Character Matters:How to help our children develop good judgment, integrity, and other essential virtues. by Likona, Thomas (2004).

This book will be read quickly for the big ideas. Chapter 8 focuses on manners. What are the most important manners you would insist on students' using in your classroom. Why?

Chapter 7
The Ambivalence within Faith Communities.

Main idea

Discussion

1. Why has Dobson been so effective in the evangelical community? Analyze his message.

2. What do you think about the integration of the language and beliefs of psychology and religious instruction?

3. What do you think the evangelical community can learn from the Jewish and Catholic communities?

4. How important is it to see adults modeling the behaviors expected or desired in children? How might that be true in schools?

5. Do you agree with the assessment that "Evangelical Protestantism, despite its public posturing to the contrary, is at least as comfortable with a therapeutic understanding of morality and moral development suggests once again that the resistance cultural conservatism offers to the dominant moral trends in America may, in fact, be little resistance at all?"

My Question(s):

Reflection

1. How has your faith community impacted your personal values?

Reaction

1. Summarize on of the views from the faith communities listed in the chapter. Give your
analysis of their approach. What is most valuable? What is least valuable?

Parting Observations
Moral education and the triumph of the therapeutic.

Main idea

Discussion

1. Do you agree with Hunter's summary?

2. Should we accept these changes or try to reverse the trends?

3. What types of therapeutic language do you use when talking about values? Should we use it? Should we avoid it?

My Question(s):

Reflection

1. Develop one of Hunter's points from your own experience. Use events from your classroom and your school experience to illustrate and expand the observation he makes on progression.

Reaction

Make a graphic of each of the progressions Hunter lists in this section. For example:

Objective Truth of Scripture and Laws of Nature.	→	Conventions of a Democratic Society	→	Subjective Values of the Individual