

LOCAL CHURCH

CONSULT 7

Winter 1973

THEME	CANONICAL TIME	Chr. Time	METHOD	ARENAS/TASK
CONTEXT	Vespers	7:00	MEAL PRAYER MEETING	PARISH
		8:00	ART FORM	SELECTED MOVIE
	Compline	10:30	CONVERSATION	
SPIRIT DEPTHS	Prime	7:00	MEAL PRAYER MEETING	CONGREGATION
		8:30	LECTURE	SANCTIFICATION
	Terce	9:30	COLLEGIUM	ECUMENICAL PARISH REPLICATION PRIORSHIP TRAINING
PRACTICAL	Sext	12:00	MEAL PRAYER MEETING	CADRE
		1:30	WORKSHOP	CREATING NEW MYTH
	None	3:30	LECTURETTE	PRACTICS
		5:00	COMMON MEAL	

Songs	Actual Acc't/Absolution by L. Ch. & R. H.	C.H.	Ritual/Prayer
INTRODUCTION	<p>Sanctification emphasis throughout week-end. Therefore, meals will be on arenas of concerns rather than scripture conversation.</p> <p>Last quarter we talked about Parish Signs, the Ecclesiola, and Priorship. We're going to focus these areas around our meals.</p> <p>Let's begin with Parish Signs.</p>		
QUESTIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What parish signs have you participated in? 2. What sign do you remember where maybe you weren't necessarily the key? 3. What sign do you remember where you were key, or a central participant? 4. What makes a parish happening a sign? 5. What do you envision in the parish for the future? 6. What do you envision in the parish for the Spring Quarter? 		
PRAYER MEETING TRANSITION	<p>We are futuric people who place the emphasis on our vision. And it's fun to dream dreams.</p>		
PRAYER QUESTION	<p>But looking back over the whole sweep of your past, what parish signs do you recall that you are just deeply grateful for?</p>		
COUNCIL FORMAT	<p>Word about time together: Sanctification as thread of week-end. Say a word about said session, but do not use the board.</p>		
MOVIE	<p>Movie Conversation leader set brief context and handle practics now.</p>		

Songs	Informal Accountability	D.H.	Ritual/Prayer
INTRODUCTION	<p>We've talked about Ecclesiola a lot lately. Some have even brought Ecclesiola into being. Others have brooded as to where they see that dynamic. Some may have plans to bring Ecclesiola into being.</p>		
QUESTIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Where specifically are you in the bringing into being of Ecclesiola. What are the realities of your specific situation relative to the Ecclesiola. Let's just get out some of the specifics.2. Where have you seen just sheer creativity or invention relative to the Ecclesiola. Own situation. Other galaxy churches?3. When have you experienced awe in the context of the Ecclesiola. Spin Stories.4. What have you learned about the Ecclesiola?5. What might be a discontinuous step (as opposed to the next obvious step) relative to inventing the future of the Ecclesiola? What needs to come into being?		
PRAYER MEETING TRANSITION	<p>This renewal business is great but there are some situations out of the past that you and I know we would not go through again if our life depended on it. It was just an utter disaster.</p>		
PRAYER QUESTION	<p>What is one such occasion you might point to. (go around the table) (spin own illustration) (Humor is key.)</p>		
PRAYER METHODOLOGY REFLECTION	<p>What's been going on here? What have we been doing.</p> <p>If Confession, then need Absolution. Ask someone to pronounce absolution or point it out in dynamic of conversation.</p>		

