord Jesus, You command us to make disciples by teaching them to *observe* all You have commanded. To fulfill this command, I need wisdom in designing and assigning homework that is a precise application of Your Word.

In the busyness of life, please help my counselees to be disciplined in their homework. Help them to realize that there is no magical, instantaneous growth in my counseling sessions; the real magic of sanctification happens as counselees apply Scripture in real life. Please help them.

**A Flourishing Church**

Your design for life in the local church is beautiful. I praise You for the church and that I have the privilege to shepherd Your flock. We want to care for Your flock well as we help to beautify the bride for Your return.

I pray that my counselees will also be committed to Your church amid the distractions of life. May they see the beauty of life in the church as we bear one another’s burdens. As we sing together, pray together, listen to Your Word together, and fellowship together, may they see the beauty of being committed to our church and using their gifts to strengthen the body.

**Reminder of Hope**

Life on this planet is often discouraging. Thank You for the hope Your Word gives. Your Word is saturated with hope, so may my counsel also be filled with hope. May I be known as an encourager to my counselees.

My counselees need hope, Lord. They need hope in their physical suffering. They need hope for their marriages. They need hope in raising their children. They need hope as they struggle with bad emotions. May they have hope, so they are motivated to put effort into counseling. May their gazes break through to eternity.

We pray all these things, eagerly awaiting Your return. Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus!