



## Ministry Info Packet

Thank you for your interest. May it be helpful in your journey toward wholeness and freedom in Him!

For those coming for ministry, it will save you time to fill out the **Hold Harmless Agreement (HHA)** in advance. Though we love to laugh and build community, we take this ministry very seriously. We encourage you to take the time to get a grasp of what CrossCounsel is about.

If you engage in what the Lord offers here, you will not be disappointed. If you just want someone to listen to your story and not engage the process, then it may not be a good use of your time. CrossCounsel is about *Actively Pursuing a Transformational Friendship with God*. This can be painful on the front side, but very fruitful if we endure through the hurts.

The God of unconditional love wants us to draw near to Him as He draws near to us. We can help you see what choices you need to make in order for Him to make changes inside of you. We count it as a deep privilege to walk along side those who wish to do holy business with God.

Blessings and Peace,

Rev. Steve Freitag  
Executive Director of CrossCounsel

### Included in this packet:

- Ministry Referrals
- FAQ's
  - \* General Information
  - \* Financial Information
  - \* Appointment Policies
  - \* Marriage "Counseling"
- Transformational Prayer Ministries® Principles and Session Guidelines
- Hold Harmless Agreement

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*"CrossCounsel has been a blessing to us! They have worked with several people through personal ministry, teaching and preaching." - Joel Alberti, Pastoral Care, City Church, Madison*

*"As I've referred people to CrossCounsel, they have personally experienced the NOWNESS of God. He is present, personal, relevant and active. He heals, delivers, and addresses our deepest hurts. Jesus brings freshness into our relationship with Him and others while also freeing us from countless struggles, addictions, and depression." - Shane Holden, Lead Pastor, First Free Church, Onalaska, WI (formerly of Mad City & Damascus Road Church, Madison)*

*"CrossCounsel's ministry is a tremendous resource for pastors and churches. We highly recommend their services." -Pastor Roger Olsen, Grace Church, New Glarus, WI*

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## FAQ's - General Information

CrossCounsel uses the principles of Transformational Prayer Ministry®. What is it?

It is about getting truth from our heads to our hearts. When we are ready, the Lord exchanges Truth for false and damaging beliefs deep inside our souls (Psalm 51:6). Our approach based on "When the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36). When the Lord deposits Truth in our heart (beyond our logical understanding), a miraculous change occurs inside our mind bringing "the peace that transcends all understanding" (Phil 4:7).

Who needs this type of ministry? Why?

Though your path may not include TPM, it is our belief that everyone this side of heaven is in need of mind renewal and transformation. We simply believe that this is the best of many tools we've found in being intentional and focused in attaining that transformation.

Spiritual growth, emotional healing and mind renewal are opportunities for *all of us*. God desires to bring truth and freedom to all of us. The more we take a look at how we operate inside, the more we begin to understand how much work the Lord wants to do in us.

Christians often talk about "walking in the Spirit" but struggle in its meaning. As we allow the Lord to do His work in us, we experience "perfect peace" (Jesus' Spirit) in areas that have in the past only known turmoil (insecurities, fear, anger, loneliness, addictions, bitterness). Instead of being quenched by lies, sin and grief, His Spirit is released in us --- resulting in living and walking with the Spirit.

## FAQ's - Financial Information

Do you charge for your ministry?

No, we do not "charge" for ministry sessions. However, we sustain the ministry via donations. Donations are received three ways: monthly donors, special donations and session donations.

We could throw out several biblical passages to support our policies, but we are choosing not to use those in this material. We are not interested in manipulating people into donating to us.

Since 1997, we have put "our necks on the line" with leases and other expenses (the Madison branch spends nearly \$1,800 per month for rent and ministry expenses before considering staff salaries.

The recommended donation amounts have been prayerfully considered on our part. Please refer to the last page in this document for specific information. We have tried our best to reach a reasonable middle ground - honoring both you and our facilitator's time and training.

**No one gets turned away simply because they cannot donate. Please talk with us about this!**

Clients must also agree to the conditions of the "Cancellation Policy" below.

Thankfully, the Lord has sustained CrossCounsel through generous donors who contribute financially on a monthly basis or by special gifts. This helps supplement all sessions, especially those who are unable to donate the requested amounts. It is our desire to partner with more churches locally to also offset the cost of running our organization.

It is also important to note that donations to the ministry are tax-deductible. Checks are for support of the ministry and not for "services rendered".