Songs	Informal Accountability	C.H.	Ritual/Prayer 1
INTRODUCTION	<p>Priorship is key to renewal of the church and the reconstruction of society. We have talked some about the qualities of a sanctified man. I don't know precisely how that relates to prioship--if they are the sense or not. But that's beside the point.</p>		
QUESTIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What are the qualities of prioship?2. As prioship to the congregation, what are the self stories that enable one to embody these qualifies of priorship?3. As one who dreams dreams, what are some of the miracles that just right occur if this prioship were embodied?4. What if there were 20 people in a congregation embodying these prioship qualifies.		
PRAYER MEETING TRANSITION	<p>This priorship business and fantastic miracles sounds great, but sometimes you stick your neck out too far. You get out on a limb and cna't get back.</p>		
PRAYER QUESTION	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Where have you, on the other side of some great adventure or bright idea found yourself out on a limb crying out for help? Internal resource? Practical External Help?		
PRAYER METHODOLOGY REFLECTION	<p>I don't know what a 20th Century prayer meeting looks like nor what a secular prayer meeting needs to be, but one of the things we will have to discover is what a 20th century secular prayer meeting is.</p>		

RECALL THE
MOVIE

1. What scenes struck you?
2. What lines do you recall?
3. What major characters do you remember? minor?
4. What music and songs or sounds do you remember?
5. What symbols did you notice?

REFLECT
ON THE
EXPERIENCE
OF SEEING
THE MOVIE





1. What scenes did you like? dislike?
2. What troubled you about the movie?
3. What intrigued you?
4. Where did you want to leave?
5. What was the mood of the group?

PROBE THE
MEANING
OF THE
MOVIE

1. What title would you give this movie?
2. What did the main character see as the given; as reality?
3. How did he operate relative to that reality?
(How were they impacted by the other characters?)
(What happened in other character's lives in the movie?)
4. Where did you see people operating out of an authentic vision?
Where did you see people operating out of an illusion?
5. How did the movie occasion a shift in your consciousness?

