



Greetings Church Family,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Father and Lord, Jesus Christ.

What a year! It has been my goal and enormous challenge to approach this counseling year with an "Apostle Paul tent making approach." Partly because I had to due to family needs. The Paul approach I took was: ***"brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God (1 Thess. 2:9).***

Though I labored harder to support my family while remaining surrendered to the counseling ministry God commissioned, ***"I am way short and "need your help and support."***

But first, here are some fruit testimonies from 2016. For over 40 years, Biblical counseling at Faith Ministries always has been about evangelism, restoration, and discipleship. I have asked many counselees to go home and email or message me, in short statements, of what God has been teaching them in counseling; here are a few:

12/22/15, 2:00pm

😊 And just having someone who understands the struggle and is there to say "it's gonna be OK" and "you're gonna make it" is a much needed blessing! I understand now how to walk by faith. How did I miss that? Thank you.

1/5, 7:12am

Thank you for the months of counseling and for encouraging me to find a mentor to lead me where we left off. She challenges me to grow spiritually, (and mentally, physically emotionally, too!), she encourages me, she gives me advice. She points things out, but doesn't push her ideas on me, she let's me work thru it on my own asking questions, almost...almost....like a professional counselor I know...ha ha. Thank you! Thank you! for showing me Jesus.

2/17, 1:01pm

I've never really thought about it like that before, but it makes total sense! I'm really glad we worked on me first and I'm sure there is more to do!! But at least we are getting somewhere and I am more content with myself and not ready to walk out and give up!

2//22, 10:14 pm - I can't ignore the issues and just let them fade away until next time. I learned today that God has provided the resources to help me work thru them and that is what I need to do; get to the bottom of each one and destroy the false beliefs and lies that are there and replace them with His truth. I want to run and hide, I want to take something to help me ignore it all and get it off my mind; I want an easy out - an escape. But it's time to stand and fight, so I will let go of the pride and say "I need help, I can't do this on my own".

5/5, 10:44 am

First of all - thank you for yesterday - for the understanding, honesty, encouragement, prayers and renewed hope! Secondly – What I have learn through counseling, while daily, leaving my addiction. This Truth Principle: If we can figure it out, we don't need God; whenever it seems impossible, that is when God is just getting started. He is waiting on His throne to bring Glory to Himself by hearing my request.

07/19 10:14 pm

Thanks for letting me come by today! I know the Spirit was guiding - you answered questions I had written down and I didn't even have to ask them! I wish I had means to pay you. You give so much. I will pray God prospers you.

.....hundred's of these during the year, for God's Glory!

The counselors here believe strongly, that counseling, evangelism, and discipleship belong to the church. Therefore, We at Faith make it our goal to repair the heart of the broken and lead them back to the local church as productive, kingdom citizens. Productivity always starts with brokenness, problem awareness, correction, starting with confession, that leads to repentance, and finally restoration. It is there where the restored brother and sister are presented back to the church with a foundation to grow in sanctification. I chose not to ask for support or contributions in 2016, trying to follow the heart of the Apostle Paul.

The good news is God providing three catastrophic claims opportunities in Louisiana and off the coast of Virginia (Hurricane Matthew). It provided approximately 60% of the income needed for my family's basic needs. I don't recommend that for a family man unless you have to meet the basic needs of the family.

Though the work was good... The bad news was four-fold:

1. *I missed 3 ½ scattered months of counseling those that needed it so desperately (including a client suicide).*
2. *Very little to no time with my family during the year.*
3. *Could not effectively fulfill my church role responsibilities well.*
4. *Still have not met my families' needs (40% shortfall).*

What for 2017? All I know is the need is there and God keeps bringing me people to spend a lot of time with. If anything, pray for many to be saved or restored back to fellowship with God.

PLANS FOR 2017.

1. *Presently reconstructing our Website - by January 31. **faithminsitriestupelo.com.***
2. *As your Southern Baptist International Mission Board Trustee, preparation to travel to Jordan and Middle East to counsel with and serve along side our missionaries; IMB pays for the 3 week trip but not the loss of income while gone.*
3. *Presently working with the City of Tupelo and Community for counseling the homeless.*
4. *Presently Training a female counselor.*
5. *Development of counseling workshops for the most common needs.*
6. *Co-hosting- our television ministry: "FAITH THAT WORKS" (Live Counseling Testimonies).*

Please pray that God would give you wisdom in supporting Faith Ministries with a one-time, tax deductible gift for this end of the year shortfall and so we can get a good start into the new year. God bless you and we will work hard to use your Kingdom Investment wisely.

Gratefully in Christ



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