

## **Everyone's a Counselor (Murray & Doyle) – Week 3 Handout.**

### **Chapter 3 “Biblical Counseling and a Theology of Common Grace” (Heath Lambert)**

#### **Question to ponder: Chapter 3 – Yes or No**

- 1). Is the Scripture sufficient for Counseling?
- 2). To be a compassionate Biblical Counselor must we not only address sufficient resources within Scripture but also address the relevance of resources outside of Scripture?

Lambert contends: we must understand The Doctrine of Common Grace to deal with these type questions.

#### **Quotes from Heath Lambert “A Theology of Biblical Counseling”**

“**Common Grace** is the good kindness of God that he shows to all people regardless of whether they have experienced the salvation that comes through Jesus Christ alone. It is called Common Grace because it comes to all people – believers and unbelievers alike. It is referred to as grace because it is underserved.” “God enables the minds of believers and unbelievers to operate and be able to know true things.”

#### **Noetic effects of sin:** (more on this in chapter 8)

“The Noetic effects refers to the impact of sin on our thinking”.

“Common Grace makes it possible for unbelievers to know fact, but the noetic effects of sin make it impossible for them to embrace the most important facts. The closer unbelievers get in counseling to issues having to do with God, the ultimate meaning of life, and the problems that plague humanity, the greater will be the impact of noetic effects of sin on their thinking”

#### **Secular Psychology: Three Levels of Analysis**

“**Observations** of psychologists consists of the information they come to know through their careful work.”

“**Interpretations** of psychologists are when they seek to understand the information produced by their observations.”

“**Interventions** of secular psychology are effects to employ interpreted observations in helping people in counseling.”

#### **SOME FINAL QUOTES:**

“If Biblical counseling intervention must be “proven” to work before we can use it, we move away from faithfulness to the divine message. Doing so embraces a compromise of Biblical Authority.”

“Empiricism teaches that something is not true until science has proven it to be true. Biblical Authority teaches something is true when God declares it to be True.”

**“What must God think when his people talk about the principles of his word only after they have been filtered through secular psychology?” (PG 89)**

**“The Bible, not the findings of psychology, is the standard for what people really need in counseling help.”**