

Anselm Ministries



Faith Seeking Understanding

Anselm Ministries is a community-based Biblical counseling and teaching ministry of Covenant Community PCA that seeks to support the pastoral ministry of the local church by enabling individuals to get at the "root" of their personal issues and encouraging them to bear "good fruit" in their relationships with others. It seeks to declare the Jesus Christ whom others believe they know and worship, but in reality do not truly experience in their everyday lives. The personal change resulting from its counseling and teaching aims at progressive sanctification evidenced by the growth of spiritual fruit and the decay of the works of the flesh. The ultimate ministry goal is for people to pass on what they have received – to be instruments of change in the lives of others.

The services available to accomplish these ministry goals include:

- Individual and marital counseling
- The Anselm Ministries website
- Pastoral consultation
- Seminars on Biblical personal ministry
- Formal classroom teaching on Biblical counseling

Anselm Ministries **DOES NOT CHARGE** for its counseling or consultation services. As a resource for the local pastor and members of the body of Christ, we seek to provide this service as freely as the grace Christ offers us in salvation.

Why Anselm Ministries?

Anselm Ministries draws its name from Anselm (1033–1109), an eleventh century monk and theologian who had a profound impact on Christianity. It has adopted his motto: *Faith Seeking Understanding*; and uses a prayer from his writings as its vision statement:

*Grant that I may taste by love, what I apprehend by knowledge,
that I may feel in my heart what I touch in the Spirit.*

Despite almost a millennia since his life and death, his thinking remains fresh, speaking to many of the spiritual issues of our day. In the context of the time, Anselm had a “biblical counseling” ministry of discipleship and teaching where he strove to promote the spiritual and intellectual growth of those who believed in God as “something-than-which-nothing-greater-can-be-thought.” Anselm’s idea of God fits well as an apologetic response to the modern view of God as a self-determined Higher Power.

The Need for Anselm Ministries

We live in a time and culture where a "higher power" is largely self-determined; and can be almost anything greater than we are. George Barna, who has done extensive research into American religious beliefs and culture, found that:

- 67% of all adult Americans claim to have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ that is still important in their life today (are born again).
- Only 45% strongly agree that the Christian faith is relevant to their lives.
- Even less (41%) say they are absolutely committed to Christianity.
- And a mere 9% of born again Americans have a biblical worldview.

A biblical worldview deeply influences people's views on morally acceptable behavior. When comparing those who have a biblical worldview with those who do not, Barna found that someone with a biblical worldview was:

- 31 times less likely to accept cohabitation (2% versus 62%, respectively);
- 18 times less likely to endorse drunkenness (2% versus 36%);
- 15 times less likely to condone gay sex (2% versus 31%);
- 12 times less likely to accept profanity (3% versus 37%); and
- 11 times less likely to say adultery was morally acceptable (4% versus 44%).

In addition, less than one-half of one percent of those with a biblical worldview said voluntary exposure to pornography was morally okay (compared to 39% of other adults), and a similarly small proportion endorsed abortion (compared to 46% of adults who lack a biblical worldview).