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PSY253: Integration of Psychology and Theology

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“ Essay 1”

5.

The author was saying that a Christian worldview should encourage people to apply their abilities toward godly ends, meanwhile, these Christians should avoid the use of their powers toward sinful ends. Also, a Christian Counselor will provide a worldview from which to understand the nature of the world and the nature of humanity. Being a Christian Counselor also means that the purpose of this field is to love and serve others. Some ways of being a follower of Christ that make a tangible difference in how we approach psychology is that “ The calling to do all things as unto God demands that whatever we do psychology included should be done honestly, humbly, to the best of our ability, and as an act of stewardship and worship”. A Christian Counselor will use the gifts of the spirit to love the creator and his creation., and they are not counseling these people by their power, but by God’s spirit and guidance, which can be seen as worshiping God in some senses. Christian counselors would also pray and invest their time in spreading the gospel, whereas secular Counselors would do the same things, but they will not focus on praying and reading the Holy Bible. Overall, both Christian Counselor and a regular Counselor will take care of people.

6.

I was surprised at first because I do not see the logic behind that saying. God does not think about his creation being sinful humanity all the time because Christ paid the price when he was crucified. I would agree that behaviors can be sinful but not all behaviors because Christ called his people to be like him and Jesus Christ's behaviors were not sinful. Therefore, it depends on that particular behavior. The whole saying is too biased against Psychology because in Psychology we study the human mind and behavior and it is not about judging, criticizing, or belittling anyone. People will have different opinions about certain topics which is what makes us human because we all do not think alike.

7.

Yes! Psychology and Christian counseling should be integrated because not everything in the Holy Bible has to do with spirituality. After all, God had to use some non-spiritual knowledge at some point. For example, Algebra and Geometry had to be used when God had commanded Noah to build the Ark. Someone in this field must also make sure that God's word and their experience in mental health treatment align with the Holy scripture because some people might neglect the word of God because they have 10+ years of experience and vice versa. I think that Psychology and Christian Counseling will need each other.

9.

I think that the term Christian psychology is very important because this counselor will have different approaches instead of relying on their power, experiences, and schooling, they will

depend on the spirit of God to direct them throughout the whole session because sometimes one must have to counsel a very difficult person, so with God's strength everything is possible. This terminology will also mean that this is a follower/believer of Jesus Christ, so they are more likely going to pray for you and even encourage you to spend time with the Lord. Also, a counselor must say that they are a Christian Counselor so there will not be any miscommunications in the future saying Christian Counselor will decrease the amount of someone getting offended because if they are not into religion, then they will go search for a different counselor because a Christian counselor surrounds their practice in the word of God. Some people's values will also not be undermined. We can agree to disagree, but certain things can be prevented from happening by just saying who you are or who you are representing.