## **FAQ'S - Appointment Policies** (more info on Hold Harmless Agreement at end of this document)

"We can't fulfill our commitment to you if you don't fulfill your commitment to us." What God is doing at CrossCounsel is worth our time and effort to sustain it. It also is consistent with our Lord's posture being an "if... then..." God. Many of God's promises are contingent with us fulfilling our obligation first. "If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, (then) I will come in..."

### What about Canceling or having Missed Appointments?

Honestly, this can be a huge frustration for us. Everyone's time is important. People sometimes wait several weeks to get in. It is likely that someone else desired the time slot you missed. It is also possible that a facilitator *made a special trip* into the office or turned down another opportunity to do something else. Please treat us with the same respect and professionalism that we give you.

Therefore, clients who need to cancel must do so 2 full business days ahead of time. When this is not possible, or if an appointment is missed, financial compensation is requested (unless we have had time to fill the appointment). This is no different than many doctors, dentists, counselors, etc.

So please consider giving what you would have given if you made the appointment. It's simply inescapable that failure to do so will erode our trust in setting future appointments. People trust US to be there for appointments. Making and following through on commitments reflects one's character.

We realize that an unavoidable crisis can arise. But *patterns of crisis* need to be addressed. We will do our best extend appropriate grace and mercy to each situation. But grace and mercy doesn't always have a, "that's okay", answer. There are instances where that would be cheapening God's grace. We really do want what is ultimately best for you.

### What if I am late for an appointment?

If you are late for an appointment, we cannot guarantee that you will receive the full 75 minutes that we set aside for you. If you are 15 minutes late, we may only have an hour remaining for you.

Due to various circumstances in a session, we may choose to allow someone to go later than their designated time. This only happens once in a great while. If that then makes us late for your session, we will give you your full time allotted. In the Madison office, this may mean that the door is locked in front. Please be patient and keep trying the door. Also, some of our facilitators in Madison come in the back door, so please be aware of that if you are waiting outside.

### How often should I come?

This is a process, but it is an event-by-event process. Heart changes can happen in an instant similar to physical healing in the New Testament. It is also discipleship because your mind is being trained to think in a much different paradigm. I suggest that people give this a try for 3-5 sessions (every 2-4 weeks) before evaluating their experience. Some people sense nothing happening after one session, others have major issues in their lives changed in an hour. For others it takes days or weeks for "the light to go on" to understand what the Lord has done. We are all created as unique individuals and we each have had different life experiences.

We are never "done" in this process because our minds are never fully "renewed" this side of heaven. Several people come back after many months to further go through this process --- reaching new levels of growth and renewal. Most people who go this far also learn to pray on their own this way, bringing new depths to their personal time with God. The idea of "pray without ceasing" becomes an exciting reality.

## What to do between appointments?

First, we strongly encourage you to read "Healing Life's Hurts Through TPM." The first 3 chapters are available free here: ***Healing Life's Hurts***.

The Lord loves us, meets us, and is glorified in our weaknesses. Though we often minimize them, these weaknesses (turmoil, disappointment, frustration, etc.) expose areas that God wants to transform. Pray for the grace and strength to believe this, to see what these areas are, and to find the original source of these feelings. It is easier to deny or rationalize these hurts, but one of my prayers is, "Lord, show me the way things are, not the way I think things are."

*Next, reframe your thinking by not instantly blaming others when you get "stirred up." Whatever reaction goes on inside of you comes from your soul and deep inner belief system. The enemy is most successful in attacking us by exploiting false inner beliefs in our stirred-up state of mind. To minimize the effectiveness of the deceiver's "schemes" and "flaming arrows" (Eph. 6:11,16), we need Jesus to renew our beliefs with Truth at the core level.*

Be aware of reactions you have to "triggering" situations. \*Make time to focus on the emotions involved. Ask the Lord to help you find out your "history" with this emotion. Find the earliest memory and allow the intensity of it to surface. Discover the false beliefs imbedded there. When you are ready and willing, simply ask the Lord to give you His perspective and Truth regarding the lies there. We can then check out those places when you come in next.

Don't be discouraged by "walls". Finding walls simply means that your mind is working hard at protecting something important.

*There is never nothing happening in our minds – though that may be our perception. You'll be amazed at what the Lord does to strengthen your faith here. He always meets us where we are – but He wants to take us far beyond that.*

## **FAQ's - Marriage Counseling**

### Do You Do Marriage Counseling?

This is one of the most frequently asked questions we get. Well, it really depends on how you define Marriage Counseling.

