



Dear Friends of IBCC,

We just completed our 2008 Fall Praise Banquet. About ninety friends of the ministry gathered for the banquet for a great evening together. They were encouraged as they listened to testimonies, and heard a ministry update of the Indiana Biblical Counseling Center. Dr. Timothy Warner was also honored for his service on the Board of Directors for IBCC.

This past year we have been greatly used by the Lord Jesus Christ to share Biblical truth that has helped many come to freedom and healing in Christ. One recent client said of the help he found at IBCC:

“I was struggling with unresolved issues from my past and did not feel that the Lord accepted me. Rev. Pokone was able to understand my need for help and under the direction of the Holy Spirit addressed several issues in my life, including rejection from my father, past adultery, and legalism. I learned to receive God’s unconditional love and forgiveness and that I had a new identity in Christ. I no longer have to live in the condemnation of my past sin. I have found closure with some of my past unresolved issues and by his grace I am learning to live my life out of my new heart in Christ. My wife has already seen the change and this is already changing my marriage.”

The strength of this ministry is the counseling that takes place on a daily basis in our office. This year we have begun to train others in counseling, as IBCC held its first Counseling Training Seminar this past June. We have also completed our series on the family, “Biblical Principles for Building a Strong Family” and added that material to our ever-growing web site. This series can also be purchased as a CD resource and manual.

As we finish another year of ministry, we are facing a \$21,000 deficit for 2008. God has been faithful to provide for our needs over the years. We know he will do it again. This shortfall is a concern; nevertheless, it gives us the opportunity to look to the Lord to meet our needs and share with you an opportunity to be involved.

I would ask that you prayerfully consider IBCC in your end of the year giving.

Thank you for your consideration. Your financial gifts and prayers bring freedom to others!

I join with my family, staff, and Board of Directors in thanking God for giving us the opportunity to serve Christ and to faithfully assist in God’s appointed ministry. Thank you for caring about hurting people. May God bless you and your family this Christmas season!

God bless you and your family,

Rev. Jeffrey P. Pokone

Testimonies of People Who Received Help in 2008

We at IBCC are grateful for your continued prayer and financial support. At the end of every year we like to share with you thank you letters and testimonies of people who have been blessed by the ministry of IBCC. Here are some of the testimonies of help that past counselees have shared with our office.

A couple from Michigan writes:

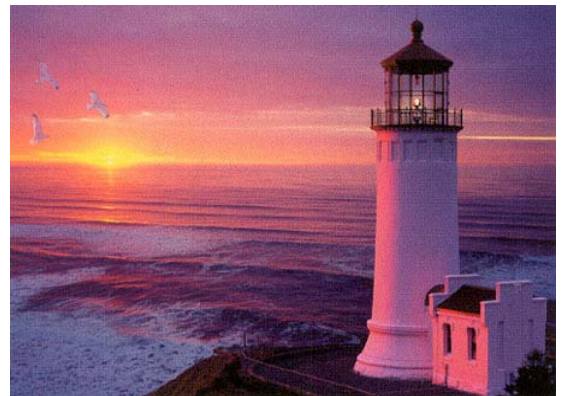
My husband is a pastor of a small church we planted. Our need for counseling was intense and overwhelming. I was dealing with extreme anger in many areas of my life, but especially in the areas where I felt like I did not matter to my husband.

One of the issues addressed in counseling was the anger that I felt. I learned that anger was a secondary emotion that I felt to keep myself from feeling the pain in my heart. I then learned to identify the pain from my childhood that was nearly crippling my adult life, and was encouraged to invite Jesus into my pain. I realized that as I dealt with my hurt and anger, I was changing my children's legacy and heritage to walk in freedom.

I was discouraged with all we did to care for others and felt that no one cared about what I was going through. Rev. Pokone pointed out the Enemy's lie that said, "You don't matter," which I had begun to believe. He also gave me the freedom to let God cut me wide open and remove the places in me that were holding me in chains and keeping me from living the way God intended. Finally, he gave me hope that God can and will bring beauty from ashes and that He will walk with me all the way.

My husband and I really appreciated the manner in which the counseling took place. The approach was not critical, condemning, or uncomfortable, and Rev. Pokone's advice and counsel continually pointed us back to Scripture.

God has worked in both of our lives in huge ways. We are enjoying His presence in our lives, and the church we are in is experiencing His hand in a huge way! Your ministry is a lighthouse to us; what you are doing for our family and others is priceless!



An attendee of the Counseling Training Seminar writes:

I really appreciate the practical approach you've taken to this class. It's been good to hear about what you have to do with real people in real life situations.

The question and answer times have also been very beneficial. I think that hearing about how to affirm a person's heart, then move on to discussing their actions and the consequences to their actions was an important tool for me to learn. Hopefully I can find ways to use it in my own life before helping another.

I also appreciate your discussion on lies and negative thought patterns, and how important it is to know the truths that you can fight these lies with.

Sessions with you have been very peaceful, relaxed, and edifying. I appreciate the time you've taken to invest in this class. Thank you very much for sharing what the Lord has taught you over the years.
