



## **TAC Commissioning Questions**

**Please keep these questions confidential. These are solely to be used for TAC Commissioning. Thanks!**

**For each question, be sure you answer from a theological and addiction perspective. Please include applicable Bible references.**

- 1. What is the Gospel and how does it apply to addiction?**
- 2. Define “addiction” biblically.**
- 3. Are the Scriptures sufficient for “addiction” counseling and treatment? Explain your answer.**
- 4. What are the core theological convictions needed for a person to do “addiction” biblical counseling?**
- 5. Describe the battle between the flesh and the Spirit that rages inside of a believer who struggles with an “addiction.”**
- 6. Exodus 20:3 states “You shall have no other gods before me.” 1) How does this Scripture relate to “addiction”? 2) What are some examples of heart issues that drive idolatrous desires?**
- 7. If idolatry is the crucial heart issue in “addiction” biblical counseling then what are the goals of each counseling session? What are some important elements of first session?**
- 8. Who or what is really being worshiped by the sin of idolatry? Expound using Scriptures to support your answers. How would a counselor recognize idolatry and teach the “addict” that “addictive” sins are a form of idolatry?**
- 9. What are some of the ways God is working on the sins of idolatry in your own heart? Do you see this as a form of addiction?**
- 10. Describe how you could address the idolatrous heart in the sin of men-pleasing in “addiction” counseling.**



- 11. What is the relationship between the Bible and the Holy Spirit? How do they work together to bring change in an “addict”? What changes would you expect to see in an addict?**
- 12. How would you use the principles in Ephesians 4:20-24, I Corinthians 6:9-11, and 2 Peter 1:3-9 to help an “addict” to be transformed from their sin? Apart from Christ, can someone overcome the sin of “addiction” and experience real transformation? Please Explain.**
- 13. In Matthew 3, John the Baptist says that true repentance will produce fruit. List and define five (5) fruit of repentance and relate each one to holiness in a transforming “addict.” (Hint: refer to material in the *Relapse* book by Shaw)**
- 14. Compare and contrast the Bible’s terminology with the world’s terminology (1 Corinthians 2:12-16). Compare specifically “idolatry” versus “addiction;” “drunkenness” versus “alcoholism;” and “in recovery” versus “being transformed.” Add other examples of your own and support your answers with Scripture.**
- 15. What is your view on Creation and Evolution? Explain your understanding of Genesis chapters 1-3. How does this affect your approach to “addiction” counseling?**
- 16. What role does the church play in the life of a Christian who is an “addict” being transformed through the counseling process? What authority, if any, does the church have over “addicts,” their loved ones, and the counseling process?**
- 17. How does Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection release the “addict” from sin? Use Romans 6:1-14 and one or two similar passages.**
- 18. How does Christ’s superiority help the “addict” live in holiness? Use the book of Hebrews to explain.**
- 19. Do you view those who are “addicted” as sufferers or sinners or both? Explain how counseling would differ for each.**
- 20. Teach 1 Corinthians 2:9-16 as you would to a counselee struggling with “addiction.”**



- 21. Give your opinion of self-help support groups. What are some of the concerns of the so-called self-help movement? What are dangers about self-help group meetings that do not center upon Christ (see page 182 in chapter 20 of The Heart of Addiction for help)? Hint: Use Proverbs 23:20 and similar verses to guide your answer. ('Do not be with heavy drinkers of wine, or with gluttonous eaters of meat;')**
- 22. List and develop these three (3) attributes of God in relationship to how they would impact a counselee struggling with an "addiction" to drugs: (a) sovereignty (b) love (c) omniscience. (Hint: Understanding Temptation)**
- 23. What are drugs? List common drugs people use as tools of escape from pain. Refer to Isa 44.9-20.**
- 24. Is alcohol a drug? According to Scripture, why or why not? What is the beneficial, biblical purpose of alcohol and drugs? Support your answer with Scripture.**
- 25. What are the benefits of counseling in teams of two when working with the addicted?**
- 26. Explain the importance of having the counselee meet with a physician. How does a physician's information impact your counseling?**
- 27. What's the difference between a blood pressure medication and a prescribed psychotropic medication for depression? What are the pros and cons of psychotropic medications for "addicts"?**
- 28. Write out a counseling agenda for counseling someone struggling with cigarette smoking (nicotine "addiction"). What Bible passages would you use? What practical homework would you assign?**
- 29. Explain the importance for homework that has specific and concrete assignments in contrast to general and vague homework assignments. Give ten (10) or more examples of specific homework you would assign someone struggling with gambling. How would you help them to be "holy"?**
- 30. How could you utilize the teaching about the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and pride of life from I John 2:16 to help an addict? How could God redeem those desires to be used for His own glory?**



**31. What are some main points from I Corinthians 6:9-20 that you would bring out when counseling and teaching a counselee about sexual sin? Give some typical homework you would assign for a person who is “addicted” to sexually immoral behaviors. Give actual assignments as you would write them for the counselee.**

**32. What emotion is typically underneath lying and deception? How does this show itself in the life of an “addict”? What passages of Scripture would you use to help someone with a besetting sin of lying?**

**33. How would you counsel someone who struggles with having been abused? Choose one of the following: physical, sexual, or verbal abuse and discuss an agenda, related Scripture you would utilize over a period of weeks, homework assignments you would recommend and what emotions you would anticipate needing to address.**

**34. Discuss how you would deal with an “addict” experiencing “guilt.”**

**35. How might fear, depression (sadness), and anger manifest in an “addict”? How would you handle these in a biblical way?**

**36. How would you help a family with an adult child who continues to choose to sin with an idolatrous lust for an “addictive” pleasure? Cite Scriptures for how you would counsel the family and friends.**

**37. What does Ephesians 5:6-14 teach a family member about being an “enabler” or “accomplice”?**

**38. How would you teach a class on prevention from drugs and alcohol to a group of young parents with toddler-aged children? Give your outline and describe your three main points in paragraph form, emphasizing Scripture to support these main points.**

**39. List reasons for terminating a counseling case. Answer this for cases terminated because of spiritual change (growth) and spiritual hardening (failure to comply). In what ways would a family member’s relationship to their loved one who is battling an “addiction” be similar?**

**40. Explain the flow of a counseling session using the format: Love, Learn, Lead, and Launch (based upon paralleling 2 Tim. 3:16 and Eph. 4:20-24).**