

Eastern Iowa Biblical Counseling Coalition

Kava House, Swisher, Iowa

9/17/2015

Present: *Harvest Bible Chapel- Davenport:* Kip Hamby, Paul Chovan, Janet Chovan, Paula Olson

Prairie Flower Baptist Church: Dave Cotner, Jr. Dave Cotner, III.

Stonebridge Church: Trisha Young

Faith Baptist Church: Sydney Millage

Grace Community Church: Dave Kirk, Jason Blackley, Aimee Marino

- I. Welcome/ Introductions
- II. Ministry Updates
 - a. Harvest Bible Chapel
 - i. Highlights: Crisis Response Team launch this Saturday for in-house crises; growing elder support; working on putting on a class based on Tim Keller's "Meaning of Marriage" to train marriage mentors
 - ii. Prayer Points: First time shortage of marriage mentors/ counselors.
 1. Can give homework during the waiting period, and check in periodically to see how they are doing
 - a. Examples: Read books such as "What Did You Expect," Paul Tripp "Marriage Matters" by Winston T. Smith, "Relationships, a Mess Worth Making" by Paul Tripp and Tim Lane, and get involved in biblical community
 - b. Prairie Flower Baptist
 - i. Highlights: People are being saved! Broke the "200 barrier" three times this year; brought on an associate pastor.
 - ii. Highlight and challenge: after much prayer, embarking on a church "reset."
 1. "When anything visible distracts us from the invisible God, we are wrong."
 - iii. Prayer Points: Congregational makeup of ultra-conservative and contemporary, which presents unique shepherding challenges, pray for unity, strength and humility during a church-wide refocus
 - c. Faith Baptist Church
 - i. Highlight: Sydney graduated a three-year severe counselee
 - ii. Prayer points: Waiting for the leadership of the church to see the value of biblical counseling
 - d. Stonebridge:

- i. Highlights: tremendous growth in biblical counseling ministry over the past 4 years, pursuing a 501c3 with Elder support to legally cover the counseling ministry ; New Wednesday night ministry to help train counselors turned into a time of giving hope to those who desired counseling
 - ii. Prayer Points: physical attacks of cancer specifically on leadership ; need more people to actively invest in the biblical counseling vision ; prayer for wisdom
 - e. Grace Community Church
 - i. Highlights: God is calling people, specifically men, to be trained in biblical counseling; bringing on elders who serve specifically in the biblical counseling ministry
 - ii. Prayer Points: structural issues; getting ready to implement domestic abuse policy; counselor Alice Hwan is headed to Taiwan, and is bringing the healing word of God with her

III. Biblical Counseling Training Conference

- a. Two women who attended tracks 1 and 2 from Harvest communicated excitement over the content
- b. Excellent talk on singleness by Rob Green
- c. Watching folks catch the vision
- d. Paula is excited to attend Track 3 next year, and suggested a continuing education class
- e. Special lunch on the Saturday of the October conference, highlighting the EIBCC
- f. Special lunch on the Saturday of the November conference, highlighting the ACBC Certification process
- g. Logistical feedback from Kip:
 - i. Warm greeting, especially by the students
 - ii. Excellent bookstore
 - iii. Length of breaks was good
 - iv. More options at lunch
- h. Feedback from David
 - i. Three couples attended, loved the content
- i. As we look at next year's conference, we are very aware of the value of the input and help of our ministry network partners, and we need the help of all of our partners to champion the importance of making soul care a part of the church.
- j. Morning With The Pastors Breakfast: in January, the EIBCC will be offering a time of fellowship, vision casting, and information about biblical counseling and what it looks like to make it a part of the DNA of the church body, and what it looks like to cast vision to your elder team.

IV. Discussion and Questions

- a. The Problem and Opportunity of Having a Waiting List:
 - i. Gives a chance to train lay leadership to provide soul care in the wait time
 - ii. Gives a chance to triage the severity and teachability of the counseling situation

- iii. The Lord is at work in the wait
- b. Sydney has a simplified copy of the Gospel Primer, re-written at a 5th-6th grade level.
Contact Sydney at semillage@gmail.com for this version
- c. Working on contacting and scheduling speaker Chris Mall – will inform the EIBCC when this is scheduled
- d. Grace will share domestic abuse policy once it is ratified.

V. Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 15th at 8:30 at Kava House