

Robison Rojas

Swk499: Integrative Seminar

Dr. Devonne Allen

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Reflection #5

1. Share about the compassionate life in the community within the context of Philippians 2:1-4. What insights are brought forth that may be to key compassionate community?

What comes to mind after reading chapter 4 community is that we can only demonstrate the love of God through fellowship. How can we truly know if we have love and forgiveness towards others if we don't associate with them? Philippians 2:1-4 make it clear that we should not look towards our interests, but rather we must value others above ourselves. A lot can be revealed through how we treat others. We are not meant to walk this Christian life by ourselves, we are supposed to build each other up so that Christ can be manifested through his body which is the Church.

2. Why is it stated that compassion cannot be separated from community? As

mentioned in question #1, compassion could not be separated from the community because that is the only way to demonstrate if we are truly compassionate, by part taking in community with God's people.

3. "People who live together do not necessarily live in community, and those who live alone do not necessarily live without it." Discuss this statement. This statement explains that community is not necessarily being close to someone or being distant, it means becoming united in spirit through the love of God. Paul was distant from fellow believers when he was thrown in jail, but through the sense of unity, he found strength, knowing that his brothers and sisters were lifting him up in prayer.