

## REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - Unit 1: Introduction & Overview

- 1) From a theological point of view, how might someone explain phenomena such as religious conversions and experiences to which people attach spiritual significance? What spiritual and psychological factors are involved in such experiences?

**Answer:** With a phenomenon being something that is impressive or extraordinary. Yet a remarkable person or wonder, this definition is as if experiencing God 's presence and a way God communicates with us. The desire to get answers to prayer by faith and the hope to experience God and become closer might be involved in the encounter/experiences we have with God.

- 2) The author wrote that the crucial integrative question is, "What tangible difference does it make in one's life and practice to be a psychologist who is a devoted follower of Christ?" In what ways should being a follower of Christ make a tangible difference in how one approaches psychology?

**Answer:** A Christian psychologist who is devoted to Christ , A christian psychologist view is shaped by and is based on Scripture. This transfers that every person is created in God 's image and that the purpose of our life should be to love and to serve one another as we would do to God . Therefore, it is our responsibility to treat everyone with love, humility, and respect. The christian should be equipped and capable to touch and heal others' mental illnesses or suffering hearts, using the integration of psychology and Christianity. A secular psychologist only considers theoretical speculation which begins and ends just from the human perspective, not touching or explaining the supernatural. Yet, a Christian psychologist can address human spirituality, sins (the separation from God), and develop the foundational relationship between you and God from the perspective of a Christian.

- 3) The final section of the chapter addressed the question, "Is integration necessary? In what ways are Christianity and psychology (or the church and the academy) dis-integrated? Can they be re-integrated? Should they be? Why or why not? How might such integration be pursued?"

**Answer:** I totally agree that integration is necessary yet can be difficult when being a christian. Why? Because Psychology is a major attempt to understand and realign the spiritual aspects of the client without mentioning spirituality. This does not put an emphasis on the christian's faith and God. There are some christians that only believe the only thing that is the guide and spirituality is the Bible. So the premises of psychology and its teaching for the most part, cannot and should not be integrated into the truth of christianity. These are just mere assumptions that limit and dismiss the integration of Psychology & Christianity.

- 4) The author discussed the difficulty of defining Christian psychology. Do you think that this is a useful term? What do you mean when you use the phrase Christian psychology? In your experience, how might people mean different things when they use this term?

**Answer:** My personal definition of Christian psychology is the integration of both Psychology and Christianity. I don't find it difficult to define, yet maybe difficult to do without the proper training or development of this class and others to come. Psychology alone deals with worldviews, culture, and never including the word of God or the spirituality of the client. While Christian psychology roots are bible and the Bible content that in my opinion helps the client deal with the root of the problem while psychology alone only deals with the surface of the issue.