

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF BIBLICAL COUNSELORS

Official Notice to Members

AABC Transferring of Membership to IABC

From the AABC Governing Leadership
1/9/2017



The purpose of this document is to inform the membership of the American Academy of Biblical Counselors of the January 9, 2017 transfer of membership to the International Association of Biblical Counselors.

Dear Member of the American Academy of Biblical Counselors:

Since its founding in July of 2013, AABC has served as an accountability, advocacy, certification, and training association committed to the sufficiency of Scripture as a counseling model. As such, the purpose of AABC has been to promote excellence in nouthetic (Biblical) counseling.

While desiring to work with like-minded entities for the strengthening of the nouthetic model, the goal of AABC has been to centralize and preserve the unique focus of Biblical counseling advancement and certification. Toward that end, we have achieved remarkable success; and with more than 200 members, we have been privileged to serve the finest constituency.

However, as noted in the paragraph above and in our public documents, AABC's primary goal has always been to "work with like-minded entities for the strengthening of the nouthetic model." One of those entities with whom we share a significant history is the International Association of Biblical Counselors.

In April of 2016 it became increasingly clear to the AABC leadership that both AABC and IABC were essentially duplicating efforts, and often duplicating membership as many AABC members are also members of IABC.

Furthermore, with a long and amicable history of academic, professional and personal relationships within the leadership of both organizations, the AABC leadership felt it was in the best interest of both organizations to investigate the possibility of joining forces in order to better promote and serve the Biblical counseling community. Toward that end, numerous communications and meetings were conducted, and many options were considered.

As a consequence of those meetings, on Thursday, October 27, 2016 it was agreed that AABC would facilitate the transfer of its membership to IABC. The period from that time until January 8, 2017 would be set aside for the coordinating of the actual implementation of that transfer. The document you are now reading is the official public notice of the agreement.

THE CONDITIONS OF THE TRANSFER

- All AABC certified members will be accepted by IABC without any further qualifications, and paid memberships will be honored for the term of their currently paid AABC dues. After that, they will renew with IABC.

- All AABC members in-process of certification be able to complete the AABC process, and then be accepted by IABC without further qualifications, and their paid membership will be honored for the term of their currently paid AABC dues. After that, they will renew with IABC.
- All AABC Supporting and Credentialed (non-certified) members will be accepted at whatever level is similar with IABC, and their currently paid dues with AABC be accepted through the period of payment, and after that renewable with IABC.
- AABC will keep active including its Web page, and support services through the currently paid dues period, for members who do not wish to move to IABC. It cannot be assumed that all AABC members will wish to transfer to IABC. However, AABC will strongly recommend it, and will assist in the transition. AABC will honor its commitment through the currently paid dues of any member who does not wish to transfer to IABC.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN PRACTICAL TERMS?

AABC members who wish to be transferred to IABC will be assisted in the transfer. Those who may not wish to transfer are assured that their current AABC membership will continue through the period of their currently paid membership, and that AABC will faithfully render all appropriate services. Following the expiration of the final paid membership, AABC will cease to exist.

HOW TO KNOW WHEN YOUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES

Your current paid membership term is printed on your membership certificate. If you have questions concerning your current membership, please contact AABC right away at: <http://aabiblicalcounselors.org/contact/>.

WHAT TO DO NEXT

YOU NEED DO NOTHING unless you do not wish to have your membership transferred to IABC. If you do not wish to have your membership transferred to IABC, please contact AABC right away at:

<http://aabiblicalcounselors.org/contact/>. Otherwise, AABC will transfer your membership to IABC, and IABC will contact you to confirm your transfer. This process will take a few weeks, so we thank you in advance for your patience.

During the transition period AABC will post up-dated information on its website as may be appropriate: <http://aabiblicalcounselors.org/> and is fully committed to assisting all of its members in making a smooth and beneficial transfer to the International Association of Biblical Counselors: <http://iabc.net/>.

CONCLUSION

The leadership of both AABC and IABC believes that this transfer will be a win/win for the wider world of Biblical Counseling ministry, and the cause of Christ around the world. We do ask for your prayers and your support, and remain committed to the highest level of Biblical ethics in nouthetic counseling.

Sincerely in the work of Christ:

AABC LEADERSHIP

Dr. Howard A. Eyrich, Chairman
Dr. Dennis D. Frey, Vice Chairman
Dr. David M. Tyler, President
Dr. Mark O. Hager, Vice President
Mr. Johnny Kicklighter, Treasurer

IABC LEADERSHIP

Dr. Ed Bulkley, President
Dr. Kevin Hurt, Executive Vice President
Pastor Dan Bulkley, Executive Member
Pastor Jeff Colon, Executive Member
Dr. Bob Froese, Executive Member