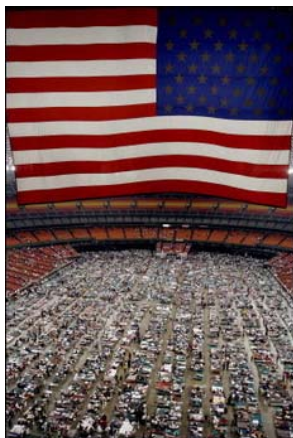


# Counsel the Word

The Institute of Soteric Counseling

## From the President



<http://katrinapictures.blogspot.com/>

The evacuees from Hurricane Katrina, primarily from New Orleans, are pouring into Houston. We now have about 250,000 of them in the Houston area. The Astrodome, the Convention Center, public arenas, and many church family life centers are full to overflowing. The compassion of Texans is admirable. They are doing all they can to help alleviate the suffering of displacement and loss. Our church is feeding some of them who are still in shelters and motels. They need physical things, for sure, but also a smile, a hug, an understanding heart. A UPCI minister called me today about the requirements for certification as a soteric counselor. He is being called upon to assist some of those arriving from Louisiana in his community. Our heart and hand goes out them, but we must admit that they are bringing the problems of their inner city lifestyle in NO with them. Authorities are confiscating guns, drugs, and other contraband as they arrive in Houston. NO was known as "sin city." A giant convocation of gays was scheduled have a bash in the streets of NO celebrating their lifestyle before the world two days after the hurricane hit. That city is known as a haven for those of that culture.

Now, during this crisis, we again see some of the reasons for our society's problems.

A woman who had been bussed from NO to the Astrodome was interviewed on radio and was heard to say that her children were with "their father" in the NO area, and her "boyfriend" from Austin was supposed to pick her up here in Houston and take her with him. Now tell me...how well-adjusted are those children going to be? Most or all of them will be prime candidates for the drug and criminal elements of society or for the psychiatrist's couch later in life. Such a lifestyle is quite common in our present culture. Relatively few nuclear families are among the evacuees, mostly single moms, "homeless" males, children who don't know where (or perhaps, who) their parents are, and every conceivable type of individual. How do you "fix" their problems? It reminds us to ask ourselves: "Where do we need to be placing the emphasis—on treatment or prevention?" It is like the argument concerning whether to teach abstinence or give your teenagers condoms. We know what the world is apt to do...but what are we Apostolics going to do? Prepare the levees or fix them after the city is flooded? It is time we were more proactive with what efforts and energies we have. Right now we have to assist those who are in trouble, however, and hopefully point them to the real answer and to the Solution.

Recently, I witnessed a man who had been far from God, into drugs, alcohol, immorality and even crime, come into a relationship with the Lord at a Pentecostal altar. After years on drugs and a godless lifestyle, in one night he was free, without "withdrawal," by the power of God. Cigarettes, drugs, booze—it had been displaced in his system by the power and

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**A principle to remember: If you allow the enemy to gain a foothold, before long he will set up a stronghold.**

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grace of God. His family was reunited. All are in church now living for God. The guiding hand of a loving pastor, getting into the Word, and a transformed mind are leading them into a fruitful life for the Lord. What would AA have done for him/them? Or a psychiatrist's couch? As Apostolics we are first called to soteric methodology—addressing the true spiritual needs of humanity. Let those who are inclined to the psychological or medical field and consider it a vocation rather than a ministry pursue their degrees in secular counseling or medicine. We know, however, it is simple enough for some to consider all humanitarian work as "a ministry." But, ultimately, ministry needs to end in a spiritual victory, and that is the emphasis we are working toward.

The goal of ISC is to train and certify counselors in every region of the country to coordinate efforts in that region. Those who are calling us for help should have assistance near at hand. In time that will be a reality if we do not slack in our conviction and dedication to the soteric way.

Be strong...and let's get God's work done!

PS: We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the 2005 ISC Training Conference in Houston. Check the details on the website, [soteric.org](http://soteric.org), or call 1-888-462-2873.

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Some states are passing legislation (ex., Florida) that guarantees parents cannot be forced to drug their children and empowers them to refuse mandatory psychiatric screening of children. Since a "black box" warning last October that antidepressants cause suicide, there has been a 16% reduction in children being prescribed antidepressants in the U.S. Has that declension hurt the manufacturers? Probably not. The drug companies are so flushed with cash right now they don't even mind to get hit with lawsuits. Just pay off and go on. Claim caps have been installed (Texas, for one) in many states so the most they will have to pay on any one class action suit is \$25 million. Chump change for them. Don't forget...money is at the root of all evil, including the evil being perpetrated in this field.

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It is important that we do not personally attack other Apostolic Christians who are into psychology and psychiatry.

**"We are not in a battle with each other."**

Even though they may be misled, they are doubtless sincere and are driven by altruistic motives in their pursuit of trying

to help people by psychoactive drugs or psychotherapy. By the same token, we trust they will not attack us for recommending Word therapy. There seems to be many more who can testify to spiritual and emotional healing through the Word than through psychological methods. The cross always trumps the couch, but let kindness prevail from both camps. We are not in a battle with each other.

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Testing has begun on a new psychiatric procedure designed to treat depression. It involves drilling two holes in a person's skull and implanting tiny electrodes in the brain that are connected by wires inserted below the skin, behind the ear and down the chest. Remotely programmable batteries—one on each side of the body—are inserted in an incision made under the collarbone. The cost is reported to be \$50,000 per treatment. FDA approval is pending. The manufacturer predicts more than \$1 billion in sales by 2010, with nearly 5 million potential "customers" immediately available. How many zombies will they have to create before we wake up and smell the coffee? What of future generations—what will they be like? And what will their children be like? Apostolics need to rise up and speak up on behalf of our children and our future generations. Silence gives consent.



