



# Sabbatical DBC

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## Information

Lecturer	The late David Powlison, MDiv, PhD
Grader	<p>You will be assigned a Biblical Counselling UK Grader who will mark your assignments and field questions about the assignments.</p> <p>You can contact your Grader through your Canvas inbox.</p> <p>Your Grader will contact you at the start of the course to let you know the days during the week where he/she will be available to respond to your email inquiries.</p>
Tutor Conversations	<p>You will have three 1-hour conversations with a BCUK Tutor who has pastoral ministry experience. These conversations will take place at the start, midway and towards the end of the course. Your assigned Tutor will contact you to schedule these before the course starts.</p> <p>You can email your Tutor through your Canvas in-box.</p>
Administration	For queries about course access or similar, please contact Biblical Counselling UK Course Administration – <a href="mailto:courses@bcuk.org">courses@bcuk.org</a> .
Canvas	<p>Canvas hosts your course materials (videos, audio files, course documents) and enables you to communicate with your Grader. Assignments should always be submitted through Canvas.</p> <p>Details of the technical requirements of Canvas are available from: <a href="https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66">https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66</a></p>
Technical Queries	<p>For help with common problems, please see ‘Technical information and troubleshooting’ within the Student Orientation material on your Canvas dashboard.</p> <p>If you cannot resolve your difficulty, please contact Course Administration – <a href="mailto:courses@bcuk.org">courses@bcuk.org</a>.</p>
Course programme	Each week of the course, you are expected to watch the assigned video lectures (approximately 2 to 3 hours), complete the reading, complete and submit your assignments as listed in this course syllabus.
Course materials – Sharing and Copyright Permissions	<p>All materials provided to you for this course through Canvas are copyrighted by BCUK, CCEF or other publishers, to whom we pay a fee for their use. These materials include the course syllabus, assignments, articles, and video/audio lectures. You may not reproduce or share any of these materials without prior permission from Biblical Counselling UK.</p> <p>As an exception to this policy, CCEF allow students to share up to 20 copies of <i>Journal of Biblical Counseling</i> (JBC) articles from the course for use in their personal ministry. Examples of this would include sharing an article with a counselee, spouse, friend or small group. This is strictly limited to JBC articles.</p> <p>If you wish to share a JBC resource with more than 20 people, you will need to make an application via the <a href="#">permissions page</a> on the CCEF website.</p>

## Course Objectives

At the successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the biblical view of progressive sanctification.
- Describe and apply the biblical counselling model of change to your own life as well as to other situations presented in case study format.
- Analyse the ways that the biblical counselling model of change might affect a church's worship, preaching, evangelism, overseas mission, leadership, youth work, fellowship, children's programmes, and training.

## Required Reading & Course Materials

### Books

- ONE of the following books on suffering

*How Long, O Lord?* Don Carson, (IVP) - 240 pages

*When God Weeps*, Joni Eareckson Tada (Zondervan) – 256 pages

*Walking with God through Pain & Suffering*, Tim Keller (Hodder & Stoughton) – 368 pages

*God's Grace in Your Suffering*, David Powlison (Crossway) – 128 pages

*Suffering*, Paul Tripp (Crossway) – 224 pages

### Articles

All articles listed can be found in Canvas in the week in which they are due to be read.

