

Reflection - Module 2

1. Looking back over the last two weeks, reflect on what information in the videos and/or readings has resonated with you?

Answer: I was especially interested in Dr. Tim Clinton's lecture regarding how your spiritual gifts motivate how you counsel, and how to use the gifts without hurting the client. My highest spiritual giftings are prophesy and leadership. I need to remember not everyone thinks or sees things the same way as I do. Just because the big picture is obvious to me, it isn't to others, and just because I prefer someone just tell me straight up what I already know, many people need a greater amount of time for self-discovery. I also have an interest in studying Romans again in light of counseling.

2. Identify a new skill you have learned that will be helpful in personal relationships or ministry?

Answer: The ethical guidelines for use of spiritual disciplines was informational for me as I generally have provided "mini" counseling in a secular setting. Occasionally patients ask me to pray for or with them, and I always "draw a line" to protect myself by separating my duties as their nurse from any spiritual interaction that falls outside of general conversation. However, I will be providing services within the church in the and may not have thought to get informed consent in that setting. It is important not to assume explicit integration is acceptable.

3. Review the basic principles of counseling and identify an area you will excel in and an area you will need to further develop.

Answer: I believe I will excel in basic principal number 5, Adjust your thoughts and speech to the persons context and culture. I am frequently empathetic to others situations and have the ability to see things from their perspective and as Dr. Ian Jones teaches, I influence the person by reframing the situation and helping others to see things another way. I don't have to agree with their perspective, but can readily identify it often. I need to further develop the basic principal of Listening Attentively. Especially refraining from speaking to soon. I often hear a period, when someone has only spoken a comma.

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4. Identify a skill and spend time practicing it over the next week. In week four, you will reflect on the outcome of your practice sessions.

Answer: I currently am active in an organized spiritual healing ministry in my local church. I am responsible for conducting an interview with the ministry receiver. It can be difficult at times to direct the person from going on tangents that are not useful for the current setting. Dr. Ian Jones address 5 basic skills. Number 4, Providing a new focus, gives a very good example question, "how is this related to...." I have a ministry session approaching that I have been praying for God to direct the interview as the person frequently loses focus and wanders off into unfocused conversation. My heart is to be able to direct her in a manner that is respectful (she is a great number of years my senior). It seems like a little thing, but that simple question focus may very well be the answer to my prayer!

Due Date: **Sunday of Module 2, by 11:59 p.m. (EST)**