



QUESTIONS TO ASK THE COUNSELOR before you go or in an intake interview:

1. Are you taking new clients?
2. Do you have experience working with professional church workers?
3. What is your base? What are your beliefs/values about marriage, divorce, etc.?
4. How do you handle issues of a spiritual or religious nature?
5. Do you specialize in a particular type of therapy?
6. Have you worked with people who have a similar problem as I have?
7. What are your qualifications? Experience? Education? Training? Your professional discipline? Licensed? Professional Membership?
8. How long have you been practicing?
9. How can you assure me of privacy and confidentiality?
10. How much will it cost? Do you accept my insurance? Is the fee negotiable based on ability to pay? Do I pay every session? Once a month? Am I charged for missed counseling sessions?
11. How would it be decided if I need medication? Hospitalization? Or some other type of specialized help?
12. How quickly are you able to see me (especially if it is a crisis)? (If you are seriously thinking of hurting yourself and you can't wait, call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room).
13. What is your basic approach to treatment? Benefits or risks for this type of therapy?
14. What should I expect when I come in for sessions? How does therapy work? What guidelines can you give me to make the best use of therapy?
15. How frequent are sessions and how long do they last?
16. How long do you think my treatment will last?
17. Do you limit your practice to individual treatment? Couples? Family? Children?
18. Do you have hours outside of normal business hours?
19. Do you pray with your patients?