

Pastoral Visit - Verbatim Report

It is to be based on a real visit that you make or have made. If you are unable to arrange for this please contact the professor independently. Remember this is a learning and integration tool. It is NOT expected to be perfect. You will be marked on your ability to be present with the person, to observe, on your awareness, on your understanding of the relevant content of the course and on your willingness to learn and grow. Be sure to protect confidentiality. Do not use people's real names or give away specific details of their location or condition.

Please include the following components:

1. Background: What is the background to the visit? What precipitated the visit? Describe your relationship with the person(s) being visited? What do you anticipate about the visit before you go? What tentative goals do you have for the visit? What are you aware of in yourself in preparing for the visit (memories/emotions/feelings)?
2. Context: *Physical*: Where does the visit take place? Describe the room and what you observe upon entering. Are there other people present? Is there background noise? Music? TV? Natural light? Smells? What does the space feel like for you? Are there things going on in you that might impact the visit? *Social*: What is the impact of culture? Age? Gender? Race? Size? Education? Language? Economic Status? *Power*: Can you identify the power dynamics present? Who has power and who doesn't? What is the impact of power in this situation? Can you identify a power shift? A loss of power? An abuse of power?
3. The Visit:
 - a. Describe the visit objectively – How did you enter? Who let you in? How long did it last? Who was where when? Standing? Sitting? Lying down? Any other objectively descriptive details needing to be added?
 - b. Describe the visit subjectively - Describe the person(s) appearance as you saw it initially? Did the look of the person(s) change through the visit? Track the conversation/movement of the visit. What happened first? Then what? Then what?....
 - c. Include verbatim sections of conversation, at least 2 pages worth, enumerating each interaction.

SM (student minister)1: Hi G, how do you feel about a visit?
PV (person visited)1: O hi, that's okay. You can come in. I just have to warn you – it's not a good day.
(SM moves to sit in chair near bed)
SM 2: I am sorry to hear that. Can you tell me about it?
PV 2: OOO I'm just so low about how things are going with my treatments (pause). I have to go to the hospital 3 times a week and sit

there. And then wait to get sick. I just seem to get sicker and sicker from the treatment. It really makes me wonder.

SM 3: *Ya, it makes you wonder. What is it you are wondering about?*

PV 3: *O – a whole bunch of things – You really want to know? (SM nods) ...Is it all worth it? Is this what I should be doing with the time I have left? Really – it's pretty unlikely I'll make it through. And these treatments just make me unable to enjoy my kids, my life, my anything... The treatments make me feel so sick that I just want it to end. You know that feeling, when you have stomach flu really bad... and you are sick and nauseous and can't keep anything down... and it feels like dying would be a better thing?*

Etc.

- d. What shifts and changes did you notice through the visit? Describe. Were there specific moments when the person's feeling or thinking shifted? (include interaction numbers, eg. SM3 or PV1)
 - e. Describe your own inner awareness through the visit – What moments were most comfortable for you? What moments were most uncomfortable for you? What particular feelings are you aware of in yourself throughout the visit? What particular thoughts are you aware of in yourself throughout the visit? (include interaction numbers, eg. SM3 or PV1)
 - f. Track your awareness (upon reflection) of the Holy Spirit's presence and calling through the visit. Sparkling moment? A moment of shift/opportunity? Experience of connection/community?
4. Analysis:
- a. What issues are present here? Grief? Loss? Actively dying? Loneliness? Fear? Anxiety? Hopelessness? Struggle with meaning? Suicidal thoughts? Depression? Dementia? "Stuckness"? Crisis?
 - b. How did you seek to address the issues present through your visit? How was it a 'pastoral' visit? What did you feel good about in the visit? What would you like to work on more?
5. Reflect theologically on the visit
- a. Is there a theological theme emerging from this conversation? Grace, forgiveness, sin, community, doubt, faith, hope, etc?
 - b. Choose a passage of Scripture or a hymn that relates to the visit in some way or related to the emerging theme. Describe this. What does it reveal about the visit/person/you?
 - c. How might you use this passage/hymn in a future visit?

- d. Are there other pastoral practices that might be helpful? – Communion? Worship? Prayer? Meditative exercises? Scripture readings? Music? (directed) Journalling? Breath prayer? Physical activity? Social activity? Etc.
6. Any other referrals necessary? – massage, therapeutic touch, counseling, spiritual direction, Medical Doctor, ER, social services, etc.
7. What did you learn through this Pastoral Visit - Verbatim Report?

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