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Chapter One Q and A's

Book: Integrative Approaches to Psychology
and Christianity

Professor: Stephen Maret

1. **Question #1:** I still have much to learn to be able to fully express my psychological perspective on anything, but in regards to the worshippers at Spirit Filled church of Our Lord Jesus, I believe their decision to pray for each other was based off their faith. They believed that it was most likely an attack from the enemy. Their belief is that prayer can save them and God will come through. The theology of the church they attend explain their behaviors because the God they believe in is a God who saves and protects His people. They also believe there is a devil that does the opposite, interrupts and destroys Gods plan. In my perspective I believe these factors help us understand its complexities because there are many different factors to look at. Everyone has a different perspective on things and psychology and christianity also have differences, and that makes it complex (pg. 7). Different people, based on their own religious, nonreligious or denominational affiliations would have probably described this scene as these people being "blinded by faith" or the the prayers were a waste of time because they could have used up this time to open up the windows or that their prayers were heard and God sent people to save them (pg. 7).
2. **Question #3:** It was probably more focused on clinical and counseling issues because psychology is a broad topic and they wanted us to just focus in these two topics. I believe it is also because there has been major debate on the two. It would give us a wider concept/ understanding if there is an integration of counseling and other aspects of psychology because we could see a variety of psychological theories from different positions and this will help us to understand human nature and functioning.
3. **Question #5:** According to the reading I believe and agree that as followers of Christ we should make a difference in how we approach psychology by relating psychology to our faith

and doing as the Bible says “loving God with all our entire being” and loving out neighbor as ourselves. Matt 22:36-39. We can work together with secular thinking because sometimes there is good in it but when it is not, we must speak and do what we believe with respect, love and humility.

4. **Question #9:** I do believe Christian Psychology is a useful term because the way that we view the world and the way that we go about our actions are different than those who have a secular way of thinking. When I tell people I want to be a Christian Psychologist I used to look at it exactly how the book describes people refer to it as, “a vague notion that they want to help people” through my faith. After reading this chapter I understand that it Christian Psychology is in fact very difficult to define. There are many who believe that these two overlap one another, and some believe that the two are “irreconcilable”. A different way people may perceive the term Christian Psychology is that it is all strictly based on the Bible and prayer. Although it is what shapes our views, there is a lot more than just that and sometimes secular psychology is involved because it is favorable.