

***A Radical Proposal***

***Christ-Centered  
Ministry***

***versus***

***Problem-Centered  
Counseling***

***Study Guide***

**A Radical Proposal**

**Christ Centered Ministry  
Verses  
Problem Centered  
Counseling**

**A Study Guide**

**By Bruce Hollen, Jay Watt and Mike Henderson**

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**Christ-Centered Ministry or Problem-Centered Counseling**

# A Radical Proposal

What does counseling involve?

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What two things do much of psychological and biblical counseling focus on?

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Throughout the scriptures, problems of living are shown to us as what? Why?

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What happens when personal ministry remains problem centered?

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Explain how cleaning the outside of the cup still leaves the inside dirty?

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How does Matthew 23:25 pertain to problem-centered counseling?

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What can happen when we try to gain insight into another person and their problems?

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Describe the radical proposal put forth by the authors.

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How do we define Christ centered ministry? (2Peter 1:1-15)

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In order for a church to be an effective tool for God, what resources need to be present to insure Christ centered ministry takes place?

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How can Luke 9:23 solve the problems in our lives as well as give us the answers to our problems?

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What questions do all churches need to address to ensure Christ-centered ministry?

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What are the five W's of Christ centered ministry?  
Don't forget the H.

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According to the authors, what is the alternative to problem-centered counseling?

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Christ centered ministry relies on whom and emphasizes what?

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The source of new life is \_\_\_\_\_ and therefore it is both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

What does “walking in the Spirit”, mean?

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According to the scriptures, what does our flesh want?

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If we rely on our flesh, who is trying to take God's place on the throne?

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What is absolutely vital for believers who are experiencing problems of living?

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How can believers learn to deal with current problems and future trials?

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Jesus is both the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_  
for salvation and sanctification.

What is Colossians 2:6-9 telling us to beware of?

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What is the goal of Christian ministry?

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What do problems provide opportunities for?

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# Psychotherapy (Talk Therapy)

According to Ellen Herman, what is the creed of our time?

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What has happened with psychology since the post war era?

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As a result of its broad definition, who needs psychological help?

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The rise of psychology in the church has heralded in a new \_\_\_\_\_. Why?

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When pastors were trained with psychological therapies as the answer to counseling sheep, what were the results?

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How has the affect of the pastors not counseling affected the sheep?

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How were pastors affected by the rise of professional therapists over the last fifty years?

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What did the integration of psychological theories and methods with biblical teachings result in?

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What are all of these psychological systems designed to fix?

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How do the theories and therapies of man conflict with Ephesians 4:22?

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What did the church decide Christians should do in place of looking to the Bible?

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How did Christians solve the problem of the discrepancies between the Bible and these psychological systems?

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What does the attempt to integrate scripture and psychology lead to?

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List five things the church has done in selling out to the wisdom of man in order to minister to the suffering soul?

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Rather than seeing psychology through the lens of \_\_\_\_\_, most people now understand scripture through the lens of \_\_\_\_\_.

Who do most Christians believe to be the best people in helping those with serious problems of living?

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Why is biblical Christ ministry a more accurate description in today's culture than the words "biblical counseling?"

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Describe the tragedy of transferred trust.

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What has been the magnitude of the psychotherapy effect?

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Explain briefly the placebo effect and its effect it has on the individual.

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Why are Christians warned to stay away from and avoid the worldly wisdom of man? Use scripture to support your answers.

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According to Jude 1:25, who alone is wise and what does this speak of man's wise counsel through psychology?

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What is the one thing that is missing from all of the nearly 500 psychological systems?

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What does Colossians 2:8 warn us of?

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Who possesses the hidden knowledge of the soul?

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Where can it be found?

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What needs to be the Christians response to this chapter?

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Explain briefly the placebo effect and its effect it has on the individual.

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# The Biblical Counseling Movement

When a number of Christians were alarmed at the way psychological counseling was over-running Christianity, what did they attempt to do about it?

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What does the statement, “Those who minister to one another need to get in the way and out of the way” mean?

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Why is needing specialized training to counsel another person a myth?

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What lie does the enemy spread among believers while seeking to intimidate them from ministering one to another?

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Why do believers not need to be intimidated when the Lord calls them to minister to one another?

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As the Lord works through ministry one to another, who has the opportunity to grow?

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Why is leading a horse to water very similar to when an individual is motivated to change?

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What attitude of John the Baptist in John 3:30 needs to be significant in the life of a believer today?

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How does that attitude of John the Baptist practically work out in your life today?

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The responsibility for change and growth is between who and who?

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According to Dr. Robyn Dawes, what is the only difference between a professional psychotherapist and someone with little or no training at all?

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What would happen in the church if Christians were to believe and do the Word that is found in Galatians 6:1-2?

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As you observe Matthew 28:19, what words in there are calling the believer to minister to others?

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How can talking to others about your problem easily become an unbiblical doctrine?

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What do Luke 9:23 and Romans 6:7 have in common?

