

Counseling in the PSNC Classes – with Answers

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9P PSNC Teacher Training Session

Your PSNC car: Counseling – conversations with great value!

A. The role of the teacher in the PSNC classroom

1. Every interaction with the students in the PSNC classes provides an opportunity to counsel them.
2. The teacher is not just “baby-sitting” watching the students as they do their work.

B. When does counseling take place in the PSNC classroom?

1. Each student works at his own desk.
2. Each student has a flag to put up when they need to talk to the teacher.
3. We need to see counseling as much bigger than just a formal “sit down” counseling session.
4. How can we guide them into God’s truth in their lives? —all day long
5. How can we help them in their personal search for a closer relationship with Jesus?
6. Remember the 3 Steps to learning
 1. Know the facts
 2. Relate it to their life
 3. Personal application
7. Remember you are a guide, not God.

C. How should you interact with the student in the classroom?

1. Get on their **eye** level, kneel down or pull up a chair.
2. Ask questions that allow them to **open** up.
3. Listen carefully
4. Speak softly—allow limited noise in the classroom
5. If conversation turns to very private issues, you may need to go outside the classroom.

D. What am I attempting to accomplish in the counseling?

1. I want to point them to **Jesus** as their real Source of help.
2. Don't push for them to give you the "**right** answers."
3. Help them move toward personal application of God's truths.

E. Documenting your counseling in the PSNC classes

1. Some of these conversations may be very brief, but if done carefully, you can have a **great** impact in a short time.
2. Either make a note on the **Daily Checklist for Teachers**, or write a separate note to follow up on after class is done.
3. Even if the issue is not related to the major theme of what they are studying, make a note if a significant issue surfaces in your conversations.
4. Put these notes in that student's PSNC class file, and it can be used when you prepare your next contract for that student.

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5. If the student has another staff assigned as his counselor, you may find it helpful to pass on to that counselor some of these issues that surface in the PSNC classes.
6. When going over the student's papers that have come to you for grading, you may find other issues that need to be addressed.

F. Elements of effective counseling

1. Teaches the student to depend on God
2. Breaks through **delusion**. Helps people see themselves accurately.
3. Identifies problems and hurts from the past that are still affecting them today.
4. Helps the person take responsibility for their own responses—past, present & future.
5. Helps the person discover God's resolution to past hurts and problems.
6. Counselor does **not** make decisions for the person.
7. Involves person in community of healing—the body of Christ. James 5:16

For Further Study

How to Be a People Helper, By Gary Collins