

## **Case Study Guidelines**

1. **The Case Should Be Typed.** A case is a written report on some significant event in ministry in which you were involved.
2. **The Case Should Be Brief.** The presented Case Study should be no longer than 3 pages double spaced of ordinary typing paper, 8.5 x 11". Part of the discipline is to learn how to condense in order to report the event adequately within this limited space.
3. **The Case must be submitted** to your integration seminar group, your supervisor and the TFE leadership team in hard copy the Friday prior to your presentation.
4. **The Case Study Should Carefully Respect Confidentiality**  
Please use symbols or pseudonyms and delete/mask all recognizable traits.
5. **Choose an experience** that causes you to pause; that causes you to feel anxious, surprised, confused, incapable, tense, etc; that invites you to delve more deeply and learn from it. Refer to suggestions for journal reflection (p.26) to guide deeper reflection.

### **The Case Study Presentation and Submission**

For the presentation there should be 4 parts that are clearly distinguished (A-D). The analysis sections (C. Theological Reflection and D. Spiritual Self Awareness) should be most lengthy. Sections E and F will be a focus for discussion in the group.

Your Case Study will include:

#### **A. Description of the Event or Experience**

Following a brief background on your placement context, describe the Who? What? Where? When? of the event. Why has this experience made an impact on your learning? Report the actual event, including as much detail as necessary within the limited space. This is an important step to allow group members to be able to engage the event/issue at hand.

#### **B. Analysis: Self and Context**

i) Self awareness: What were you feeling? What were you thinking? Did the event/situation/people remind you of a previous experience/relationship? What assumptions were functioning in your own interpretation of the experience? How did these assumptions form your reaction?

ii) Contextual awareness: Identify the context and the relationships. Try to answer the questions: What was going on here? In this context who benefits and who is burdened? What contextual assumptions are functioning (gender, age, power dynamics, culture,

etc)? What justice issues are present? What aspects of social identity are present? (advantage/disadvantage, education, size, wealth, health, ability, roles, etc) How does this shape power? Who has power and who doesn't?

### **C. Analysis: Theological Reflection**

1. What **embedded theologies** are present in this event? (ie. theological assumptions)

- What theologies are embedded in the incident? In you? In others?
- What are the theological assumptions that are hidden? And obvious? Ie. (works/grace, trust/fear, guilt/forgiveness, shame/freedom, power/love, despair/hope, death/new life)
- How do these relate (or not) to the Christian tradition?

2. **Deliberative Theological Reflection**

- What Scriptural passages, stories, images AND/OR theological themes, doctrines can help to delve deeper into the theological meanings present in the event/relationships? Unpack.
- AND/OR what historical theological resources are relevant (Christian practice and belief)? etc

### **D. Analysis: Spiritual Self Awareness**

- What temptations were present (pride/ arrogance/competitiveness, insecurity/shame/guilt)?
- In what ways was fear/anxiety present (obvious or hidden) within?
- What was sacred in this experience?
- Where have you witnessed the movement of the Holy Spirit?

### **E. Framing a View**

- How do you discern God's call and presence in this event?
- What pastoral/educator image speaks to you through this event?

### **F. Response**

- What does this mean for your future spiritual and ministry practice?

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