

The Sufficient Word

The Institute for Biblical Counseling & Discipleship • Volume 12, Number 3 • December 2005

Serving the Savior, His Saints and Sinners

Dear friends of the Savior and IBCD,

Greetings! My last report was given in December of 2003. I think you'll be thrilled to hear some of the highlights of the ministry of our staff. We continue to give hundreds of hours of free counseling to God's sheep. We have also seen some sinners converted into sons and daughters of God. Let me introduce you to our staff of counselors.

Dr. Jim Newheiser faithfully oversees our North County operations. He has ministered God's word in the Philippine Islands, Spain and Qatar, as well as in the USA. (See our April 2005 newsletter.) He supervises the classes where our students get hands-on training in biblical counseling. He continues to serve as a Fellow of the National Association of Nouthetic Counselors (NANC) and presents seminars at their annual conferences. With Elyse Fitzpatrick and Dr. Laura Hendrickson, he authored *When Good Kids Make Bad Choices* (Eugene: Harvest House Pub., 2005). He does all this in addition to pastoring Grace Bible Church in Escondido, CA, and leading FIRE (Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals).

Jack Dundas counsels for IBCD at both locations (La Mesa and Escondido) and is an elder in his church, Grace Presbyterian Church in Fallbrook, CA. He is active in discipling people both here and in Washington State, where he spends every summer.

Eileen Scipione counsels for us at both locations and also for her church. She speaks frequently to women's groups and has presented workshops at NANC conferences. She was a member of the missions team to the Czech Republic for the last two summers.

Christa Walker, who has received both NANC and IBCD certification, counsels for us, as well as at her church. She and her husband, Luke, recently took a trip for their church, visiting several mission fields in India and throughout Southeast Asia.

Elyse Fitzpatrick continues an extensive writing ministry and a busy speaking ministry to women in the USA and abroad. She and her husband, Phil Fitzpatrick, counsel at their church and Phil, who is now certified by NANC, also counsels for us. Go to www.elysefitzpatrick.com for a list of all her books and her upcoming speaking engagements. If she is coming to your area in the future, try to attend - she is always "worth the price of admission".

Dr. Laura Hendrickson is co-authoring another book with

Elyse, which we pray will be published in 2006. She does the incredibly hard work of consulting with our staff on our tough cases where there is a physiological component. She also counsels many difficult cases for her church. In the past, she has done work as a medical missionary.

I continue to serve as director of IBCD, as associate pastor at Bayview Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Chula Vista, CA, and as adjunct professor of Practical Theology at Westminster Seminary California and Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. During the past two years, I've taught in Vietnam and twice in the Czech Republic. I've preached, taught and/or given biblical counseling in California, Georgia, Missouri, New York, North Carolina and South Carolina. By His grace, I've seen people come to faith in Christ, repent of sin, return to the Lord and embrace the sufficiency and superiority of Christ and His written word. I've been a consultant for pastors, missionaries and military chaplains. God is good.

What do you note in all of this? All of our staff members have ministered locally within their church bodies and also nationally and internationally. Our staff is committed to Christ and His great commission. I'm humbled and awed at His hand upon us. The battle for God's glory and His all-sufficient and superior Scripture rages. It is IBCD's honor to fight for King Jesus. We couldn't do this without you.

What will 2006 bring? Only our sovereign Lord knows, but we suspect it will be more of the same until He returns. Until then - watch, pray, give and worship. Stand with us as we await the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ!

George C. Scipione



Biblical Counseling Classes at Westminster Seminary in Escondido, CA

- Introduction to Biblical Counseling:
January 3-6 (daytime)
- Marriage & Family Counseling
January 9-13 (daytime)
- Advanced Seminar in Biblical Counseling
January 16-20 (daytime)
- Methods of Psychological Counseling
January 13-14, 20-21
(Friday evenings & Saturdays)

Call us at 619/462-9775 or go to www.ibcd.org/training
for schedule and an application form.

George Scipione's Speaking Engagements

- Three classes at Westminster Seminary (see left)
January 3-20
- Marriage & Family Conference
Jenison, MI (near Grand Rapids)
February 10-11
- Redeemer Biblical Counseling Training Institute
Moore, SC - March 3-5
- Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary
Greenville, SC - March 10-18
- NANC "On the Road" Training
Portland, OR - April 7-8

Spring Seminar 2006

Discerning God's Will:
A Christian's Guide
to Guidance

Saturday, April 1
10:00-3:00
at Grace Bible Church in
Escondido, CA
(north of San Diego)

Speakers:
Jim Newheiser &
George Scipione



There is no need to register.
Admission is free.
(An offering will be taken.)