- "Suffering & Psalm 119" (*Journal of Biblical Counseling (JBC)*, 22:4, pp. 2-16). Also published in *Speaking Truth in Love* (USA: New Growth Press, 2005, pp. 11-31).
- "Reading the Bible for Personal Application" (ESV Study Bible, Wheaton: Crossway, 2008, pp. 2572-2574).
- "Think Globally, Act Locally" (*JBC*, 22:1, pp. 2-10). Also in *Speaking Truth in Love*, pp. 61-72.
- "How Does Scripture Change You?" (*JBC*, 26.2, pp. 26-32).
- "God's Grace and Your Sufferings" (from John Piper and Justin Taylor, eds., *Suffering and the Sovereignty of God*, Crossway, 2006, pp. 145-173). The link to this chapter is in Canvas, and you can print from the pdf.
- "Why Me?: Comfort from Psalm 10" (*JBC* 16:3, 1998, pp. 27-37). Also published in *Seeing with New Eyes*, pp. 91-108; also retitled *Why Me? Comfort for the Victimized* (Phillipsburg: P&R, 2003).
- "Don't Worry" (*JBC*, 21:2, 2003, pp. 54-65). Also in *Seeing w New Eyes*, pp. 109-124; also retitled *Worry: Pursuing a Better Path to Peace* (Phillipsburg: P&R, 2004).
- "A Slice of Life" (*JBC*, 24:4, 2006, pp. 2-35).
- "Anger in Action" (*JBC*, 24:4, 2006, pp. 2-35).
- "The Constructive Displeasure of Mercy," (*JBC*, 24:4, 2006, pp. 2-35).
- "The Madness of Anger" (*JBC*, 24:4, 2006, pp. 2-35).
- "Making All Things New" (from John Piper and Justin Taylor, eds., *Sex and the Supremacy of Christ*, Crossway, 2005, pp. 65-106).
- "Revisiting Idols of the Heart and 'Vanity Fair'" (*JBC*, 27:3, 2013, pp. 37-68).
- "X-Ray Questions" (*JBC*, 18:1, 1999, pp. 2-9) Also in *Seeing with New Eyes*, pp. 129-143.
- "Unconditional Love?" (*JBC*, 12:3, 1994, pp. 45-48) Also in *Seeing with New Eyes*, pp. 163-170.

- “Innocent Pleasures” (*JBC*, 23:4, 2005, pp. 21-34) Also retitled *Pleasure* (USA: New Growth Press, 2005).
- “A Personal Liturgy of Confession” (unpublished draft in Canvas).
- “Familial Counseling” (*JBC*, 25:1, pp. 2-16).

## Course Schedule

The course takes 10 weeks as per the schedule below. As a rough guide, you will need to give 8-10 hours each week for lectures, reading and assignments, and you will need internet access to watch lectures and submit assignments. We will create a bespoke schedule for you which will usually run for 10 weeks from the start date you provide in your application form.

If you have planned to take a holiday as part of your sabbatical and wish to add a break into your course schedule, you should let the course administrator know as soon as possible, and before you agree to your personalised schedule. Please note that it may not be possible to adjust your schedule once the course has begun.

Course Schedule	Reading & Assignments
<b>Introduction (complete before the start of term)</b>	<p><b>Watch</b> Welcome video from Steve Midgley; Introduction to Safeguarding video</p> <p><b>Read</b> Review introductory course materials in the “Welcome” section of the course; Introduction to Safeguarding document</p> <p><b>“Welcome letter from David Powlison”</b></p> <p><b>Submit</b> “Introduce Yourself” Assignment Confirm familiarity with your church’s safeguarding policy</p>
<b>Week 1</b>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 1: Course Introduction (1 hr 17 min)</p> <p><b>Read</b> <b>“Suffering &amp; Psalm 119”</b></p> <p><b>Submit</b> Clyde Life Example response paper</p>
<b>Week 2:</b>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 2: Understanding the Person I (50 min) Lecture 3: Understanding the Person II (50 min) Lecture 4: Understanding the Person III (1 hr 4 min)</p> <p><b>Read</b> <b>“Reading the Bible for Personal Application”</b> <b>“Think Globally, Act Locally”</b></p> <p><b>Submit</b> Significant Scripture paper</p>
<b>Week 3:</b>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 5: Understanding the Heat I (1 hr 23 min) Lecture 6: Understanding the Heat II (1 hr)</p> <p><b>Read</b> <b>“How Does Scripture Change You?”</b></p> <p><b>Begin</b> Suffering &amp; Refuge Project (due Week 5)</p>

