

PeaceWorks University

Toolbox Item: Implement Homework - Perpetrator Confrontation

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 Perpetrator Confrontation

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 counsees 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).

With abusive men in particular, counselors must hold high the goal of personal transformation and allow that goal to shape the homework assigned in counseling. Homework should focus on drawing out and clarifying the abusive man's behaviors, the impact of those behaviors on himself and others (wife, children, extended family, church, workplace, etc.), and the desires motivating his behaviors. By focusing on these aspects of his abuse, both the counselor and counselee will be able to better identify both the inward aspects of the abusive man's heart and the ways in which those inward aspects find their expression in outward behaviors.

Homework Components

- Scripture Reading, Memorization, and Meditation
 - Look for passages that target the counselee's behaviors, the impact of his behaviors on himself and others, and the desires motivating his behaviors. Make sure to include both indicative and imperative Scriptural truths *about* and *for* the counselee.
- Data Gathering Exercises
- Practical Application Exercises
- Supplemental Reading Material/Teaching

For more information about Chris Moles' [Men of Peace Self-Paced Course](http://www.menofpeace.org) for abusive men, which can be used to structure homework throughout a domestic abuse intervention process, please visit www.menofpeace.org.