If you are looking for someone to simply sit in the middle of you and your spouse while each tells his or her own side, then we're not the place for you. Neither will we make suggestions as to how to cope with each other's issues or "land mines" that often destroy marriage. These land mines (or "buttons") are things like fear, shame, invalidation, anger, loneliness, etc. These come from deeply embedded false beliefs and can produce incredibly destructive behaviors. Land mines can be stepped around and sometimes avoided. Some do this with more precision than others. But this is a continual battle that doesn't change the real issues. We believe there is a better way.

We do, and are happy to, meet with couples. If both are present, then we may take some time to put the presenting issues on the table. Then each person individually will be ministered to individually using our ministry approach and process. Conflict in marriage is most often a result of having one's lie-based thinking exposed or brought into the light. This usually bumps up against the other's lie-based thinking. Both individuals are then "triggered" and therefore cannot communicate effectively (or willingly). The cycle continues as long as the false beliefs are there.

As each person is willing to take responsibility for his or her false thinking, not blame anyone else, and allow the Lord to renew the false thinking with His experiential truth (see next section), we find that

couples begin to relate much better with each other. Spouses discover that the major land mines that used to be in their marriage are no longer there. Other issues may then surface, but those who are faithful to this process will continue to “be transformed by the renewing of your mind” – Romans 12:2.

Finally, to be clear, since the word “counseling” is a hot button topic, we go to great lengths not to counsel. We enjoy letting the Lord fulfill His role as the Wonderful Counselor. We do our part as King David did with the Israelites as he “shepherded according to the *integrity* of his heart, and guided them by the *skillfulness* of his hands” Psalm 78:72. This partnership has certainly worked well.

### **Fourteen Key Principles of Transformational Prayer Ministry®**

*These principles have proven themselves to be true over and over since CrossCounsel began using them in 1998. Some of these may seem obvious. Others cut against the conventional wisdom of our culture and the Church. Regardless, they become most real when experienced and integrated personally through the Holy Spirit. For further teaching on these principles, we encourage the Basic TPM® Seminar.*

1. Our Present Situation is Rarely the True Cause of Our Ongoing Emotional Pain.
2. There is a “Dual Mental Process” Going On in Each of Us.
3. People Can Hold Two or More Opposing Beliefs at the Same Time.
4. Feelings are Important Indicators of Our True Beliefs.
5. If I Believe a Lie\* the Consequences Will Be Much the Same as if it Were True (Lie = an Internal False Belief or Self-Belief. Examples: “I’m worthless, no good, I can never do enough, I’m dirty, I’m all alone, I’m trapped, etc.). I will feel the negative emotions attached to that false belief.
6. To Be Free of the Lies We Believe, We Must Own Them Rather Than Deny Them.
7. Sinful Behavior is Often a Vain Attempt to Manage Our Emotional Pain.
8. Performance-Based Spirituality is Not True Spirituality.
9. When We Receive Truth from God in Memories Where We Harbored Lie-Based Thoughts, We Can Walk in Effortless Victory in These Areas.
10. Only an Encounter with the Presence of Jesus through the Holy Spirit Can Free Us from the Lies We Believe.
11. We Are in Emotional Bondage Due to Two Basic Factors – Belief and Choice.
12. The Written Word of God is the Standard for Validating What Occurs in Ministry.
13. Lie-based Pain Can Only Be Removed as Lies are Replaced with Truth, Whereas the Only Remedy for Sin-based Pain is the Cross of Jesus Christ.
14. Mind Renewal is a Life Long Process.

*We are deeply grateful for our relationship with Dr. Ed Smith. However, like any other ministry, we do not have any official connection with him or Transformational Prayer Ministries®.*

## **Transformational Prayer Ministry Session Guidelines**

Transformational Prayer Ministry (TPM) is basically prayer and not traditional counseling (giving advice, diagnosing, providing insight, giving direction, proving steps of action, the facilitator solving the person's problems, etc.). Therefore a TPM facilitator should never offer this type of counsel, but rather intercede with you to God. A TPM facilitator should encourage you to discover, while depending on the Holy Spirit, the lies you believe that are at the source of the emotional pain in your life.

