

Welcome

We are honored that you desire to speak with one of our counselors.

Attached is an intake assessment form. Please complete the assessment in its entirety and return it to the church offices, *Attention: Scott Miller* As soon as we receive the completed and signed intake assessment, we will call you to discuss wait times (if applicable) and appointment scheduling.

We do not provide long-term counseling. We typically see individuals for six to eight sessions. If you feel this time-frame is not adequate for your needs, we can refer you to a qualified Christian counselor.

What We Are

Big Valley Grace's Lay Counseling Ministry is designed to provide encouragement, insight and biblical guidance during times of crisis, change, and personal or family difficulties. Our lay counselor will listen, clarify, and offer hope, encouragement, prayer, and sound Biblical advice. Our goal is to help you resolve the challenges you are facing.

What We Are Not

Lay counseling is not mental health care and should not be substituted for professional therapy or counseling if you are already under the care of a paid professional counselor. We do not perform psychiatric evaluations, nor do we prescribe medication. Our lay counselors are well-trained to address many situations and life challenges, but there are some counseling situations that are beyond our training. When this is the case, professional counseling will be recommended. **We are not licensed therapists; we are trained biblical lay and pastoral counselors.**

The Process

- Complete and sign intake assessment.
- Return completed assessment to church office, *Attention: Scott Miller*.
- You'll receive a call regarding wait-times and appointment scheduling.

Should you choose to submit this application, know that we will be partnering with you in prayer long before your first appointment. We look forward to being a part of God's healing process for you. If you have questions or concerns, we may be reached at *209-577-1604 ext. 341*. You can also reach us via email at *LoriB@bvg.org*.

Sincerely,



Scott Miller
Pastor of Counseling Ministries
Big Valley Grace Community Church