



GFA Family Conference 2023

August 30, 2023

**"I Need a Mulligan" — Mistakes I Made in Counseling**

Marsh Fant

1. Not taking the time to gather complete background information. (Proverbs 18:13)
2. Only dealing with behavior; not asking the right questions to determine the idol(s) of the heart. (Proverbs 20:5; Matthew 12:34-35)
3. Thinking I can change people. (Hebrews 4:12-13)
4. Not having each person pray aloud at the beginning and end of each meeting.
5. Not taking good notes during the session and after the session. I do not remember the details like I think I will.
6. Giving too much grace for incomplete projects. (Ephesians 5:15-16)
7. Asking *why they came* at the end of the first session and not at the beginning of the first session.
8. Continually meeting with people over whom I do not have spiritual authority.  
  
(Note: I will meet with anyone a first time to give him/her the Gospel.)
9. Treating abuse as a marriage problem.
10. Having counseling session(s) on Sunday afternoon before I preach on Sunday evening.
11. Not training more men and women in our church to share in this disciple-making ministry. (Ephesians 4:11-12; 2 Timothy 2:2)

(Note: About 70% of our counseling is women. You should follow the Titus 2 model with women counseling women.)