There is no wonder the psychology industry is pushing for everyone to be "screened" for depression. The bar has been lowered so far that virtually any of us could be diagnosed with depression. The more they can diagnose with that "disease" the more job security they have. The whole scene is shameless. How many do they cure? Where are the testimonies—besides those on paid "infomercials" pushing some new herb or drug—stating that they are "cured?" Like the AA views alcoholism as a permanent disease with those so "addicted" forever in recovery, they want to endorse long term drug usage or ongoing counseling. As long as counseling is a paid profession, we will see the rise of more and more "diseases" that have to be "treated" by their methods. Does anyone ever look around and ask, "Why the proliferation of all these problems in the 21st century?" The DSM keeps getting thicker and thicker with more problems that need treatment by psychiatrists. Even Christians like Joyce Meyers are writing pop psychology books like, "Overcoming Approval Addiction" as though it were a disease like smallpox attacking our citizens. We don't need to use the industry's vocabulary; it only reinforces them. We need to attack the deeper cause—not just apply topical salve which only addresses the symptoms. That is what soteric counseling is all about—guiding the counselees toward the path of righteousness and a healing relationship with the Healer Himself!

## Psychology and the Church: An Appeal from a layperson

By Denise I. Lee  
Aiken, South Carolina

When I think about how psychology has influenced the church today, I wonder where God fits into the whole picture. If one really stops to consider what is happening between the relationship of the church and God when psychology is allowed to intermingle with our theology and lifestyle, the thought is disheartening and sickening. Those who have allowed themselves to be infiltrated by psychology have quit seeking God for deliverance from their problems, and instead have mixed or even replaced God with a false religion that has come from man.

In biblical times, God commanded His people not to participate in the false religions of the heathen nations but to conquer them instead. He also gave specific instruction not to marry them because He knew that once they did, they would turn away from God and turn towards the false religions idols of that nation. When the Israelites had barely crossed the Red Sea, they lost sight of their leader, Moses, because he was in the mountain. The children of Israel turned their hearts away from God and what He was wanting to do in their lives. Instead, they turned to the false religions that they had observed, learned and practiced while they were in Egypt.

The grip of the false religion of psychology is being allowed to gradually replace what God should be allowed to do in an individual's life through prayer, reading the Word of God, and fasting. The psychology movement has even tried to cover up with medication the guilt that comes from sin so that individuals will feel good. Even Christians have started looking for their "rest" out of a bottle. Jesus said in Matthew 11:28-30, *Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.* In John 14:16,18,26 Jesus said, *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.* Nowhere in the Bible does it recommend seeking an outside source for comfort.

The Bible says that it is the little foxes that spoil the vines. Psychology has been a little fox that has eased its way in. Slowly over time, the claws of psychology have disillusioned the church and quietly crept its way in to a place where it did not belong. This evil has gradually tightened its grip to the point that even those who are in a position of authority in the church feel that they are under qualified to counsel individuals because they do not hold a degree in that field. This evil grip of psychology has been allowed to penetrate the church instead of taking a stand against it—an obligation that God has placed on

their shoulders. The result is that those in authority become intimidated because they feel that the problem is too complex or too difficult, instead referring the individuals to someone that may have a degree but lacks the anointing of the Holy Ghost to counsel these individuals in a godly, biblical fashion. If the leadership will take back the responsibility and the authority that God has placed in their hands, realizing that every problem (no matter how complex or difficult that life deals out) is dealt with in the Word of God and counsel these individuals that are going through struggles with the anointing of the Holy Ghost, it is then that the outcome will be a great victory, not only for the individual but for the one in the position of authority. What they will have accomplished is the recovery of what the enemy has tried to steal.

God is calling His people, the church, to step away from the grip of psychology. II Chronicles 7:14 says, *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.* Isaiah 10:27 adds, *And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.* It is only when God's people divorce the false religion of psychology, and return to God to whom they are married, that God, through His anointing, will be able to heal their hurts, and take the burden from off their shoulders and neck. He will destroy the yoke that has bound them for so long.

### ISC 2005 TRAINING CONFERENCE!!

It's that time of year again, and we here at ISC are excited about this year's lineup!

The Registration form is now posted on our website [www.soteria.org](http://www.soteria.org).

Just print it out and follow the instructions and you will be registered! Spaces are filling up fast. Don't forget to reserve your room at the hotel, which you will also find on the Registration form. For those of you flying in, you will want to choose the Houston-Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH). You will not want to miss this year's conference! Special speaker-David Fauss, will be describing the ordeal of losing his wife to mind-altering drugs. Bro. Fauss is an ordained minister, and you must hear his testimony of what these drugs can do--to a ministry, a marriage, a family, and a life.

Also on our lineup of speakers is Dale Anderson. Sister Anderson has written the book, "Breaking the Yoke of Spiritual Oppression." What a need that is.

If we can answer any further questions, or assist you in any way, please let us know. We are here to serve you.

The Institute of Soteric  
Counseling

P O Box 1752  
Willis, TX 77378



**Don't Forget to Register!**

The 4th Annual ISC Training Conference will be held

October 27, 28, 2005.

Contact Lynda Doty at  
[info@soteric.org](mailto:info@soteric.org) or call

1-888-463-2873

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