

Victorious Living Bible Institute (VLBI)

Effective Grief Counseling: A Guide to Counseling and Supporting the Grieving

Course Syllabus (Fall 2026)

Start Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Duration: 13 Weeks

Course Description

This course equips students with biblical and practical tools to support and counsel individuals experiencing grief and loss. Drawing from Scripture and proven counseling principles, students will learn to provide compassionate, Christ-centered care to those navigating grief.

Course Objectives

- Understand grief through a biblical lens
- Apply Scripture and prayer when supporting the grieving
- Develop active listening and empathy skills
- Counsel individuals through various types of grief
- Recognize when professional referral is necessary

Course Outline (Fall 2026)

Week	Date	Topic
Week 1	Sept 15, 2026	Introduction to Grief Counseling
Week 2	Sept 22, 2026	Understanding Grief Through a Biblical Lens
Week 3	Sept 29, 2026	Biblical Principles for Offering Comfort
Week 4	Oct 6, 2026	Listening with Love and Compassion
Week 5	Oct 13, 2026	Praying With and for the Grieving
Week 6	Oct 20, 2026	Sharing Scripture for Comfort and Healing
Week 7	Oct 27, 2026	Encouraging Faith in Times of Suffering
Week 8	Nov 3, 2026	Helping the Grieving Find Purpose and Meaning
Week 9	Nov 10, 2026	Supporting Practical Needs During Grief

Week	Date	Topic
Week 10	Nov 17, 2026	Counseling the Grieving with Grace and Wisdom
No Class	Nov 24, 2026	Thanksgiving Break
Week 11	Dec 1, 2026	The Healing Journey
Week 12	Dec 8, 2026	Biblical Models of Comfort and Care
Week 13	Dec 15, 2026	Counseling Different Types of Grief and Final Project

Evaluation Criteria

- Participation and Discussions – 20%
- Book Report – 25%
- Case Study Presentations – 25%
- Final Project – 30%

Notes

- Thanksgiving week (November 24, 2026) is observed as a break.
- The course is extended one additional week to ensure all 13 instructional weeks are completed.