

In the book called "Creative Minority," what stood out to me was that we as Christians should not seek to direct, judge, or forsake the world, but rather to love it, help it, and inspire it in creative ways. This can be applied to my life by loving atheists unconditionally. In the book called "Designing Your Life," the most helpful thing which I have learned was mind mapping which helps an individual to find exactly which job fits him or her the best. (Burnett and Evans 82-84). This is applicable to my ministry context in which I can help guide my students concerning their future careers. I can also use mind mapping to help my friends as well regardless of whether they are a Christian or not. In the book called "The Road Trip" by Mark Sayers, it shows how new generations of individuals focus on self-fulfillment and happiness in their lives and perceive life as a westernized spiritual journey rather than a truly spiritual one in Christ. (Sayers 48). This shift of thinking is mainly due to how times have changed and how values have changed which alters how individuals take the Christian faith less seriously. The concept of "moral therapeutic deism" is simply this. People are generally open to believe in an abstract God who is observing the world and desires people to feel good about themselves and be good to others. (Sayers 138-139). This can be applied to my life in terms of evangelization and I can utilize the general concept of God in an atheist's mind and attempt to break down their secular worldview. This needs to be done in order to introduce a Christian world view where God is the center of an individual's life and that simply being good and feeling good is not the goal of a believer's life in Christ.

In the book called "Anxious to Please," Rapson and English highlights one of the key points of the book which was awareness practice. This had involved increasing our awareness and tolerance of fear, discouraging people pleasing tendencies, as well as building up our self-worth. (Rapson and English 59-75). This can be helpful and insightful to me in my life as I can learn how to say no to certain requests. As a people pleaser, I had found it difficult how to say no to a request from a friend or an acquaintance without engaging in a fight with them. However, this book gave me more insight into how I can refuse such requests with more clarity, peace of mind, and most of all self-assurance. In the book called "Soul Care," Dr. Rob Reimer shows the world how to satisfy ones' spiritual needs in Christ through seven principles. This will help me immensely in my ministry as a children's pastor because I can now tell the signs of spiritual dryness. Particularly the principles of identity, healing of wounds, and forgiveness had have a positive impact upon my praxis on soul care. Before I had read this book, I had a difficult time in the past with transgressors, holding grudges against them, and having a less secure identity because of them.

In the book called "Fault lines," I have learned the power of social capital and how the loss of social support can result in a broken family as well as the importance of letting go of past transgressions. (Pillemer 77-78). This can help me in my life to forget and forgive my past transgressors and it can also help me to give counsel and support to my students, friends, or distant family members who are experiencing a dire predicament in their family. In "Difficult Conversations," I have discovered that it is pivotal to reframe the intentions and meanings of the other individual's words in an escalating conversation. (Stone et al. 202). This can help me to deescalate intensifying conversations I will have in the future and it will help me to guide those who wish to handle such conversations wisely. In "Thanks for the Feedback," I have learned that criticism can elicit three kinds of triggers in us which are truth triggers, relationship triggers, and identity triggers. (Stone and Heen 16). With this information, I can now properly identify the cause of the trigger and more calmly address the tense situation when I am inside and outside the church.