



Module 4: Counselors and Advisors

Welcome to the module titled "Counselors and Advisors".

Proverbs 11:14 tells us that, *"Where there is no guidance the people fall, But in abundance of counselors there is victory."*

I would advise everyone to "humbly" seek 2 or 3 people to serve as spiritual advisors. If you are still young in your spiritual walk and know that you need help, I would argue this is mandatory for you. If you are much more mature in your walk, you still need advisors but you may place less reliance on them as we will discuss in a few minutes. Spiritual advisors serve as a shield of protection, to help guard us from self-deception within our own hearts.

Hebrews 13:17 *"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you."*

2 Corinthians 13:1 - *"...every fact is to be confirmed by the testimony of two or three witnesses"*

- Your advisors are NOT someone you know will agree with you on everything.
- Close friend is ok, but be careful about those that you know will always agree.
- Your advisor MUST have a solid biblical orientation
- Your advisor must be able to sense the voice of the Spirit
- Your advisors should also receive from his/her own counsel
- Your advisors should be ahead of you in the area you are wanting to develop and work on

Notice I did not say Pastor. Pastors have a high demand placed on them from most members of their congregations. If you decide to approach your pastor and ask him (or her) to be a personal spiritual advisor, please be respectful and do not become offended/feelings hurt if he (or she) indicates they cannot accommodate your request.

Advisors should absolutely NOT be of the opposite sex. This can create emotional affairs that are unbiblical and will get you into trouble. This is different than a paid Christian Counselor who is certified and trained to work with you on specific issues.

You may have a few counselors, some whom are focused on specific areas of your life (i.e., finance, bible studies). They may recognize flaws in what you believe you hear.

You do not want counselors who are going to be in agreement with you all of the time. You need someone who is truly listening to what the Spirit tells him/her, not someone who is going to tell you simply what you want to hear.

After receiving counsel, YOU maintain final responsibility before God for your response to what you believe is His true *rhema* word for you.

Caution: If you do something that you honestly believe is against what God has told you, it is sin for you because you are acting in disobedience.

Your spouse is an awesome gift from God and should always be one of your counselors; presuming they are Christian, accept the Bible, fear God, and are Spiritually oriented.

If you are at work and your boss angrily calls you into his/her office, rely on the Holy Spirit to help guide you through the conversation. You can follow up with your counselors/advisors later to seek their thoughts on how you handled the situation. Spiritually? Or carnally?

Changing advisors every 3-5 years is not always a bad thing. It can be a general sign that you are growing and changing, which necessitates new advisors. But this

also depends on your attitude and whether you regularly catch yourself filled with pride and burdened by your ego or shame.

Take time to pray and speak truth with your own lips - be completely honest and transparent when you are sharing with your counselors, writing things down in your journal, and with your prayers to God (He already knows anyway because He can see your heart).

Once you have confidence in your own spiritual discernment, you can cut back to only sharing those things with your counselors that you are uncertain about, or, might be big decisions.

Within The Wilderness Project Experience, I am referring to “counselors and advisors” as coaches and mentors, who are there to assist you in discerning God’s voice along your journey. Coaches and mentors should also be there to help you with understanding scripture, or items of a spiritual nature, or helping you understand your purpose and your identity in Christ. How else will you learn your story within the Larger Story?

There are professionally licensed and certified Christian Counselors out there, trained to help those through severe trauma and emotional anguish amongst other things. While we believe that Jesus Christ, and His blood, is the antidote you require for anything – we are not licensed or certified counselors and should not be considered as such.

PRAY and CONCLUDE