



Association for Biblical Counseling And Education

PO Box 2151 Randburg 2125

E.mail: abce@global.co.za

Web page: www.abbo.org.za

Tel: 011 886 7414

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Counselors ... people of silk and steel

To speak the truth in love (Eph 4:15) challenges us as biblical counselors to be soft, caring, patient and empathetic (1 Thes 2:7b). At the same time we must be straight forward, even stern (2 Cor 13:2b-4) – Jesus Himself is gentle (Math 9:36 and stern (Math 11:20).

The November edition of the news letter focuses on ABCE's training in Biblical counseling and on opportunities for counseling.

Contributions for the news letter can be sent to the office: abce@global.co.za.

TRAINING

NEW MANAGER

The ministry of ABCE has grown to such an extent that it became possible to appoint a manager to focus on the training of biblical counselors. **Johan Eloff** will be responsible for this as from 1 January 2010. Johan is well equipped for the challenge. Besides his experience as minister for 10 years, he is also pastoral counselor at Elim Clinic in Kempton Park and in a private practice at his home. During the past few years he has served at ABCE as an assessor and trainer. He developed Course 3 and facilitates Course 1 and 3. **Vorster Combrink** will serve as Manager: Counseling and he will devote his time to the bridging counseling at Radio Pulpit as well as other counseling opportunities. We pray that God will grant them his mercy and power!



Johan Eloff (left) & Vorster Combrink (right)

COURSE 1: BIBLICAL COUNSELING

The contact session of 10 October at Radio Pulpit was very well attended. The students are dedicated and report remarkable personal growth. The assignments were of good standard. The assessors provided valuable guidance. The format of the exam has been aligned to the outcomes of the assignments and students will receive feedback from the assessors. The exam weighs 40% and the assignments during the year 60% of the total assessment.



Course1 Afrikaans contact session: 10 Oct



Course 1 English contact session: 10 Oct

COURSE 2: PRACTICE OF BIBLICAL COUNSELING

10 students have completed Course 2 and they grew significantly in character and counseling skills. The study leader was Vorster Combrink and he was assisted by Ferdie Botha, Kobus Roux, Martina Opperman, Sabina Vilakazi and Alta Petersen.



Course 2-students 2009

EX STUDENTS

Gauteng

On 31 Oct ABCE ex students, associates and the bridging counselors at Radio Pulpit convened. Training was given on "Biblical counseling in a traditional black African context". The fascillatator was Isaac Maleke, vice principal of the Mukanyo Theological College.



Isaac Maleke

Western Cape

Ex students in the Western Cape occasionally meet for training and mutual encouragement. Adelé Zeelie can be contacted by 072 747 3429 or 021 885 1430 (at home after 17:00) or 021 885 1520 (during office hours). Email: azeelie@mweb.co.za.

Spring School at Shekinah

Many people in our country struggle with addictions to substances, relationships, food, maney and sex. At the spring camp of 11 – 13 Sept dr Henriëtta Klaasing gave training on how to counsel these people in a biblical manner.



Henriëtta Klaasing

STUDY FUND

At present a few students of Course 1 and 2 is not able to pay the full required amount. Any ex student who wants to contribute, can pay the money into the ABCE Study Fund.

CONTEXTUALISATION OF LEARNING MATERIAL

ABCE intend to revise the learning material of Course 1 for people who do counseling in traditional black African contexts. Themas to be explored are poverty, joblessness, HIV & aids, traditional religion, etc. Ex students who want to participate can contact Vorster at vcombrink@lantic.net.

MARKETING

Our aim is to enroll 140 students for 2010. People benefit so much from the courses that we would like to involve many more . Our country desperately need well equipped biblical counselors. If every ex student recruit

only one or two new students for 2010, we will easily reach the target of 140. This will also enable ABCE to involve more trainers and full time personnel.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRAINING

ASSOCIATE COUNSELING

ABCE invites ex students to do counseling in association with us. This association provides an opportunity for a legitimate biblical counseling ministry. Several ex students have already registered as associates. Please contact Marietjie at the office for more information.

BRIDGING COUNSELING AT RADIO PULPIT

At present 34 counselors render a 24/7 counseling service under the management of ABCE.

- Telephone calls and letters (slow mail and email) are handled on a daily basis.
- As from 1 Jan 10 the post of coordinator will be replaced by an administrative one.
- The national reference list is being expanded
- Furniture has been donated and a computer has been installed in the counseling room.
- Three training sessions took place in collaboration with the ABCE ex students
- Six counselors are busy with ABCE courses - Course 1: Matthew Dikwidi; Monsley Mathlaba, Thomson Mashakeni and Jerry Hlangwane. Course 2: David Mokoena and Jan Lebogo.
- Three new counselors are in the process of being contracted and accredited to SAAP: Lettie Louw, Nick Nel en Elize Marais.
- Counseling articles have been regularly published on the web page of Radio Pulpit
- Templates for letters have been developed and expanded by relevant material
- Bible programmes have been installed on the computer in the counseling room
- Valuable contact has been established with the Counseling Centre of Lewende Woord, the National Council Centre Development Ministry (NCCDM) , Shalom Toren en the Centre for Training, Information and Communication (CENTK)

OLIEWENHOUTBOS

Under the banner of Urbanvest Foundation, a social welfare organisation, Annali en Ria Swanepoel have become involved through biblical counseling in the informal settlement of Olievenhoutbos, on the R55 next to Pretoria. Approximately 600,000 people live here. Ex students who want to help can contact Annali at annali@urbanvest.co.za

HUIS EBENHAEZER

This facility in Daspoort, Pretoria harbors between 30 en 40 poor people , mostly homeless women and children. The following ex students provide counseling here on a weekly basis: Miriam Goussard; Anjo Fourie en Vorster Combrink.

PRIMARY SCHOOL WESTERLIG

Ferdie Botha counsels parents at this school in Danville, Pretoria. There is a need for more counselors. Please contact the social worker: Deleen Wilcocks: westerlig@webafrica.org.za

A prayer for advent

*God be merciful unto us, and bless us;
And cause his face to shine upon us.
That thy way be known upon earth,
Thy saving health among all nations*
Ps 67:2-3