

SEE ALSO the excellent "Scripture Index" in Carroll A. Wise's PSYCHIATRY AND THE BIBLE (Harper/56) and the biblical  
reff. in text and "References" of Seward Hiltner's THEOLOGICAL DYNAMICS (Abingdon/72).

PASTORAL COUNSELING: THE COUNSELOR AS LOREMASTER.....Elliott #594+

Among Tolkien's hobbits, Gandalf the Christ figure is not primarily magician or prophet or anything else but loremaster; and the profound and continuing appeal of the four hobbit books, especially to adolescents, lies mainly here. Under the autonomous sanction, people don't want an Answer Man; but we never outgrow our need for a Wise One, and people coming to a pastoral counselor expect that kind of help. Some day, a counseling computer may pop out the lore--myth, model, paradigm, image --appropriate to a particular need; for the nonce, you're it....Of course the central lore you're expected to have at tonguetip is biblical. There are many catenae pamphlets listing scriptures to read "When you're..."--the latest, well done by THE READERS DIGEST. But the skill I'm speaking to in this thinksheet is the on-the-spot "Spirit/Word" availability of appropriate biblical lore. To get at this, I gave my "Counseling/Theology Integration Seminar" ('75S) nine minutes to do a two-column, OT/NT listing in response to this question: "What scriptures--whether or not you can remember the reference--have you found most helpful in your own counseling?" Herewith is the rough data:

OLD TESTAMENT

GENESIS--Of the 19 respondents, over half referred to 1-3: three, creation as "good" --two, "Adam and Eve"--one, "Cain and Abel"--one, "'imago dei' and problems of self-image"--one, "a living being"--one, "creation story--the process of human existence/creation."....Two were into 12 (call of Abraham), and one into the book's final sequence ("Joseph and his brothers")....One, Jacob/Esau.

REMAINING TORAH AND HISTORIES--[One instance when no number mentioned.] [Instead of adding the reff., or even putting the qtt. in proper biblical seq., I decided at this point to represent the data as received: unreferenced qtt. appear after all OT and NT reff.] Lev.19.17f + Deut.6.4f: "love G, l. neighbor as self." Sam.: David/Bathsheba. David/Goliath: "weak vs. strong." David/Jonathan: "friendship." Three, Ruth. PROPHETS--Hosea. Isaiah 6.1ff; 40 ("comfort...as eagles"); [1] "sins...snow" and "come...reason"; 3 more reff. to 40; 31.31 ("a heart of flesh"); 2Is. as "the fifth Passion"; "suffering servant passages"; "I am with thee. I have called thee by thy name, thou art mine. When thou passest through the deep waters I will be with thee." Jeremiah 1 ("call"); 33 ("Call upon me and I will answer thee"); "potter's wheel"; "Why did you dupe me, Lord?" Ezekiel 36 (God shepherding his people). Jonah.

KETHUVIM (WRITINGS)--Job: five, including these: "very important in terms of relationships and suffering," and "his travail--the solution to problem of evil, rather than explanation of it." Song of Songs. Proverbs: "The just man..." etc. Of course the bluk is Pss.: 1; 8; five, 23 (time of death; "yea...with me," "...with us"--the last passage I read to me mother as she was dying); 27; 46 ("God is our refuge"); 51 (Lenten phrases); 53; 103 (So far does God's forgiveness reach us.); 111; 121 (nature Pss.); "Out of the depths..."; 150 ("Let everything...praise....").

NEW TESTAMENT

SYNOPTICS--[I give up! Almost no reff., only qtt. So, herewith, four periods separate the separate offerings, which are given in full. I color-coded by NYT sections, then decided on giving the rough data.] Do not be afraid. Jesus reached out and touched the man. No man has ever told me so much about myself (woman at well). If this chalice cannot pass away.... Could you not spend an hour with me? I come not to do my will, but the will of my Father. I have longed to eat this passover meal with you. Your faith has saved you. (Reaction of Jesus to the outcasts of society: taxcollectors, lepers, soldiers [Roman].) Love your neighbor as yourself....The story of the ten lepers. When the devil is taken from the possessed person, roams around, "cleans the house," then being unprepared, the devils return to the man. Pentecost account. Unless the grain dies...increase.... Ro.6.....I am the resurrection and the life. Come to me, all you that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Jn.9.1+9: It is not that this man or his parents sinned, that he is blind, but that the works of God may be manifest in him; "I am the Light of the world. God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself. Persons as a means of

