

THE MENTAL HEALTH EPIDEMIC AND THE CHURCH: FINDING PEACE WITHOUT PILLS



In his book, "Anatomy of an Epidemic," award-winning journalist, Robert Whitaker, states that there is a mental health epidemic in our country, with 250 more children and 850 more adults being added to our disability rolls in the United States every day for mental disorders. In addition, twenty percent of all US adults are taking psychiatric medications to help them deal with their emotions. The mental health system does not have effective techniques for resolving feelings of grief, anger, or shame which are the underlying emotions behind most mental health problems. Research has shown that the psychiatric medications that are being used for treatment of depression, anxiety, mood disorders, psychotic disorders, PTSD, and ADHD are effective temporarily at best and have led to long-term chronic disorders and to the epidemic of mental health disabilities we are experiencing in our country.

This two-day conference is primarily being provided for pastors and evangelical counselors, medical professionals, and church leaders and has two major themes: The first theme is "The Truth about Psychiatric Drugs" which will be led by Robert Whitaker, author of "Mad in America" and "Anatomy of an Epidemic" which exposed the negative impact of psychiatric drugs upon our society and upon mental health clients. The second theme of the conference is "A Highly-effective, Faith-based Therapy" for persons of faith, that churches can use to help individuals find healing for grief, anger, shame, addiction, depression, and other issues. All persons are welcome to attend.

DATE: JUNE 22-23, 2017 8:30 - 5:30

LOCATION: Central Christian Church, 400 N. Waldron Rd, Ft. Smith, AR 72903

COST: June 22- \$40.00 (\$20 for pastors)
June 23 - \$20.00 (\$10 for pastors)

TICKETS: Go to Eventbrite.com to register and purchase a ticket.
Late Enrollment Fee: A \$10 fee will be charged for any registrations made after June 15.

CEUs: Licensed Professional Counselors and MFTs in Oklahoma and Arkansas can receive 7 hours of CEUs for attending day 1, and 14 hours for attending both days.
There is an additional fee of \$10 for those who wish to receive CEUs.

SESSION TOPICS

DAY 1: JUNE 22, 2017

The Truth about Psychiatric Drugs - Robert Whitaker

The Mental Health Epidemic: Is it real?

The Truth about Anti-psychotic Medications

The Truth about Anti-depressants

The Truth about Anti-anxiety Medications

Effective Faith-based Help - Jim Gardner, Ph.D.

Faith-based Therapy for Grief

Faith-based Therapy for Anger

Faith-based Therapy for Guilt and Shame

DAY 2: JUNE 23, 2017

The Truth about Psychiatric Drugs - Robert Whitaker

The Truth about ADHD medications

The Truth about Mood Stabilizers

Effective Faith-based Help - Jim Gardner, Ph.D.

Faith-based Therapy for Depression

Faith-based Therapy for Addictions

Faith-based Therapy for Sexual Abuse and other Traumas

Faith-based Therapy for Marital Problems

A Demonstration of a Faith-based Therapy Session

6:30 pm: Dinner with Robert Whitaker and Dr. Gardner

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Robert Whitaker

Robert Whitaker is an award-winning journalist who wrote the book "Mad in America" in 2002 and "Anatomy of an Epidemic" in 2010. Mr. Whitaker has formed an organization called "Mad in America" that provides weekly newsletters about research on the damage created by psychiatric drugs. It also provides a platform for leading thinkers and researchers to rethink current psychiatric practices and to seek alternatives to medications for helping those struggling with mental disorders. He is the author of five books and travels internationally to speak with groups about the epidemic caused by psychiatric medications.

Jim Gardner, Ph.D., LPC

Jim Gardner has been a licensed mental health professional for 40 years. After 25 years of working as a mental health counselor using Christian counseling, Behavior Therapy, Cognitive Therapy, and Family Therapy he learned a simple, based process faith-that was far more effective. He became excited about it and determined to make it simple so everyone could learn how to use it to help persons of faith. He is the author of three books including "Trading Pain for Peace", "Stop Living with Grief", and "Set Free, Indeed: Finding Peace without Pills." He is the director of Set Free Prayer Ministry and he is the organizer of this conference.