

Advanced Cohort Training

Eight-Month Cohort Development | ABC Level 1 Certification

This program equips followers of Christ with a biblical foundation for counselling and care. Through live teaching, structured cohort community, and a guided mini-practicum experience, students develop a theological understanding of people and change, learn the core methods of biblical counselling, and gain hands-on experience applying that knowledge with a real counsellee. Training is delivered fully online through a structured eight-month program accessible to students across Canada, the United States, and internationally.

Upon completion of Level 1, students may continue their formation through GCC Advanced Cohort Coaching at the ABC Level 2 stage.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

GCC Advanced Cohort Training is an eight-month online program pairing ABC Level 1 students with experienced Training Leaders within a structured learning cohort. The program runs across two semesters. The first builds the theological and methodological knowledge base of biblical counselling. The second moves students into a guided mini-practicum experience, applying that knowledge in a ten-session counselling engagement. The full program runs through Google Classroom, with live sessions delivered via Zoom.

WHAT IS INCLUDED

6 Live Online Teaching Sessions. Three-hour sessions with your Training Leaders covering core biblical counselling content, counselling skills, gospel application, and case discussion, with structured cohort interaction throughout.

GCC On-Demand Teaching Videos. GCC-produced video content covering module material from each week of the program, available for review at any time across the eight months.

Paul Tripp Video Series. Two complete teaching series — *Your Walk with God Is A Community Project* and *What Did You Expect?* — integrated into the program curriculum and accessible through Google Classroom.

ABC Certification Requirements. Two open-book exams, four writing assignments, a case study paper, and a ten-session mini-practicum with counselling journals — all guided and graded within the program.

Peer Partner Groups. Small groups of four to six students formed by timezone for structured prayer, encouragement, and mutual accountability across the eight months, coordinated by the GCC training team.

Signal Cohort Group. A dedicated group channel connecting you with your cohort peers and GCC training coordinators via secure private messaging on your phone, tablet, or computer.

Google Classroom Access. A structured digital workspace for all assignments, video content, program documents, and Training Leader feedback across the full eight months.

Assignment Grading and Feedback. All submitted assignments receive grading and written feedback from your Training Leaders and GCC training coordinators throughout the program.

WHO IS THIS PROGRAM FOR

- + Followers of Christ wanting to develop a biblical foundation for counselling and care
- + Pastors, lay counsellors, small group leaders, ministry staff, and anyone wanting to grow in caring for others
- + Students who thrive in a structured, community-based learning environment
- + Students located anywhere in Canada, the US, or internationally, studying fully online through a structured program in English

Program duration is eight months from the date of enrolment. Students requiring additional time will be assessed individually, with a customized continuation arrangement offered based on what remains outstanding.

PROGRAM INVESTMENT

\$1,920 CAD

Eight-month program

THREE EQUAL INSTALMENTS

Instalment 1

\$640

Instalment 2

\$640

Instalment 3

\$640

Payment schedule confirmed at time of enrolment.

YOUR TRAINING LEADERS

Richard Walton

Co-Founder, Gospel Care Canada

Richard serves with GCC as a biblical counsellor, trainer-coach, and consultant. He also serves as a pastor overseeing his local church's biblical counselling ministry. Years of formation, front-line counselling care, and teaching and coaching within biblical counselling training contexts have shaped the practice he brings to GCC training, cohort leadership, and counselling to individuals, couples, pastors, and church leaders across Canada.

- + ABC Certified Biblical Counsellor
- + CCTCP Level 2 Certified
- + ISSA CPT
- + Master of Divinity (MDiv)
- + Graduate Certificate in Biblical Care and Counselling
- + BA, Religion and Ministry
- + Diploma, Advanced Biblical and Theological Studies
- + Additional training: CCEF and IBCD

Jason Kovacs

*Executive Director, Gospel Care Collective |
Co-Founder, Gospel Care Canada*

Jason Kovacs serves with GCC as a biblical counselor, trainer-coach, and consultant. He also has roots in both local church and broader ministry contexts. Years of formation, counseling practice, and teaching across church, training, and academic settings have shaped his work. He brings that range of experience to supervision and training at Gospel Care Collective, with a particular focus on marriage, parenting, trauma, depression, and anxiety.

- + ABC Certified Biblical Counselor
- + Masters of Arts, Reformed Theological Seminary
- + Specialized Training in Trauma Care (TBRI)
- + Council Member, Biblical Counseling Coalition
- + Board Member, Canadian Biblical Counseling Coalition
- + Adjunct Professor, Heritage Theological Seminary and Millar College of the Bible

NEXT BEST STEPS

01

Complete Your Registration

Visit gospelcare.ca, open the Certification menu, select ABC Level 1 Certification, and complete the Advanced Cohort Training registration form to secure your place in the program.

02

Receive Your Enrolment Package

You will receive a welcome email from the GCC Training Department guiding you through the GCC and ABC application for Level 1.

03

Complete Your ABC Application

Upon receiving the GCC Training Department email confirming your GCC acceptance, you will be provided instructions to complete your ABC application and pay your ABC application fee directly to ABC.

ADDITIONAL COSTS PAID DIRECTLY (USD)

ABC Level 1 Application Fee: \$25 USD · Paid directly to ABC upon application

Equipped to Counsel by John Henderson: approx. \$100 CAD, Reformed Book Services

CCEF Digital Subscription (Journal Articles): \$21 USD, purchased separately



**Association of
Biblical Counselors**
TRAINING PARTNER

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