CONSIDER
THE IMPACT
OF THE
MOVIE AS
A WHOLE

1. What shift in the mood of our times does this movie point to?
2. How does this movie address our present situation?

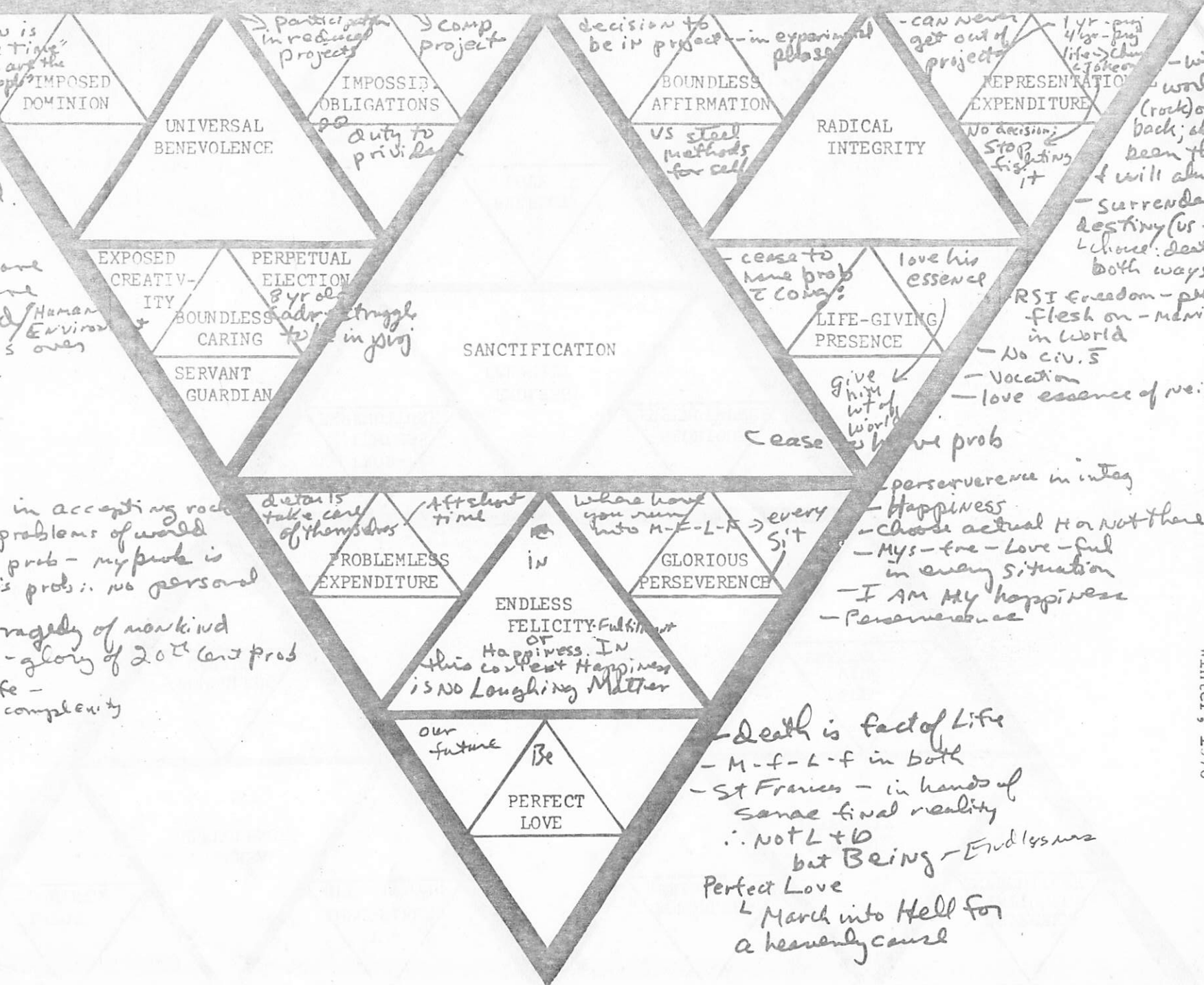
JOURNEY RECOLLECTION		JUSTIFICATION/ SANCTIFICATION		SANCTIFICATION DYNAMICS		FUTURE IMPLICATIONS	
Miracle Stories	Omitted Jewel	The Shift	Justification/ Sanctification	Journey Revelation 	Spirit Self- Consciousness	Spirit Deeping 	Sanctification Singularity
	Continental Sign		God Loves / Love God		Spin Journey		Every moment
	Regional Sustenance		Knowing/ Doing		Spin Edge		Spirit Analysis
	Personal Transformation		RS-I/ Lens		Self-Story Grounding		Indicative arenas
The Desert	Personal Aridity		Justification	Universal Benevo- lence	Imposed Dominion	Ecumenical Parish	Freedom to Felicity
	External Confrontation		Humility		Impossible Obligation		Parish Galaxy
	Collegial Empathy		Lucidity		Boundless Caring		for Life
	External Contrariness		Freedom		Universal Benevolence		Endless Felicity
The Oasis	External Contrariness		Sanctification	Radical Integrity	Boundless Affirmation	Priorship Training	Lucidity to Integrity
	Cadre/Auxiliary Stick-with-it-ness		Universal Benevolence		Representational Expenditure		Parish Demand
	Congregation Responsiveness		Radical Integrity		Life-giving Presence		Training Embodiment
	Parish Awareness		Endless Felicity		Radical Integrity		Radical Integrity
Sanctifi- cation	Times Bubbling	Internal Related-	Push to Bottom	Endless Felicity	Problemless Expenditure	Continental Replication	Humility to Benevolence
	Classical Rehearsal		God		Glorious		Total
	Movemental awareness		Poles		Perseverance		Renewal
	Global		Word Poles		Perfect Love		Replicating Forms
	Possibility		H.S. Poles		Endless Felicity		Universal Benevolence

King
 n onese
 om of
 ale worl
 u station
 r utally
 verburdened.