Summer Institute 2006

More Than Conquerors:
Victors vs. Survivors

June 22-24, 2006
at New Life Church in La Mesa, CA
(just east of San Diego)

Paul
Tripp



George
Scipione



Debbie
Dewart



Elyse
Fitzpatrick



Laura
Hendrickson



Robert
Needham



Jim
Newheiser



Mark
Schroeder



Eileen
Scipione



Books



When Good Kids Make Bad Choices arrived in bookstores last spring. (See article on page 1 for details re. authors and publisher.) We have heard from several people who have already benefited from reading it, including a woman who sent the following email:

This book changed my life and the life of my family. I encourage any parent struggling with an incorrigible child to read it. It provides support, encouragement, practical information and resources that families need when they are faced with these challenges. Scripture commands us to seek godly counsel and this book provides such counsel. Thank you for this valuable resource.

You can order this and other good Christian books from Evangelical Bible Book Store at 800-450-5858, or look for it at your local Christian bookstore.



Jim Newheiser, Elyse Fitzpatrick (lower left) and Laura Hendrickson

One of our current counselees would like to share her story with you:

As a child, I was repeatedly molested and from that I was left with many fears and control issues. Relationships were almost impossible for me. Before I ever thought about getting counseling, I went through a very painful time in my life, which helped me to see the extent of the scars left from all the years of abuse. When I arrived at IBCD, I didn't know what to expect, but the Lord had a plan. He gave me a wonderful, Spirit-filled sister in Christ as a counselor and He used her to plant seeds of wisdom to bring about much-needed healing.

God began to reveal to me through my counselor and His Spirit what this abuse had left me with. I discovered that because I had been hurt so deeply, I had become my own authority, not trusting anyone - not even Christ, who came to set me free. I couldn't trust my pastors or anyone in authority. I had dreams of having a good relationship with a husband someday, but how could this happen if I wouldn't obey what the Bible teaches about godly submission? And the biggest problem was I wasn't in subjection to God. Through my counselor, He began to teach me how to be free.

I began to let God heal me from the fear that was left from my childhood. I began to trust Him as a child, taking His hand and allowing Him to teach me. The greatest thing He has taught me is what it means to stand firm in Him. When there is pain and things look unsure, go to His word and whatever His word says, do it and the peace of Christ will be yours and He will always go before you. He is the authority I now trust and I am ever mindful not to be my own authority. I have learned to submit to Christ who loves me so much, my relationships with others are enriching and best of all, the peace of Christ reigns where fear once lived. Christ has used my counselor and IBCD to plant hope in my fragile heart. He is so wonderful! To God be the glory.

And a woman who went through counseling here several years ago sent a thank-you card recently with the following note:

Because of several acquaintances with struggling marriages, I have been reminded of the difficulties I went through myself and how God has restored my marriage. And how can I remember this and not remember the people that God used to bring forth the repentance, forgiveness and restoration? I want to thank you for your rebukes, corrections, instructions, encouragement, love and prayers. They may have not been pleasant to the ear, but they kept me from falling.

Your prayers and donations make you a partner with us in winning these victories - changing hearts and minds through the Word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit. Without your gifts, this work could not continue. We hope that you are thankful for the privilege of being part of our ministry to the hurting. We are very thankful for you. Please remember IBCD when you make your year-end donations. We are small and needy but we continue to trust that the Lord will provide the means to keep our doors open through our brothers and sisters in Christ.



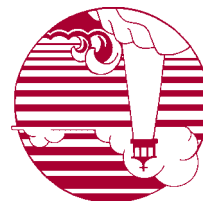
You can listen to sermons by George Scipione, Roger Wagner (an IBCD board member) and other ministers at www.sermonaudio.com.

Please don't think we're spending money foolishly with this glossy, colorful newsletter. Our printer told us it would be the same price as the old style, so we thought we'd try it. Let us know if you prefer the old look or the new.



The September/October 2005 issue of *Evangelium*, a publication of Westminster Seminary California, included an article by George Scipione, "Is Porn Norm? From the Back Street to the Main Street". We recently received an email from the editor: "We have had a great response to your article. Numerous churches have asked for copies or permission to reprint it in their newsletters." If you would like to read this article, go to www.ibcd.org/articles. The resources George recommends for further information on this topic are: *Not Even a Hint* by Josh Harris, *Fidelity* by Doug Wilson, *An Affair of the Mind* by Laurie Hall, *Journal of Biblical Counseling* Vol. 13, No. 3 (available at www.ccef.org) and CDs: "The Pain of Porn" by Jim Newheiser and "Purifying the Heart of Sexual Idolatry" by John Street (available from www.soundword.com).

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