



# Conference Keynote Speaker:

## **Dr. Betsy Nesbit**

*Author of Skills for Effective Counseling*

I grew up in the Twin Cities of Minnesota, and attended college at the University of Northern Iowa where I earned a degree in Interpersonal Communication, with a minor in French. I spent a delightful semester abroad in Angers, France which sparked my interest in cross-cultural communication.

In 2004, I graduated from Denver Seminary with a master's degree in Community Counseling. Following my master's degree I traveled to Kiev, Ukraine where I served as a counselor, counselor educator, and program coordinator at REALIS Christian Center. My main responsibilities while in Kiev included team building, staff training, vision casting, curriculum writing, internship design and evaluation, clinical counseling and supervision, and community outreach. I have the joy of returning to Kiev every few years to teach and counsel.

After returning to the States, I worked as an Employee Assistance Counselor outside Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The following year, I followed the passions that had stirred in me while in Ukraine for higher education, and moved to Fayetteville, Arkansas to begin my doctoral work. During and after the completion my PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision at the University of Arkansas, I taught Family & Human Services as well as graduate Counseling at John Brown University. During this time I also maintained a private counseling practice in Fayetteville, Arkansas. While at JBU, I had the joy of teaching courses in family communication, group theory, intercultural communication, spiritual formation, evangelical theology, and family law.

I joined the faculty of Denver Seminary in 2011, and currently serve as an Associate Professor of Counseling and the co-chair of the counseling division. I teach courses in counseling skills, counseling theories, career development, and the integration of counseling and spirituality.

I am a Licensed Professional Counselor and National Certified Counselor, and maintain a private practice in Littleton, Colorado. In my free time I enjoy yoga and Pilates, rollerblading, cooking gluten-free dishes, taking walks with my dog Sasha, and relaxing with friends.