**CA3**

**Pastoral Development Plan**

**Part 1: Philosophy**

A pastoral philosophy can be a brief description of why you do ministry the way you do it. It's not *what* you do in ministry, it’s the *why* - your vision and purpose.

Assignment:

* Using a Lectio Divinia guide (use the one below or from your own research), practice ‘divine reading’ through 1 Peter 5 in several different translations of scripture*. Let the words from scripture read your heart and mind as you go through the 4 different movements (Lectio, Meditatio, Oratio, Contemplatio*) as Record your insights.
* Using what you learned in the Week 1 videos as well as the insight you gained from 1 Peter 5, prayerfully begin to identify, then record your own pastoral philosophy (this will be ongoing).
* DUE WK 2: Submit a 250 word or less document with reflections from the Lectio Divinia movements as well as the beginnings of your written pastoral philosophy.

**Part 2 – Personal**

An aspect of pastoral work is personal spiritual renewal. So we would like you to participate in your own ‘Spiritual Retreat Half Day’.

Assignment:

* Plan at least a 4-hr spiritual retreat experience – away and alone!
* Research a Spiritual Retreat guide such as:
  + (<https://learningandtalent.intervarsity.org/spiritual-formation-prayer/retreat-guides/finding-rest-our-souls>)
  + <https://resources.wesleyan.org/wp-content/uploads/Unhurried-Living-Retreat-Schedule.pdf>
  + <https://lisaappelo.com/plan-a-personal-spiritual-retreat-just-god-and-you-with-free-guide/>
  + or plan your own experience – you know best what you need!
* Determine: (1) What you will do? (2) When will you go? (3) Where will you go? (4) How will you make the most of this experience? Review and get input on this with your MDR.
* DUE WK 3: Submit a 250 word or less document with reflections from your Spiritual Retreat Day. *What challenges did you face? What obstacles did you have to overcome? What did you learn about God? What did you observe about yourself?*

**Part 3: Practical.(Care and Support)**

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Build awareness of Care and Support ministries by attending one (or more) session(s) and giving a SWOT analysis of the experience.

Possible Care and Support ministries (compass.church/care):

* Upcoming Care and Support meetings: <https://compass.church/events?ministryid=2908>
* Special Needs ministry (<https://compass.church/buddy>) or talk to your campus’ children’s director
* Marriage ministry (<https://compass.church/events?ministryId=2900>)
* Stewardship experiences (<https://compass.church/fpu>)
* *determine your own care and support experience*

Assignment:

* DUE WK 5: Submit a 250 word or less document with reflections from attending a Care and Support experience. What were your expectations before attending the session? After attending an experience, what is your perception of the Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats (S.W.O.T) of this ministry?

**Part 4 – Practical (Ministerial Experiences)**

Plan to participate and/or observe a pastor’s role in ONE or more of the following experiences (choose something that is new to you):

Possible Ministry Experiences:

* Visit someone in the hospital, nursing home, or prison,
* Feed the hungry,
* Meet with a person struggling in their faith to listen, observe, and speak truth
* lay hands and pray with someone who is sick/hurting,
* participate and/or observe a conversation about baptism and/or baptism experience,
* observe closely the minister’s role when you attend a wedding/funeral,
* participate in message preparation session with your MDR
* make plans to attend a weekly review meeting and/or a budget review meeting with the ministry you serve
* sign up for the weekly prayer report emails, following up in prayer with one person per week
* *determine your own ministry experience*

Assignment:

* DUE wk 6: Submit a 250 word or less document with observations from your ministerial experience. *What did you learn from your participation? What are the practical aspects of pastoral work you didn’t anticipate? What made your time meaningful? What are some of the small contributions you see pastors make in their Kingdom work?*

**LECTIO DIVINA “SACRED READING”**

**INTRODUCTION**

The simple prayer practice of Lectio Divina takes us through four movements, as we are drawn closer to The Father through each prayerful reading of the Scriptures. Choose a short Bible passage that is just a few verses long. We recommend the Book of Psalms or a story from one of the Gospels.

**PREPARATION**

Make yourself comfortable in a place that is as free from interruptions as possible. Begin with silence for a few minutes, humbly asking the Father to quiet your heart and make you aware that you are in His loving presence.

When you are ready, begin reading and praying through the four movements, described below. With time and practice, these movements will become simple and easy as they flow naturally from one to the other.

**1 LECTIO (READ)**

On the first reading, simply open yourself to the presence of God. Read the passage slowly and prayerfully, allowing short pauses between sentences. Over time you will discover whether it is more helpful for you to read silently or out loud. Try them both. As you read, take in the words and the overall flow of the passage. Then allow a time of silence following the reading continuing to open yourself to God’s Spirit.

**2 MEDITATIO (RECEIVE)**

On the second prayerful reading of the passage, listen for a particular word or a phrase through which the Father wants to speak to you. You will notice your attention being drawn to something. Once you have "received" the word or phrase, begin to silently meditate on that. Reflect on why the Father would highlight this for you today, ask Him any questions that come to mind, and note things that seem important as you meditate on what He has given you. Remember that the focus is on listening to what the Father has to say to you.

**3 ORATIO (RESPOND)**

On the third prayerful reading of the passage, listen now for the Father's invitation, and respond from your heart. The Father is always inviting us in some way... to let go of something, or to take up something; to do something or be something. The invitation can take innumerable forms. Following the reading, continue to listen for His invitation and then respond silently or out loud from an honest heart.

**4 CONTEMPLATIO (REST)**

The focus of the fourth prayerful reading of the passage is to simply rest now in the love that the Father has for you. Let the words wash over you. There is no further need to reflect or respond as you simply allow the Spirit to draw you close and fill you with His love, grace and peace. Linger in this place of deep connection. You are being filled and refreshed for your continuing journey.

Take your word, phrase or image with you. It is something to which you can return throughout the day. A reminder of the love of the the Father for you and the special word He had for you today.