1. A TPM facilitator should not take on the responsibility at any level to resolve your problems, issues or pain in your life, but should encourage you to own your emotional pain, take responsibility for your own thinking, not blame other people or circumstances for your emotional reactions and move forward toward God's resolution, which is found in truth.
2. A TPM facilitator should never pressure you to go to any particular memory, or to do anything that you do not choose to do. It must be left up to you to make all the decisions about how far you will move toward your pain, whether you will embrace the pain, identify the lies you believe and whether you will offer up the lie-based thinking you discover to the Lord for His truth. You should be given complete freedom to stop the process at anytime. Everything in the session should be determined by your own belief and free choice.
3. Any information you share during the ministry session should be held in utmost confidentiality. A TPM facilitator should not share any information without first obtaining permission from you.
4. A TPM facilitator should avoid all forms of guided imagery and/or directed visualization and seek to allow you to have a genuine mind renewal experience, prayerfully directed by the Holy Spirit, while avoiding making any additional input.
5. A TPM facilitator should not make ANY suggestions as to what he or she thinks your memory content may contain. The facilitator should avoid making suggestions as to what he or she assumes your lie-based thinking may be and thus allow you to make this discovery yourself.
6. A TPM facilitator should only ask questions that are reflective of the actual memory content or other pertinent information that you alone have surfaced and avoid all questions or comments that are leading or reflect his or her opinions or assumptions.
7. A TPM facilitator should not attempt to interpret or give explanation to ANY information, visual or other inner mind reality that you report. Rather, he or she should encourage you to listen and receive understanding from the Holy Spirit and come to your own understanding.
8. A TPM facilitator should not interpret your dreams or visions you may experience outside the ministry session, but rather will only encourage you to identify and embrace any negative emotion that may surface as a result of having these experiences and seek to identify any lie-based thinking that may be related to such emotion.
9. A TPM facilitator should withhold judgment as to whether the content of your memory is true or false since he or she has no way of knowing what is true or not in the context of a ministry session. The facilitator should allow you to come to your own conclusions in your own time concerning the validity of the content of your memories. He or she may help you in validating your memory information to the degree that he or she is able but only if this is what you desire.
10. Should the TPM facilitator personally have some visual picture appear in his mind that he believes is related to your memory, he will not report this to you lest ideas not your own be implanted into your thinking. Should your experience cause the TPM facilitator to see images or pictures, he'll not share these with you at any time.

11. A TPM facilitator should not supply you with what he or she may think God wants you to know during the ministry session, and should not hinder the ministry process by inputting his or her own personal assumptions, insight, thinking or that, which provides you with knowledge you did not surface on your own. The goal of the ministry is that you have a genuine encounter with the Spirit of Christ. The facilitator should reserve his or her sharing knowledge, teaching, giving insight, etc. for the time following the prayer ministry session. The facilitator should never at any time give his or her opinion or thinking about any aspect of the content or assumed content of your memory.
12. A TPM facilitator can ask the Holy Spirit to give you the courage and the grace to let go of your mental defenses, go where you need to go in a memory, and thus remember what you are willing to remember and have the capacity to embrace. The facilitator can ask the Holy Spirit to give you the wisdom to identify the lies you believe that are contained in these memories. However, he or she should not ask Jesus to take you anywhere in your memories or ask Him to tell you the lies you are believing since your moving forward is an act of your free will which the Lord chooses not to violate. All of this will become known to you when you make the decision to identify what you feel and believe. The Lord will not violate your will in this manner.
13. A TPM facilitator should be careful to discover and call attention to any aspect of "truth" or visual you might receive during a ministry session that does not appear to be authentic and/or Biblically consistent. Should this happen, the facilitator should encourage you to evaluate what you have reported with what the Bible says to see what is true or not and where the false information may have originated.
14. A TPM facilitator should not make any diagnosis or suggestive opinion of what he or she may think your problem or emotional mental condition may be unless he or she is a trained and qualified professional, skilled in making such diagnosis. Even if a facilitator is a qualified mental health professional, making a medical or mental diagnosis is still not a part of what is understood to be TPM.
15. A TPM facilitator should be careful not to go beyond his training, expertise or abilities in ministry. The facilitator should seek to network with others who are more equipped and work under their supervision, if possible. Should he enter a place that is beyond his knowledge and understanding, he should seek to defer to others more equipped. At the same time, it is acknowledged that as a member of the Body of Christ every Christian is called to minister, pray and encourage any person who is downtrodden, emotionally wounded or in need of an encounter with the Lord. Therefore, every Christian should be willing to pray with any person and encourage anyone no matter the complexity of the situation, but at the same time stay within the limits of his understanding and expertise.
16. A TPM facilitator should seek to minister under spiritual authority and in a community of like-minded ministers who use these principles, and be accountable to them and them to him or her. Every true believer in Christ is a member of Christ's Body working in concert with others through Christ who is the central focus of this ministry. A TPM facilitator should not be acting as a "lone wolf" doing ministry.
17. A TPM facilitator should avoid changing, augmenting or repackaging the Transformational Principles and seek to apply the principles as they have been taught in as pure a form as possible to avoid misrepresenting this ministry and confusing the Body of Christ. Should he or she choose to do otherwise, such facilitator should clearly state to those with whom he or she offers ministry that he or she is NOT doing Transformational Prayer Ministry. This will better assure that will not be misled as to what is genuine TPM and what is not.



Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Best Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church \_\_\_\_\_ Referred By \_\_\_\_\_

### **Hold Harmless Agreement**

I voluntarily agree to meet with a CrossCounsel facilitator. I will not hold CrossCounsel, its facilitators, Steve Freitag, Mary Cummings or any facility where we meet responsible for what happens therein, nor as a result of my session(s), nor do I desire for anyone to act on my behalf. I acknowledge CrossCounsel has the right to discontinue ministry to me at any time.

I understand CrossCounsel's prayer ministers are trained in transformational prayer ministry principles but are not board-certified counselors. CrossCounsel is not a counseling ministry. I acknowledge some or all of the processes used to provide spiritual and emotional help may or may not be clinically demonstrated to guarantee short- or long-term results.

I know that I am free to discontinue my participation at any time, for any reason. I accept full responsibility for all my choices as made by me now and in the future, including but not limited to aftercare and follow-up. I am fully responsible for any and all consequences related to prematurely terminating any intervention that was pursued on my behalf.

I agree to have a ministry intercessor present during a session and understand that he/she may be in training and is bound by the same confidentiality agreement all our facilitators are under.

I am responsible for keeping confidential any personal information that may be shared with me during the time I am in session. I give my permission to be *anonymously* referenced for testimonial purposes.

I authorize CrossCounsel to add my name to its mailing list, with the understanding and assurance that my information will never be given or sold to anyone outside of CrossCounsel.

### **Cancellation/Missed Appointment Policy**

If you need to cancel, please notify us **2 full business days** prior to your appointment. If you are unable to do this or miss your appointment, we'd appreciate the requested donation amount to compensate for the time we have set aside for you in our schedule. We're flexible when illness prevents you from coming, but would ask that you honor everyone's time by giving ample notice of cancellation.

If you're late for an appointment, we can't guarantee that you will receive the full 75 minutes that we set aside. For example, if you're 15 minutes late, we may only have an hour remaining for you.

## **Financial Understanding**

CrossCounsel is a self-sustaining ministry, relying on donations. As much as we don't enjoy talking about the money side of things, it has been helpful for us to be up front with what we believe is fair for our time, experience and level of competency. Taking into account the years of ministry, reputation and record of success, our Executive Director *could charge a "fair-market value" of **\$200** per session.*

Our monthly support partners reduce that amount significantly. We simply ask that you communicate your needs if this is your situation. We encourage you to trust the Lord in this - we certainly do!

	<b><u>Requested \$</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum \$*</u></b>
• Expert Facilitator Session (Steve Freitag)		
• Children and Teens (60 minutes)	<b>\$ 80</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>
• Adults (75 minutes)	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>
• Couples Session (90 minutes)	<b>\$120</b>	<b>\$ 60</b>
• Advanced Facilitator Session (Mary, Donna, Kim)	<b>\$ 75</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>

\*Unless you explain your situation to us and we make arrangements.

*We do not turn anyone away based solely on an inability to contribute. There are also some churches that will help cover session costs of their people in part or in full.*

## **Ministry Support**

You may also elect to give more or even invest in our mission by becoming a regular donor. More information about our philosophy of requesting donations for ministry time is available on our web site ([www.crosscounsel.com](http://www.crosscounsel.com)). We accept cash, personal check, PayPal, or credit card donations.

## **Follow-Up**

This is a good but difficult journey. We know it well. We may make an effort to follow up with you through a phone call or email, but you are always welcome to reach out to us. Rest assured, we highly value the trust you've placed in us and will not violate it by sharing your information with others.

**Preparing for Ministry Sessions:** I have met the "Requirements for Ministry" as described on CrossCounsel's website. Please check if you have:

- [ ] Viewed the "What to Expect Your First Visit" Video
- [ ] Viewed the "MELT" Video
- [ ] Read the Financial Agreement & Cancellation / Missed Appointment Policy
- [ ] Read the "Principles of Transformational Prayer Ministry"
- [ ] Read and agreed to the Hold Harmless Agreement, Cancellation/Missed Appointment Policy and Financial Understanding Agreement for CrossCounsel.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_