

Reflective Learning Journal and the Forum

What are we looking for

Clear evidence that a student has

- **understanding** - shows clarity, depth and detail of observation
- **Analysis** - shows critical thinking and questioning
- **Reflection** - shows critical thinking and questioning
- **Reflexivity** - they can respond to learning and be transformed by it
- **Engagement** - with the theory and practice of others

Something Practical To Do

Ask around your family, friends and congregation and listen to what people tell you about their experience of being on the receiving end of pastoral care.

Share some of what you have found on the discussion board in the Forum (this post is required for those taking the assessment).

Post - Understanding

I took a brief audit of folk I know to gain a better inside into what it is like to receive pastoral care. I was struck by how positively pastoral care has been received by most people. People spoke about feeling listened to, understood, noticed and valued. This mirrored the video I watched during the session where I was particularly struck by the women who said receiving pastoral care made her feel visible.

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Post - Analysis

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Post - Reflection

Henrietta's response to my question about feeling invisible has been occupying my thoughts for the last few days. I was challenged by how her experiences as a child left her feeling vulnerable. I wonder what Erikson might have to say to that ...how as a church might we be able to help folk stuck at one stage of development move to another. There is a lot to be said for rites of passage within the church. How might say Confirmation help her to 'grow up'? How might it make her feel visible? Is it ok to have multiple reasoning behind why we do things?

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Post - Reflexivity and Engagement

Bertie's comment about never having received pastoral care shocked me. It made me think back to the Pastoral Care Team I was part of, we made sure to tell those we were visiting we came on behalf of the church, but I wonder did they hear this? Surely Pastoral Care is not the gift of clergy alone? How then do we make this more clear, I liked what Boris' church does, that they have leaflets that they leave behind when folk go visiting. We met as a pastoral care team last night and thought this was a great idea, so three of us have been tasked with putting this into practice. We are going to include a scripture and different prayers for different situations

So please post intentionally and comment on your fellow students posts including....

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