grace: "We are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us."....It is not the healthy that need a doctor, sick people do. Take my yoke upon you. Parable of Prodigal Son. The Lord chastens those he loves. Parable of Talents. ...Jn.14; 7.52-8.12. Mt.5 (Beatitudes). Two Great Commandments. Passion Story. The woman who poured ointment on Jesus. Ro.8. 1Cor.13. Gal.5 (fruits [sic] of the Spirit). James (forgiveness)....Jn.14 ("Because he lives, we shall live also."). Ro.8 ("nothing separate from love of God"). Paul's writing: "Whether I live or die, I am the Lord's either way." Jn.3.16....1Cor.13: see and share the true meaning of love. "All things work for the good of those who love the Lord, in time of stress and decision-making." "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy-burdened"--words to relax and rest by. "I am strong when I am weak"--words of consolation in weakness. Christ's prayer for his apostles. "Birds of the air": trust!....L.15.29, 9-15; M.5.2-12; Jn.3.14; 1Cor.12.1ff; Ro.8. These OT in wrong column: Pss.23 and 27; Gen. (Jos. and Brothers); Jonah; Hosea; Is.6.1ff....Samaritan woman; Jn.15; 1P.3 (hope); Prodigal Son; M.6 (hope); Passion accounts, esp. agony in garden; Christ's anger, e.g. cleansing the temple, demanding explanation from soldier who struck him, challenging hypocrisy. Christ's weeping at Lazarus' death and over Jerusalem....Jn.10.10 ("come to give life--in its fullness"): M. ("If you can believe, all things are possible."). L.5: "When He saw their faith, he was deeply moved."). Phil.: "God, who began this good work in you." Jn.15: "I am the vine, you are branches." Rev.3.20: "Behold, I stand at the door."....Ro.8: "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us; for I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities nor height nor depth nor things present nor things to come, nor any other thing in all creation, shall be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Phil.: "Forgetting what lies behind me, straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."....Phil.: "I can do all things through Christ." 2Cor.12(?): hymn to love. Prolog to John's Gospel. Prolog to Eph....Mt.23: "Call no man on earth your father"--re emergence of person from family dependence to autonomy under God. Gss. accounts of resurrection--the divine comedy which makes laughter truer than tears. ..."My God, why...?" (Christ leads us through no darker rooms than he has been before.) "I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you" (grief work).... 1Cor.13: "Love never ends, never gives up, outlasts everything else." Ro.8: no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus [acceptance]; nothing can separate us. 1Jn.: "If we say that we have no sin" [forgiveness]; God's love made perfect. Phil.4: "whatsoever is good...and of good report, think on these things; rejoice in the Lord."....L.: Prodigal Son. Ro.8. @Cor. Mt.: Passion Story. Jn.6: Jesus and Adulteress....Mt.25: "What you have done to the least of these you have done to me." Jn.11: Jesus wept. Jn.14: My peace I give to you....Healing incidents in the Gss. Lazarus' death: Jesus' reaction. Gethsemane: Christ's reactions to his own oncoming death. Marriage of Cana (pre-marital counseling). "Peace" in Easter gospel (for confession).

#### ADDITIONAL UNREFERENCED QTT.

OT: God leading his people to the Promised Land. Yahweh calls you, from all times. "Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord" (alluded to above, under "Pss."). David dancing before the ark. "Yea, I walk through...evil...with me" (counted under "Pss."). "Let everything...praise..." (under "Pss.").

NT: Father, forgive them, for they know not. Little children, love one another. Unless you become as little children, you cannot enter the Kingdom of God. I have come that you might have Life. Unless a man is born of water and the spirit.... Beloved, let us love one another for love is of God. I have come that you may have life. Sotry of Zaccheus; woman at well; Mary/Martha. Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ. You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free. Vision of Revelation: a new heaven and a new earth--former things have passed away.

Only comment on sheets: "In general, I rarely use Scripture in the counseling situation. Basic reason: Anti-Reformation educated Catholics' non-relationship to Scripture, in vast majority. Exceptions: Hospital work." (Texts follow, above.)