



## Biblical Counseling Pastor Job Description

Harvest Bible Chapel of Peoria is an exciting church plant bringing the ministry of Harvest Bible Chapel to Central Illinois. Harvest Peoria is part of Harvest Bible Fellowship (see [www.harvestbiblefellowship.org](http://www.harvestbiblefellowship.org)), an association that plants churches and seeks to edify, protect, encourage and support church leaders. Each Harvest Bible Chapel is independent, elder-governed and is committed to contemporary ministry without compromising the essential tenets of the Christian faith

Each church's ministry includes a commitment to Four Pillars:

1. *Unapologetic Preaching*: Preaching the authority of God's Word without apology. (2 Timothy. 4:2)
2. *Unashamed Worship*: Lifting high the name of Jesus Christ in worship. (John 4:24)
3. *Unceasing Prayer*: Believing firmly in the power of prayer. (Ephesians 6:18)
4. *Unafraid Witness*: Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with boldness. (Ephesians 6:19-20)

Harvest Peoria was planted just over 10 years ago. We moved into a newly built building four years ago and are currently running around 2,800 men, women and children at its weekly worship services. We are seeking a pastor who is called to make disciples of adults, is committed to the Harvest Bible Chapel model and has a contagious love for Jesus Christ. If you have the spiritual gifts and talents to build a life-changing ministry, then we would like to talk with you!

**Title:** Pastor of Biblical Counseling

**Position Objective:** Pastor of Biblical Counseling is a full time position focused on promoting and developing in-depth discipleship and a biblical counseling culture within the context of community life. This will include a balance of formal counseling, equipping of other pastoral staff and lay leaders to give highly effective biblical counsel, and training leaders within our small group ministry on how to build a culture of intentional mutual ministry and disciple-making in each group. We are looking for a highly experienced pastor/counselor with a love for people and heart for healing.

The Pastor of Biblical Counseling will have the primary responsibility for building our culture of Biblical Soul Care within the church family. He will equip a strong lay counseling ministry within Harvest Peoria (Ephesians 4:11-13). Primary responsibilities include the direct oversight and training of Biblical Counseling volunteer leadership including small group leaders and lay counselors. The Pastor of Biblical Counseling will be actively counseling prolonged cases and work within a community model of counseling, possibly including intensives (1 to 2 day long counseling sessions). He will report to the Pastor of Adult Ministries and will be under the authority of the Elders of the church.

### **Spiritual & Character Qualifications:**

The Pastor of Biblical Counseling should:

- have a clear testimony of faith in Jesus Christ and a passionate, growing, personal relationship with Him;
- have a history of moral purity;
- meet the spiritual and social qualifications for elder (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9);
- be a self-starter with drive, passion and initiative;
- be teachable and willing to be held accountable;
- be a team player with a positive attitude;
- possess the spiritual gifts of leadership (Romans 12:8), teaching (Romans 12:7) and administration (1 Corinthians 12:28).

**Professional Qualifications or skills:**

- proven leadership for a biblical counseling ministry;
- counseled within that ministry for two or more years;
- fully educated in biblical counseling methodology and approach;
- preferred to have 5 or more years full-time ministry experience in a church of at least 500 attendees;
- a bachelor's or master's degree from an accredited four-year Bible college or evangelical seminary;
- enthusiasm for the doctrine, vision and Group Life philosophy of Harvest Peoria;
- proven ability to recruit volunteers and develop leaders;

**Position description:**

The following information will give a more extensive view of the position and how the Biblical Counseling Pastor will contribute to the present staff team:

- work closely with the Pastor of Adult Ministries, Impact Groups Pastor, and Women's Ministry Director to execute our Biblical Soul Care vision;
- oversee, equip, and manage the Biblical Counseling teams including lay counselors and eventually staff;
- counsel 15-20 hours per week (including intensives as needed);
- develop curriculum and resources for Biblical Soul Care;
- organize "experiential training and equipping" for apprentices and advocates;
- teach Biblical Counseling curriculum classes and conduct apprentice training classes once or twice a year;
- mentor at least three highly-skilled apprentices personally;
- assist in equipping the Leaders who care for the individual Men's, Women's, Mixed Small Groups;
- share in pastoral care duties with other pastoral staff;
- attend staff meetings;
- embrace a team approach to building/serving the church;
- other duties as assigned.

**Salary & Benefits:**

- a competitive salary and benefits package commensurate with experience will be provided;
- serious candidates should email or send a cover letter and resume and a brief philosophy of your counseling philosophy ministry to:

Attn: Kent Smith, Associate Pastor  
 Harvest Bible Chapel Peoria  
 Pastor of Biblical Counseling Search  
 401 Cimmeron Dr. East Peoria, IL 61611