<p><b>Week 4:</b></p>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 7: The Wisdom Found in Christ I (1 hr) Lecture 8: The Wisdom Found in Christ II (44 min)</p> <p><b>Read</b> “God’s Grace and Your Sufferings” “Why Me?: Comfort from Psalm 10” “Don’t Worry”</p> <p><b>Take</b> Quiz 1 - Robert</p>
<p><b>Week 5</b></p>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 9: Understanding the Situation I (1 hr 3 min) Lecture 10: Understanding the Situation II (45 min)) Lecture 11: Understanding the Situation III (46 min)</p> <p><b>Read</b> <b>ONE of the following books on suffering:</b>  <i>How Long, O Lord?</i> Don Carson <i>When God Weeps</i>, Joni Earekson Tada <i>Walking with God through Pain &amp; Suffering</i>, Tim Keller <i>God’s Grace in Your Suffering</i>, David Powlison <i>Suffering?</i> Paul Tripp</p> <p><b>Sin &amp; Grace Final Project Instructions</b></p> <p><b>Submit</b> Suffering &amp; Refuge Project</p> <p><b>Begin</b> Thinking about your Sin &amp; Grace project proposal (due week 10)</p>
<p><b>Week 6</b></p>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 12: Practical Application of James I (1 hr 22 min)</p> <p><b>Read</b> “A Slice of Life” “Anger in Action” “The Madness of Anger” “Making All Things New” “The Constructive Displeasure of Mercy” (optional)</p> <p><b>Submit</b> Sin &amp; Grace Final Project Proposal Worksheet</p>
<p><b>Week 7</b></p>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 13: Sin and the Heart (1hr 19 min) Lecture 14: Influences of the Heart I (1hr 21 min)</p> <p><b>Read</b> “Revisiting Idols of the Heart and ‘Vanity Fair’” “X-Ray Questions” “Unconditional Love” “A Personal Liturgy of Confession”</p> <p><b>Submit</b> James and the 8 Questions</p> <p><b>Take</b> Quiz 2 – Anne (optional)</p> <p><b>Continue</b> Sin &amp; Grace Project</p>
<p><b>Week 8</b></p>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 15: Sin and Transformation, part 2 (1 hr 16 min)</p> <p><b>Read</b> “Innocent Pleasures”</p> <p><b>Submit</b> “Idols of the Heart” Response Paper</p> <p><b>Continue</b> Sin &amp; Grace Project</p>
<p><b>Week 9</b></p>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 16: Living with Personal Integrity, part 1 (1 hr 24 min)</p> <p><b>Read</b> “Familial Counseling”</p> <p><b>Continue</b> Sin &amp; Grace Project</p>

<b>Week 10</b>	<p><b>Watch</b> Lecture 17: Living with Personal Integrity, part 2 (1 hr 3 min)</p> <p><b>Submit</b> Sin &amp; Grace Final Project Course feedback</p>
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## Assignments

Throughout the course, students are required to submit assignments for assessment. Instructions for the assignments are provided in Canvas. Assignments are due by 11:55 PM (i.e., 5 minutes to midnight) on the due date.

### Assignment weighting

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
"Clyde" response paper	5%
Significant Scripture discussion	10%
Quiz 1 (Robert)	Graded for Completion
Suffering & Refuge Project	20%
James and the 8 questions exercise	20%
Quiz 2 (Anne)	optional
Idols of the Heart and Vanity Fair Response Paper	20%
Final paper: Sin & Grace Project	25%

## Grading

There are two main reasons for providing grades for your work in the course. The first is to provide some feedback about how you have done. We trust it helps to have a sense of the standard of your work and changes that may happen over time. The second purpose is to provide some measure of accountability. Taking a course for credit challenges you to put in the time and effort needed to produce good quality thinking and work. All of our lives and all our ministry depends upon growing wisdom. We trust getting grades is one way of helping encourage us toward the effort that is needed for that growth.

Yet grading brings dangers too – it can foster a sense of competitiveness or a fear of failure. So do be praying for godly attitudes. It may help to remember that humility and a willingness to admit ignorance and a desire to grow in knowledge, wisdom, and love (James 1:5; Matt. 5:3) are hallmarks of authentic faith.

In many ways grading is simply a means of helping you maintain the ambitions that led you to register in the first place.

