

# Counseling Children and Adolescents

Fall, 2025

Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary

Subject	Counseling Children and Adolescents	Course Number	PT 58
Professor	Brad Beevers, Ph.D.		
Prerequisite	Dynamics of Heart Change	Credits	2.0
Schedule	2 hours per week, Fall, 2025, beginning Aug 21, 2025.		
Content	<p><i>This course introduces students to particular challenges of ministering to children and provides an opportunity to apply and deepen the biblical counseling approach to personal sanctification. In addition to lectures and reading this course includes practical application in three areas: 7 hours of mentored counseling of a child or adolescent, a self-counseling project, and teaching some core course material to a group of children and (if desired) parents.</i></p>		
Objectives	<p><i>The course should give students a foundational understanding of biblical childrearing and ministry to children. They will gather valuable counseling experience under the guidance of an experienced mentor. The central conviction of all counseling courses is that having to apply biblical truth reveals what has truly been grasped and provides an opportunity to correct false understanding and solidify right thinking.</i></p> <p><i>Each student will prepare 3-5 outlines to teach some material from the course in a small group or ministry setting. The teaching should be at least 30 minutes long. Only two of the outlines must be actually taught to a group. Preparing to teach promotes learning!</i></p> <p><i>Each student must also do a self-counseling project on personal issues in childrearing or children's ministry that the course has revealed.</i></p> <p><i>Detailed instructions for these tasks will be provided in handouts.</i></p>		
Grading	<p><b><u>Course Requirements &amp; Evaluation:</u></b></p> <p>Counseling Reports: 50%</p> <p>Self-Counseling Project: 15%</p> <p>Teaching Outlines: 10%</p> <p>Reading Report: 10%</p> <p>Final Exam: 15%</p> <p><i>Class sessions will be 24 hours, reading about 420 pages.</i></p>		
Required Reading (and two optional articles)	<p>1) Tedd Tripp: <i>Shepherding a Child's Heart</i>. 2nd ed. (Wapwallopen, PA: Shepherd Press, 2005), Chapters 1-12, 14-15. (49,000 words)</p> <p>2) Tedd Tripp and Margy Tripp, <i>Instructing a Child's Heart</i> (Wapwallopen, PA: Shepherd Press, 2008), Chapters 1-9. (37,500 words)</p> <p>3) Corlette Sande, <i>The Young Peacemaker</i> (Wapwallopen, PA: Shepherd Press, 1997), Chapters 1-4. (15,000 words)</p> <p>4) Paul Tripp, <i>Age of Opportunity</i> (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&amp;R Publishing, 2001), Chapters 1-3. (12,500 words)</p> <p>5) Amy Baker, ed. <i>Caring for the Souls of Children</i>. (Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2020), Chapters 1-2. (8,500 words)</p> <p>6) Brad Beevers, <i>Change by the Gospel</i>, Chapters 4,13. I'll provide a PDF. (11,500 words)</p> <p>7) Two <i>Journal of Biblical Counseling</i> articles are <b>optional</b>. I especially recommend the first: David Powlison: <u>What if Your Father Didn't Love You?</u> 12(1), 1993 (4,000 words) and Earl Cook, <u>Counseling Children</u> 18(1), 1999 (5,000 words). I'll provide PDFs.</p>		