PeaceWorks University

Toolbox Item: *Implement Homework – Victim Care*

Throughout 2022, PWU members will receive access to one video each month (twelve total) from Chris Moles in which he will introduce one of the six key elements of biblical counseling (*Gather Data, Build Involvement, Evaluate Problems Biblically, Minister the Word, Instill Hope, and Implement Homework*) and apply that key element to the specific practice of either victim care or perpetrator confrontation. After completing the *Key Elements of Biblical Counseling Success Path*, PWU members will be able to articulate each of the six key elements of biblical counseling and apply those elements to the particular needs of counselees, both victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse.

PWU members will also receive access to one new Toolbox item each month corresponding to the key element of biblical counseling being taught and applied in that month's Success Path video (see above). Our hope is that these Toolbox items will give you practical tools to use as you incorporate these key elements into your own counseling ministry.

Principles of Implementing Homework in Victim Care

Homework is critical to biblical counseling because the bulk of the sanctification/change process happens not in the counseling room but in the time between counseling sessions. Homework assignments are given by the counselor at the end of each counseling session. By doing this, counselors are inviting and expecting their counselees to take responsibility for their own sanctification/change process by being actively involved in and committed to applying what they are hearing and discussing in counseling to the realities of their daily lives. By creating homework assignments that practically apply new or already held theology to real-life choices, a counselor can challenge their counselee to be both a knower and a doer of the Word (James 1:22-25).

When counseling victims, homework should provide practical and wisely paced opportunities for these women to be empowered and developed as they as they practice living out the Word of God they have received and processed in counseling.

Homework Components

- Scripture Reading, Memorization, and Meditation
- Data Gathering Exercises (lists, incident reports, or journaling assignments)
- Practical Application Exercises
- Supplemental Reading Material/Teaching
- Identify and refer out for additional, specialized counseling needs (trauma)
- Identify and connect with victim support groups and services:
 - o Called to Peace Ministries
 - o Mending the Soul
 - o **ReStoried**
 - o Conquer