



## **Serenity & Grace Biblical Counseling** **Policy & Terms of Service**

Serenity & Grace Counseling, LLC  
Policy & Terms of Service

This Agreement is by and between COUNSELING SERVICE, Serenity & Grace Biblical Counseling Policy & Terms of Service, [hereinafter, "Serenity"] with a principal place of business located at \_\_\_\_\_ and CLIENT, \_\_\_\_\_, with a place of abode located at \_\_\_\_\_. CLIENT agrees that by signing below, CLIENT has had the time to review the foregoing and has agreed to the contents therein.

### **Nature of Services:**

Biblical Counselors are not required to possess a licensed counselor certificate although some counselors may possess further licensures and certificates. Serenity & Grace Counseling parts ways with secular views and instead imparts wisdom and knowledge from the Word of God through our spiritual mentors. As our method of counseling, Serenity utilizes the Word of God as our main reference, the Holy Spirit as our Paraclete (Greek translation "paráklētos"), our

Advocate and Helper, and Jesus Christ as our Model. In our counseling methodology, we address what may be considered the spiritual nature of one's problem as we believe this is where mostly all conflicts arise.

**Fees:**

Fees for individuals start at \$67/hour for the first session (includes cost of counseling workbook), then \$50/hour per session thereafter, or \$500 for ten (10) 1-hour counseling sessions (includes cost of counseling workbook). Fees for couples start at \$114/hour for the first session (includes cost of counseling workbook) then \$80/hour per session thereafter or \$800 for ten (10) 1-hour counseling sessions (includes cost of counseling workbook). We do not offer Group counseling with three or more individuals at this time. If you might have interest in A Strengthening Family Program training (10 Session Program), please do let us know and that service can be offered separately for a fee from our offered counseling services. Additional fees may include, but not be limited to workbook(s). Serenity may issue a fee waiver for additional materials upon Client's proof of verifiable financial hardship. Fees are due upon receipt of services.

**Length of Counseling:**

For counseling requests that extend beyond 10 sessions at a time, the counselee will be advised to continue meeting with their designated church leadership if they are a member of a church. If further individual or couples counseling is needed, we will consider the counselee's situation for possible continuation of counseling services.

**Online Platform and Communication:**

Serenity utilizes a virtual platform for counseling sessions through \_\_\_\_\_. In-person counseling sessions may take place, but only with the written agreement between the Parties.

**Counseling Boundaries:**

Women will only counsel individually, women or children. Women will never be counseled by men alone. Women are able to counsel couples together. Couples counseling may require more than one counselor.

**Services for Minor Children:**

Serenity provides counseling services to minor children over the age of 13 (thirteen) years of age. Any person participating in counseling over the age of 18 (eighteen) years old may receive counseling without Parental Consent or Parental Involvement. "Parental Consent" is required for any minor child receiving counseling services from Serenity. Additionally, Serenity requires "Parental Involvement" during counseling services which requires that parent/legal guardian must be present when a minor child is being counseled. Client Responsibilities

If applicable, Coursework assignments should be completed before the start of the next

counseling session. It is paramount that Coursework, if applicable, be completed prior to the next session as it will impact the counselee's spiritual growth.

### **Confidentiality:**

**All Interactions which take place during counseling sessions are considered confidential. This includes confidential information, including, but not limited to telephonic, virtual and in-person communications. Exceptions to confidentiality may include but not be limited to the following limitations of confidentiality pursuant to company policy:**

- A person expresses intent to harm themselves or someone else.
- There is evidence or reasonable suspicion of abuse towards a minor child, dependent adult, elderly, or disabled individual.
- There is a subpoena or other court order received to release information.
- Anything else the Law mandates be reported.
- There is permission given from counselees to obtain outside help for the problem being addressed.

Confidential information for counselors;

May not share confidential information contrary to Company policy which provides that counseling sessions may be shared with those who have a need to know including but not limited to training purposes, additional instruction.

For the Clients;

Information during sessions is held to the strictest confidence and is shared only pursuant to Company policy.

**Informed Consent:** Serenity offers faith-based counseling services which integrate Biblical teachings to address Client's specific concerns. It is the Client's right to seek services elsewhere if a different approach is preferred.

**Termination of Services:** Either Party to this Agreement may terminate the counseling relationship by providing 3 (three) days' written notice to the other; however, Client is responsible for any outstanding fees up to the point of cancellation.

**Legal Jurisdiction:** In the event of any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement, including any legal action or proceedings, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover its reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and other legal expenses incurred in connection with resolving the dispute. This Agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida. Any dispute arising hereunder or in connection with this Agreement shall be subject to a court of competent jurisdiction located in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ Florida.

**Modification of Terms:** Any amendment, waiver or modification of any provision of this Agreement shall be ineffective unless signed in writing by both Parties.

**Notice:** Any notice or demand or any other communication required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given if delivered personally, sent by registered or certified mail or recognized courier, or by text message or electronic mail to the below contact information:

If to Party A:

Name: [NAME OF PARTY A]

Address: [PARTY A'S ADDRESS]

Attn: [NAME IF PARTY A IS AN ENTITY]

Facsimile: [FACSIMILE NUMBER]

With a courtesy copy to:

Name: [PARTY A's ATTORNEY/LAW FIRM]

Address: [ADDRESS]

Attn: [INDIVIDUAL'S NAME, AS APPLICABLE]

Facsimile: [FACSIMILE NUMBER]

If to Party B:

Name: [NAME OF PARTY B]

Address: [PARTY B'S ADDRESS]

Attn: [NAME IF PARTY B IS AN ENTITY]

Facsimile: [FACSIMILE NUMBER]

With a courtesy copy to:

Name: [PARTY B's ATTORNEY/LAW FIRM]

Address: [ADDRESS]

Attn: [INDIVIDUAL'S NAME, AS APPLICABLE]

Facsimile: [FACSIMILE NUMBER]

**Force Majeure:** Neither party shall be held responsible for delays or non-performance caused by activities or factors beyond its reasonable control, including without limitation, war, weather, strikes, lockouts, fires, acts of God, terrorism, or any other activities or factors beyond its control, whether similar or dissimilar to any of the foregoing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the affected party shall promptly provide written notice thereof to the other party, which notice shall include a detailed description of the event of force majeure along with the affected party's best estimate of the length of time such event will delay or prevent

performance hereunder. Additionally, the affected party shall use all reasonable efforts to limit the impact of the event of force majeure on its performance hereunder. [If an event of force majeure continues for at least [number] [(\_)] consecutive [days/weeks], the non-affected party shall have the right to immediately terminate this Agreement pursuant to the terms hereof.]

**No Third-Party Beneficiaries:** This Agreement is being entered into for the sole benefit of the parties hereto, and nothing herein, express or implied, is intended to or shall confer upon any other person or entity any legal or equitable right, benefit, or remedy of any nature whatsoever.

**Complaints and Grievances:** Client agrees to provide written notice to Serenity should there be a dispute regarding this Agreement. Client agrees to provide a cure period in which Serenity will use its best efforts to resolve the dispute. Church discipline is necessary for a counselee according to Matthew 18:15-20. The pastor of the church member would be contacted.

Since we are not a licensed counseling organization, with your signing of this document you agree to absolve us from any sort of professional malpractice claim.