

Recommended Reading

We recommend four books and one article to you before your counseling sessions begin, and trust they will be an encouragement to you. Please read the first article. We have included it for you on the next 2 pages. Then we suggest you begin with the first book listed, yet feel free to select the ones that best address your needs. We recommend many other resources as well. Please feel free to request a list of them.

* Brokenness, the Heart God Revives - Nancy Leigh DeMoss

Do you long for a fresh and continuing influence of God in your life? Are you ready to do what it takes to meet with God? What is true brokenness? Spiritual revival will permeate every area of our lives, and is an absolute necessity for addressing the issues we face. (Ps 34:18) (See the next 2 pages.)

* Understanding the Wounded Heart - Marcus Warner

Everyone has been wounded at some time, and whether we realize it or not, we live our lives from the basis of our deep-hearted beliefs about those wounds. This book explains 4 tools to help people experience healing: taking thoughts captive, forgiveness, listening prayer, and building joy.

* Love and Respect - Emerson Eggerichs

This book is based on the truths presented in Eph. 5 that a wife has a predominate need - to feel loved. And a husband has a predominate need - to feel respected. When these needs are met there is joy in the relationship, when either of these needs isn't met, things get crazy. This book reveals why spouses react negatively to each other and how they can deal with such conflict.

* Bondage Breaker - Neil Anderson

Learn how to break negative thought patterns, control irrational feelings, and break out of habitual, sinful behavior. Learn also of the position of the believer, the vulnerability of the believer, and specific steps that can be taken to experience the freedom Christ has already provided. God has given to the believer the right to be free from the power of Satan by affirming their identity in Christ.

* 31 Days of Praise – Ruth & Warren Myers

31 devotionals help you to cultivate the "heart habit" of praise and worship. You will be inspired to appreciate and adore the Lord in all things, even in the midst of difficulties. This book will help to develop a deeper intimacy with God and greater love for Him.

The Heart God Revives

Proud people focus on the failures of others. Broken people are overwhelmed with a sense of their own spiritual need.

Proud people have a critical, fault-finding spirit; they look at everyone else's faults with a microscope but their own with a telescope.

Broken people are compassionate; they can forgive much because they know how much they have been forgiven.

Proud people are self-righteous; they look down on others. Broken people esteem all others better than themselves.

Proud people have an independent, self-sufficient spirit. Broken people have a dependent spirit; they recognize their need for others.

Proud people have to prove that they are right. Broken people are willing to yield the right to be right.

Proud people claim rights; they have a demanding spirit. Broken people yield their rights; they have a meek spirit.

Proud people are self-protective of their time, their rights, and their reputation. *Broken people are self-denying.*

Proud people desire to be served. Broken people are motivated to serve others.

Proud people desire to be a success. Broken people are motivated to be faithful and to make others a success.

Proud people desire self-advancement. Broken people desire to promote others.

Proud people have a drive to be recognized and appreciated. Broken people have a sense of their own unworthiness; they are thrilled that God would use them at all.

Proud people are wounded when others are promoted and they are overlooked. Broken people are eager for others to get the credit; they rejoice when others are lifted up.

Proud people have a subconscious feeling, "This ministry/church is privileged to have me and my gifts"; they think of what they can do for God.

Broken people's heart attitude is, "I don't deserve to have a part in any ministry"; they know that they have nothing to offer God except the life of Jesus flowing through their broken lives.

Proud people feel confident in how much they know. Broken people are humbled by how very much they have to learn.

Proud people are self-conscious. Broken people are not concerned with self at all.

Proud people keep others at arms' length. Broken people are willing to risk getting close to others and to take risks of loving intimately. Proud people are quick to blame others.

Broken people accept personal responsibility and can see where they are wrong in a situation.

Proud people are unapproachable or defensive when criticized. Broken people receive criticism with a humble, open spirit.

Proud people are concerned with being respectable, with what others think; they work to protect their own image and reputation.

Broken people are concerned with being real; what matters to them is not what others think but what God knows; they are willing to die to their own reputation.

Proud people find it difficult to share their spiritual need with others. Broken people are willing to be open and transparent with others as God directs.

Proud people want to be sure that no one finds out when they have sinned; their instinct is to cover up. Broken people, once broken, don't care who knows or who finds out; they are willing to be exposed because they have nothing to lose.

Proud people have a hard time saying, "I was wrong; will you please forgive me?" Broken people are quick to admit failure and to seek forgiveness when necessary.

Proud people tend to deal in generalities when confessing sin. Broken people are able to acknowledge specifics when confessing their sin.

Proud people are concerned about the consequences of their sin. Broken people are grieved over the cause, the root of their sin.

Proud people are remorseful over their sin, sorry that they got found out or caught. Broken people are truly, genuinely repentant over their sin, evidenced in the fact that they forsake that sin.

Proud people wait for the other to come and ask forgiveness when there is a misunderstanding or conflict in a relationship.

Broken people take the initiative to be reconciled when there is misunderstanding or conflict in relationships; they race to the cross; they see if they can get there first, no matter how wrong the other may have been.

Proud people compare themselves with others and feel worthy of honor. Broken people compare themselves to the holiness of God and feel a desperate need for His mercy.

Proud people are blind to their true heart condition. *Broken people walk in the light.*

Proud people don't think they have anything to repent of. Broken people realize they have need of a continual heart attitude of repentance.

Proud people don't think they need revival, but they are sure that everyone else does. Broken people continually sense their need for a fresh encounter with God and for a fresh filling of His Holy Spirit.

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