### Grade Scheme

Grade Letter	Percentage Score	Grade Definition		
A	85% – 100%	Excellent to Outstanding	<b>PASS</b>	
A-	70%-84%			
B+	66% – 69%	Good to Very Good		
B	63% - 65%			
B-	60%- 62%			
C+	55% – 59%	Satisfactory		
C	50% - 54%			
C-	40% – 49%	Sufficient		
D	35% – 39%	Unsatisfactory		<b>FAIL</b>
E	30% - 34%			
F	0 – 29%	Unsatisfactory		

### Letter Grade Reference Table

This table provides a general guide to what is expected in the various assignments, and the meaning of letter grades; not every element will apply to every assignment.

<b>Grade and Overall Meaning</b>	<b>A</b> You added dimensions to your work that <b>went above</b> the required assignment, reflecting a high level of personal engagement and commitment to growth and change.	<b>B</b> You <b>successfully fulfilled</b> the requirements of the assignment, demonstrating a satisfactory level of personal engagement and commitment to growth and change.	<b>C</b> You missed some important aspects of the assignment or did not fulfill the important aspect of the assignment. Paper lacked personal engagement and commitment to growth and change.
<b>Discussion</b>	Discussion is insightful, thorough, and interesting, demonstrating careful, thoughtful reflection and self-analysis; written with a high level of personal engagement. Student's reflection, proposed actions, and application of biblical and theological themes are edifying to the reader.	Discussion is interesting, reflecting a satisfactory level of reflection and self-analysis, but may lack depth or personal engagement. Student's reflection and plan are encouraging to the reader.	Discussion is interesting but lacks depth in reflection and self-analysis. Personal engagement is weak or non-existent with little or no evidence of commitment to change and growth.
<b>Self-Analysis</b>	Demonstrates a clear understanding and identification of personal strengths and areas for growth and a strong commitment to personal growth and change in these areas.	Demonstrates understanding of personal strengths and areas for growth, but may not evidence a strong commitment to growth and change.	Does not clearly evidence understanding of personal strengths and areas for growth. Lacks commitment to growth and change.
<b>Understanding</b>	Personal reflection demonstrates thorough understanding of and ability to apply the concepts presented in class and assigned readings.	Demonstrates adequate understanding of the material and ability to apply concepts.	Demonstrates partial or no understanding of the material; student is unable to apply concepts.
<b>Biblical/Theological Application</b>	Discussion evidences a developed theology in midst of strengths and areas of growth. Insights are connected with a Biblical perspective that evidences understanding of heart motives, struggles, desires and strongholds.	Discussion may not evidence a developed theology; or insights may not be connected with a Biblical perspective; may not evidence the ability to connect heart motives, struggles, desires and strongholds.	Discussion shows little evidence of understanding of Biblical/theological themes in relation to personal change and growth; inability to connect heart motives, struggles, desires and strongholds.
<b>Grammar, Mechanics, Spelling, and Sentence Structure</b>	Paper demonstrates clear understanding of class instructions. Paper is well-organised and flows well. Clear writing with no grammar or spelling errors.	Student did not follow some of the instructions for the paper. Paper is organised but could flow more smoothly. Clear writing with minimal grammar or spelling errors.	Student did not follow instructions. Paper is unorganised or does not flow well. Multiple grammar or spelling errors. Mechanics get in the way of clarity.

## Timeliness for submission of assignments

Your Grader commits to returning your papers within a week of your submitting them, and will have reserved time in their diary to do so. You are therefore expected to keep to the due dates in the course schedule that you agree to ahead of your sabbatical. Assignments that are late will have 10 points deducted for every day that they are late, and will be graded "0" after one week.

## Extensions for unforeseen events

If illness or a family crisis, etc., means that you are unable to keep up with the course or submit assignments on time, please contact your RI as soon as possible to reschedule your due dates.

## Course Administration

The Student Handbook details policies, procedures, and administration of the Certificate Course. The Student Handbook is located in the Course Resources section of your course material on Canvas.