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PowerPoint Critique Project

The premise of the PowerPoint on Biblical Learning Model is an attempt to link learning model theories to incorporate God's learning model for us. Psalm 139 illustrates how we have all been made for a unique purpose by a God who loves us deeply. He made us for a specific purpose and there is nowhere we can go to hide or flee from God. Considering the God of all creation has made us, we have an amazing cognitive ability that develops with age through experiences and environment.

The schema theory can be related to our ability to love God as well. The schema theory is based on the idea that what we already know helps us learn what we are newly learning by providing "shortcuts" to information (Cherry, 2019). The PowerPoint brings up how we could teach about the God's love for us as a Father to orphans who have no "pre-existing" schema of a father in their lives (Cherry, 2019). I would try to apply the K-W-L Chart which approaches learning by discussing three tables: what I already know, what I want to know, and what I have learned ("K-W-L (Know, what to know, learned)," 2019). What I know would be that we are created beings, therefore we must have a creator, even if we do not have a present earthly father. What I want to know would be why God our creator created us? What I learned through Psalm 139 would be that God created us because He has a plan for all our days that are written in His book and because of His precious thoughts of us. This approach could clarify the love God has for us, even if we do not have a good earthly Father schema to work from.

The Optimal Discrepancy theory can in some ways be consonant to the Christian worldview it because it addresses using best difference approach to teaching (Yount, 2010). Yount explains best difference as having a balance of providing a moderately difficult teaching environment so it challenges the students to learn. I can think of 1 Corinthians 3:2 where Paul speaks to the Corinth church and says, “I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it...” This speaks to how there needs to be an appropriate perception of what kind of challenges a student may or may not be ready for. Higgins explains a similar concept called self-discrepancy, which is a theory of self in three categories: the actual, the ideal, and the ought self (Higgins, 1987). Christians have their actual or flesh state, then the ideal is the righteousness that we have through Jesus and the ought self could represent our sanctification process towards Godly holiness. The theory and Christian worldview are similar in that the breakdown of what we are, what we hope to be, and the motivations to reach an ideal self are closely related. However, for the Christian worldview, the motivation for holiness would not be to have the satisfaction of reaching an ideal of self but the goal would be to grow in love and likeness of Jesus. The theory’s goal is self whereas the Christian goal is a deeper relationship with Jesus.

References:

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