



Dr. Haire offers a guide to assist Pastors in their efforts to counsel parishioners by moving from a problem-focused approach to a solution-focused approach. Clergy members have historically sought ways to improve their counseling methods. The practice of contemporary pastoral counseling has been profoundly impacted by 20th century secular psychological principles. Pastoral counselors have adopted and adapted many of these principles in an attempt to improve their counseling efforts. Parish-based pastoral counselors have long been aware of the unique stressors and concerns that are associated with serving parishioners in a duality of professional roles. This book describes a research project that was initiated to introduce the clergy to the principles of a model of family therapy known as Solution-Focused. The Solution-Focused Family Therapy model was developed at the Brief Family Therapy Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

[

PASTORAL COUNSELING:  
Looking for Solutions

by  
Dr. Anthony Haire

For several thousand of years of recorded history, people's figures such as the Yuletide-Christmas religious culture have been sought out by persons around the world to provide comfort in times of trouble and personal distress. It is today's American society, in fact, that has had the most significant religious and nonreligious, personal and social problems, counseling, or times of need.

Using a solution-focused approach to people helping should maximize the possibility for maintaining satisfactory ongoing relations between professionals and clients, especially when the client's help-seeking has concluded. This author is in favor of the view that social-environment theory represents a promising solution to an ancient and yet surprisingly contemporary, clergy dilemma.

While it appears that contemporary American society has been less influenced by the Church and its doctrines than in earlier times, it is likely, nevertheless, millions of persons still consider their spiritual journey to be linked to the Christian church. This connection is not new, even if only during an episode of individual, social, or familial crisis. During such times of need, many Americans seek your team first, to their local clergy members for guidance and assistance.



**ANTHONY HAIRE, D.D., PH.D.**  
Anthony Haire, D.D., Fayetteville State University, N.C., Liberty University (Ph.D. in Social and Theological Seminary, Ph.D. in Social and Theological Seminary) is a Multicultural Theologian in Fayetteville, NC. Dr. Haire, Haire, occasional faculty who have noted that his at risk. Dr. A.M. Haire is the assistant to Dr. W.J. Haire, pastor of The Love Center Church in Dallas, NC. Dr. A.M. Haire seeks to inspire pastors, ministers, and laypersons around the country with applying the Solution-Focused approach to counseling. You may contact Dr. A.M. Haire at [ahaire@fayettevillestate.edu](mailto:ahaire@fayettevillestate.edu).

© 2010 Trinity Press, All Rights Reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of Trinity Press.



TRINITY  
PRESS PUEBLO, CO