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What is Gods foreordained purpose for every problem or trial we face in our life?

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# The Rise and Practice of Problem-Centered Counseling

According to the opening statements in chapter 4, and viewing the scriptures in 2 Peter 1:3, what has God given to Christians?

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Because of psychology's rising popularity outside the church, what parts of the Christian community were affected by it?

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In plain language, what do patients and psychotherapists actually do?

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If a Christian psychotherapist practices according to his license, he will speak very little if at all about what essential elements in the Christian's walk?

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What is another name for problem centered counseling?

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Where in the Bible does it say that we should focus on the problem or the person?

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What is wrong with spending so much time on the personal or relational problems of an individual?

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According to Matthew 23:27-28, what is wrong with focusing on changing the outside behavior of man?

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According to the scriptures, what part do you play in salvation?

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What is your part after salvation?

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Contrast the differences between a true biblical approach in ministering to a person and that of the problem centered counseling technique.

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According to Jeremiah 17:9-10, what is it that God knows, and how does He describe it?

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As you view the scriptures, what is the single most fatal flaw in seeking to bring about change in your own life? Use scripture to support your answer.

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What needs to be the goal of delivering Bible studies that take you through the Bible?

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What is the purpose of trials and tribulations from a biblical perspective?

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How can counselee and counselor discussions very easily be turned into a gossip session for both?

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# Christ-Centered Ministry or Problem-Centered Counseling?

Describe the usual process of counseling.

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Explain the differences between Christ-centered ministry as opposed to Problem-centered counseling?

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What two things should problems be seen as?

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What can be the results of focusing on the problems and seeking solutions through counseling?

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What is the contrast between the treatment for PTSD and Philippians 3:13-14?

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Christians seek problem resolution because they think what?

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Biblical counselors can use the Bible as a tool to control behaviors or thoughts, but if there is no interaction with the Holy Spirit in their lives, what can be the result?

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What are some of the effects of the sanctification by the Holy Spirit in a believer's life as he/she grows in Christ?

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What is the result of continuing to seek answers from others rather than from Jesus?

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What elements of our salvation are needed to have a healthy walk of faith?

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How are we to walk in our salvation according to Colossians 2:6-7?

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Besides affecting our behavior, what other aspects of our lives should reflect our relationship with Jesus?

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What are we told to be aware of at all times on page 86?

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Why?

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What does the written Word serve as a standard for?

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Why are we warned to beware of emotional experiences that center on one's self or one's past?

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What happens when we occupy and preoccupy ourselves with Jesus?

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What happens when the attention is shifted away from the person and their problem and back to God?

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How was Elihu used in Job's little counsel session with his three friends?

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# Who, What, When, Where And How

What is the abundance that many Christians are not fully utilizing?

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What is Colossians 2:9-10 saying? What is the Christian lacking?

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What is one of the enemy's primary ways of working?

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Name the three primary people in personal ministry.

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According to 2 Peter 1:3, the Lord gives us what?

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Why is Matthew 11:29-30 good news to the one tired of fighting and working on cleaning up the outside of the cup?

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To minister to another, explain what must be happening in the ministering person's life.

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Other than one's words, how can we minister to one another?

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How are we called to minister truth, in what way?

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What information does God's Word provide?

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Define the “why” for all ministry?

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Why does 2 Corinthians 5:17 fly in the face of talking about my past problems?

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When is the best time for spiritual growth?

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Why?

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Where is the best place for ministering one to another?

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Why is what Hebrews 10:25 instructs us to do so important?

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Since ministry is not methodology, what is it?

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## Christ-Centered Ministry or Problem-Centered Counseling

What two things do Christ centered ministry encourage and depend on?

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What are some of the many ways a believer can minister to an individual?

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What constraints are taken away when using the Christ centered ministry approach versus the problem centered counseling approach?

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Why is this so important?

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With caring in mind, explain the advantages and the quality differences in the fifty-minute hour of problem centered counseling versus Christ centered ministry.

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Explain the dependency problem that can arise from problem-centered counseling.

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Rather than being the “Expert” in seeking to fix the problem, what becomes the single most effective tool in a believer’s repair kit? Use 1 Corinthians 2:2 in your answer.

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What was the main goal of taking our church family through this book?

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What are the necessary ingredients needed to effectively minister within the church body and your realm of influence?

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What becomes the greatest hinderance to being a person used by the Lord in seeking to be a Christ centered minister?

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*Getting back to the basics of the saints ministering one to another...*

*This study guide has been designed to be used in conjunction with the book **Christ Centered Ministry versus Problem-Centered Counseling**, written by Martin and Deidre Bobgan. It can be used for small groups, classroom situations, or personal studies. Each question can be answered by referring to the text in the **Christ Centered Ministry versus Problem-Centered Counseling** book and by reading all the scriptural references given.*

*This study guide has been written by  
Bruce Hollen, Jay Watt, and Mike Henderson*