

FIELD EDUCATION

The Log



Week # 5

Hours This Week: 35 Total Hours: 189 / 360

HOURS SPENT / TASKS & ACTIVITIES	REFLECTIONS JOURNALING THOUGHTS PROCESSING
<p>8 hrs - Sunday ministry</p> <p>8 hrs - Saturday ministry (+ prep for potluck Sunday)</p> <p>4 hrs - preparation and leading weekly Genesis Bible study</p> <p>4 hrs - meeting with mentor throughout the week</p> <p>3 hrs - Daily prayer and meditation (Daily Soul Care) as required by mentor</p> <p>3 hrs - Sermon prep / practice</p> <p>2.5 hrs - creating digital content (online devotionals, preparing for online launch, managing fb)</p> <p>2 hrs - Prayer Ministry (focusing on "AK" and church member this week)</p> <p>1.5 hr - One-on-one Meeting with a church member</p> <p>1 hr - Connecting with church members (making calls, chatting online, inviting to church and Bible studies)</p>	<p>This week I had a chance to sit with a church member that was going through some major hardships with his health. He has been suffering from an undiagnosable migraine since the age of 8. He plays the guitar for the worship band and I noticed his symptoms last week while playing along with the cajon. I asked him to meet, hangout, and possibly pray for healing that day.</p> <p>Through our meeting, I learned that the migraine is a daily struggle as he needs to battle through pains that come and go. He has been taking tylenol and other drugs for practically his whole life. Furthermore, I learned that he has three kids and was recently divorced. Although he did not look like it, he was certainly going through a lot. From his attitude and how he talked about his situation, it was clear that he was trying to minimize it and ignore his pain.</p> <p>After our conversation, I had the opportunity to pray for him. He responded really well and expressed later that he felt comforted and cared for through our meeting. However, when I asked to pray for healing, he was quite doubtful. Because he suffered through migraine all his life and has been prayed over dozens of times, he was firm in thinking that healing would not be a part of his story. Clearly, I did not know his story enough to affirm or deny his thoughts, but it did make me sad to see that he firmly held onto the belief that he won't be healed. I was reminded of Jesus revisiting his hometown in Mark 6. I pray and hope that disbelief is not what is keeping him from further growth.</p> <p>Our meeting led me to reflect on places that I have settled in my faith as well. I have been having financial difficulties with my wife in the past few months. To be honest, it has been quite difficult to trust that God will provide. I find myself working extra hours and doing everything my way to fix it. Today, although I may not feel it, I choose to verbalize and root myself in the Lord. Jehovah Jireh.</p>

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MEETING(S) WITH MENTOR(S) || TOPICS OF DISCUSSION || REFLECTIONS

Met with pastor Mitch to discuss the progress of my internship so far. He was encouraging and actively helped me see that I have improved in several areas. First, he was glad to notice that I am not concerned over perfectionism or performance as I did before. This was an indication that I am not necessarily a perfectionist, but overly concerned over making a good first impression. We spent time identifying the roots of this issue. As a pastor's kid, I always felt the pressure to be the outperforming & "behaving" student at church. Furthermore, through immigration to the States in my Middle School years, I felt the pressure that I need to find a way to fit-in asap if I want to survive and get along with my peers. I need to continue to sacrifice this part of me to God and allow His affirmations and love to cover my weakness.

Another aspect of growth that we talked about was the quality of my involvement with members of the church. Thankfully, Gateway Alliance (Appalachin) church was very warm and welcoming from the start. I felt safe and comfortable to be myself quick enough to make good friends in the past few weeks. I am continuing to spend time and connect with a few members as much as possible. I see that I have made friends and colleagues that I will continue to work with beyond this internship.

One area of improvement was to continually work on my delivery of Bible study and sermons. Pastor Mitch challenged me to try different formulas and styles. He feels that I have already mastered the SOAP (Scripture Observation Application Prayer) method of leading Bible study and wanted me to look into a more discussion-based style. In terms of sermons, he wants me to speak using stories from the Old Testament. As I am currently taking a Biblical Theology course, he requested that I connect the dots by using various verses from the Bible and ultimately leading to Jesus.

I feel thankful that my internship so far has been well met by the staff and members of the church. I will continue to try my best to improve and learn from this experience. In order to do so, I believe it will be crucial for me to pace myself and take one day/lesson at a time. Pastor Mitch and I further discussed possibly creating a high-level production of devotionals we can use for social media. This will require me to do some research and practice. We decided that we will put in ~2hrs of time each week and \$150 investment into building proper equipment. This will also give me the opportunity to get closer with the digital engineer at the church which I am very excited about.