

JBC Editing Process and Philosophy

Editing Process

If your article is accepted for publication, what happens next? First, we will work with you to determine which issue your article will appear in based on your availability to engage in the editing process. Next, we will return your draft article to you with suggested edits and work with you over the course of about three months to finalize it for publication. As we are usually preparing eight or more articles at the same time, there may be gaps of time when you do not hear from us, but we will try to give you a general timeline for the process. Occasionally, we find an article needs to be dropped from the planned issue either because it will not be ready in time or the issue is too long.

Editing Philosophy

Whether you have written for a journal before or are brand new to this genre, we want you to understand our editing philosophy.

We are excited to work with authors who share our interest in biblical counseling and pastoral care. Our primary goal is to help you make your article clear and useful to our readers. To do this, our editing team will engage with you in depth. Our interactions vary depending on the situation, but may include identifying jumps in logic, inconsistencies, and anticipating questions that will arise from the reader if not addressed. We may propose rewrites and suggest new material be written by you to bridge gaps. We will also check your grammar and punctuation, but that is the last stage of many. We normally go through two to three substantive edits with an author, and one or two more to finalize smaller details.

We encourage you to think of us as your consultant. We do not expect authors to agree with everything we propose, and do not insist upon it. We welcome discussion and always aim to retain the author's voice and intent in every article.

We offer this description to define expectations and avoid misunderstandings. We want this process to be a positive one where the end result is an article that the author is pleased with and that is also a blessing to our readers.