

## PSY 253 LESSON 2

5. I believe my studies can lead me to a greater appreciation of God and his creation mankind. This class in particular has given me that greater appreciation of God and man, and how man thinks; in some ways how “we” really try to imitate God in creating, in knowledge. It gives a “different” light to Psalms 8: 4-6 leading me to a sense of awe and worship of who God, how great He is.

When the Lord saved me and then delivered me from low self-esteem, delivered me out of the place of darkness I was in. Truly I am always in awe of God and how much he loves me. How he cares about me, out of all of the people in this world, He still is concerned with me. Every time I think about where I was and how far I’ve come or farther how far He has bought me I can’t help but to worship. He could have left me in darkness but he didn’t. I was experiencing real darkness, a heaviness that would come over me at any giving time that I could not shake but God. That is enough for me to worship Him and I know this sounds “churchy” but if He never did anything else I would still worship Him. When I think, I worship, I praise Him because it could have been another way. Hallelujah.

6. What I find in John Paul II argument that I appreciate is the harmony between faith and science. How faith and reason can complement each other in that reason can lead to the understanding of divine revelation and faith builds as well as refines reason. This is the very reason I was excited to take this class because I personally struggled with faith and science or reason. I needed to see how to integrate the two without compromising my belief. I didn’t want to cross any boundaries that would lead me away from God.

I don’t fully agree with the statement that “illuminated by faith, reason is set free from the fragility and limitations deriving from the disobedience of sin and finds the strength required to rise to the knowledge of the Triune God. If I understand this statement correctly, I believe that this can only be true if and when the person in pursuit of reason has the proper perspective of who God is, the relation of the world and man to God.

9. After reading Luke 10:25-37 I see myself and the ministry I serve fulfilling this through the work we do in the community and in NYC at large. The ministry has a food pantry that provide food three times a week as a supplement to families in need. We also during the pandemic came together and not only provide hot meals to those in the community, especially the elderly but we opened a warehouse and served not only our community but became a distributor to other churches and communities throughout NYC in providing fresh fruits and vegetables as well as other staple items. In 2004 my Pastor co-founded a not-for-profit organization where I am currently working that provides services to those living in public housing and the surrounding communities in Queens, NY. The mission is breaking cycles of poverty by providing employment service, financial counseling, affordable banking, college access and youth development, business innovation, tax preparation, and mental health services. These services are provided at no cost to the participants. We are loving God and our neighbors by providing spiritually as well as naturally ministering to the whole man.

In regards, to the “church” as a whole I would say we can do better in that we should never act as if we belong to an exclusive club but always keeping in the forefront the true purpose of the

church. We need to allow people to come as they are and experience God so that they will be drawn to Him so that transformation can take place. We the church should always display the love of God that men will be compelled to come. The love of God is like none other and we should be the reflection of Him in word and deed.

### Chapter 3

10. The response I've received from people in my church regarding me wanting to become a psychologist, mirrors the experience of Ray. My response was one of "joy" only because the people that I did share this with are aware of where I am in this stage of my life and they are aware of or understanding of the direction I believe God is taking me. My response to situations that did not mirror my experience is I will do and go where God directs. I truly desire to be in the will of God and when I think of where I've been and where I am today, I can see God's hand orchestrating my life, Ps 37:23.

13. Vive's statement create a dialogue between theology and psychology in because both theology and psychology. Man is created body soul and spirit from a theological perspective, our body been our physical expression, our soul being the vehicle of our mind and emotions. Psychology concern is with the mind or the mental health and how it is expressed. Here theology and psychology have the opportunity to present two perspectives and how to integrate them in order to understand as well as formulate treatments. Whether the treatment is a combination to treat spiritually or naturally or one rather than the other.

17. Evangelicals are more divided on the issue of theology and psychology because of the diversity of the Evangelicals in regards to Christian traditions and what shapes these traditions. The opposition to psychology is by Fundamentalist was due to opposition to the doctrinal position of the Evangelicals rejected intellectualism, social action and they did not represent the body of churches outside of Fundamentalist.