Drive to care
 to get care
 objectified / Human
 Environ
 despair is over
 possibility

comes only in accepting rock
 Accepting problems of world
 - I have no prob - my prob is
 everybody's prob. ∴ no personal
 prob.
 - I have tragedy of mankind
 - Fulfillment - glory of 20th cent prob
 Simple life -
 bare complexity

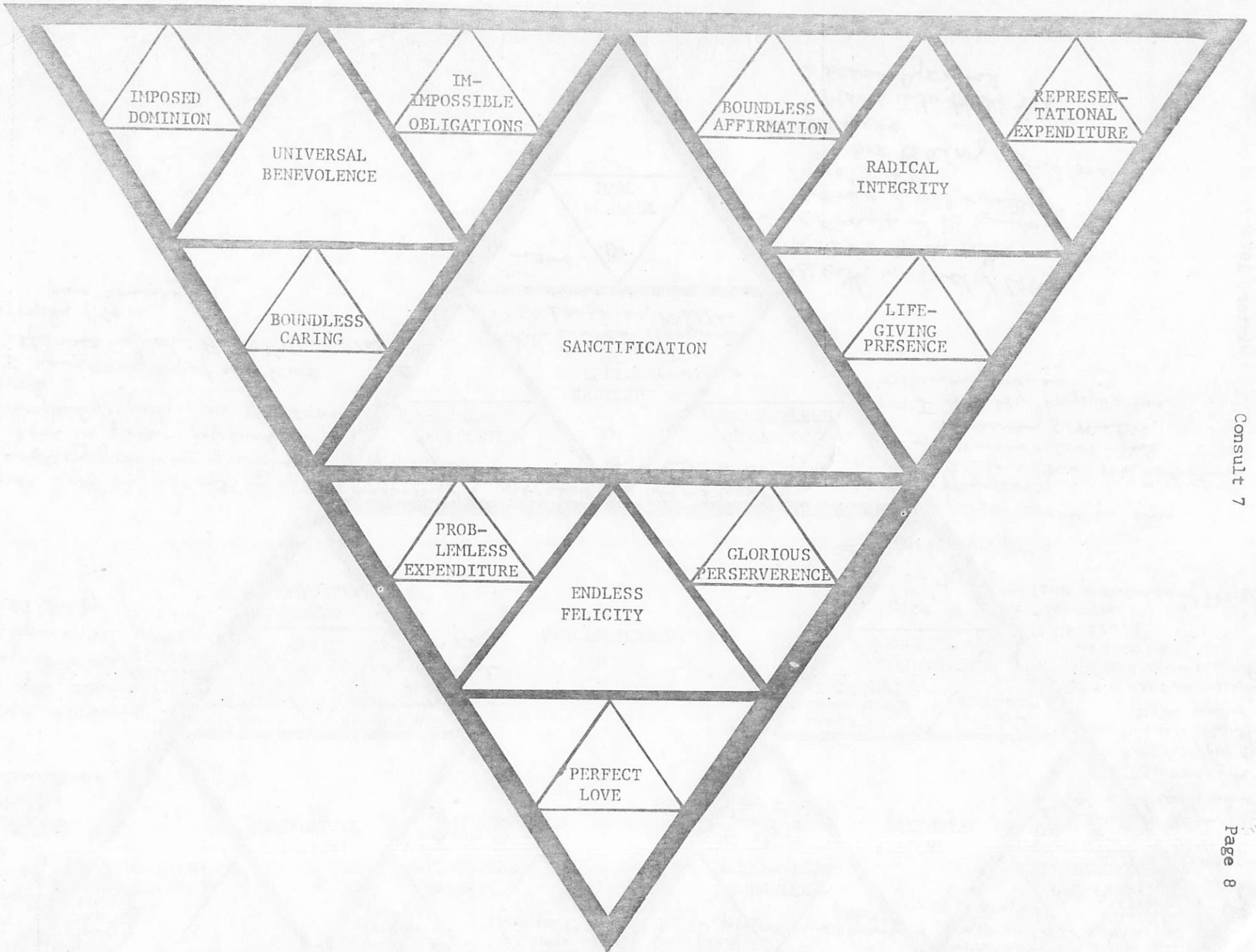
to do it with party
 - one step bound → destiny
 - creating self that can bear burden of
 - burden of creating whole society

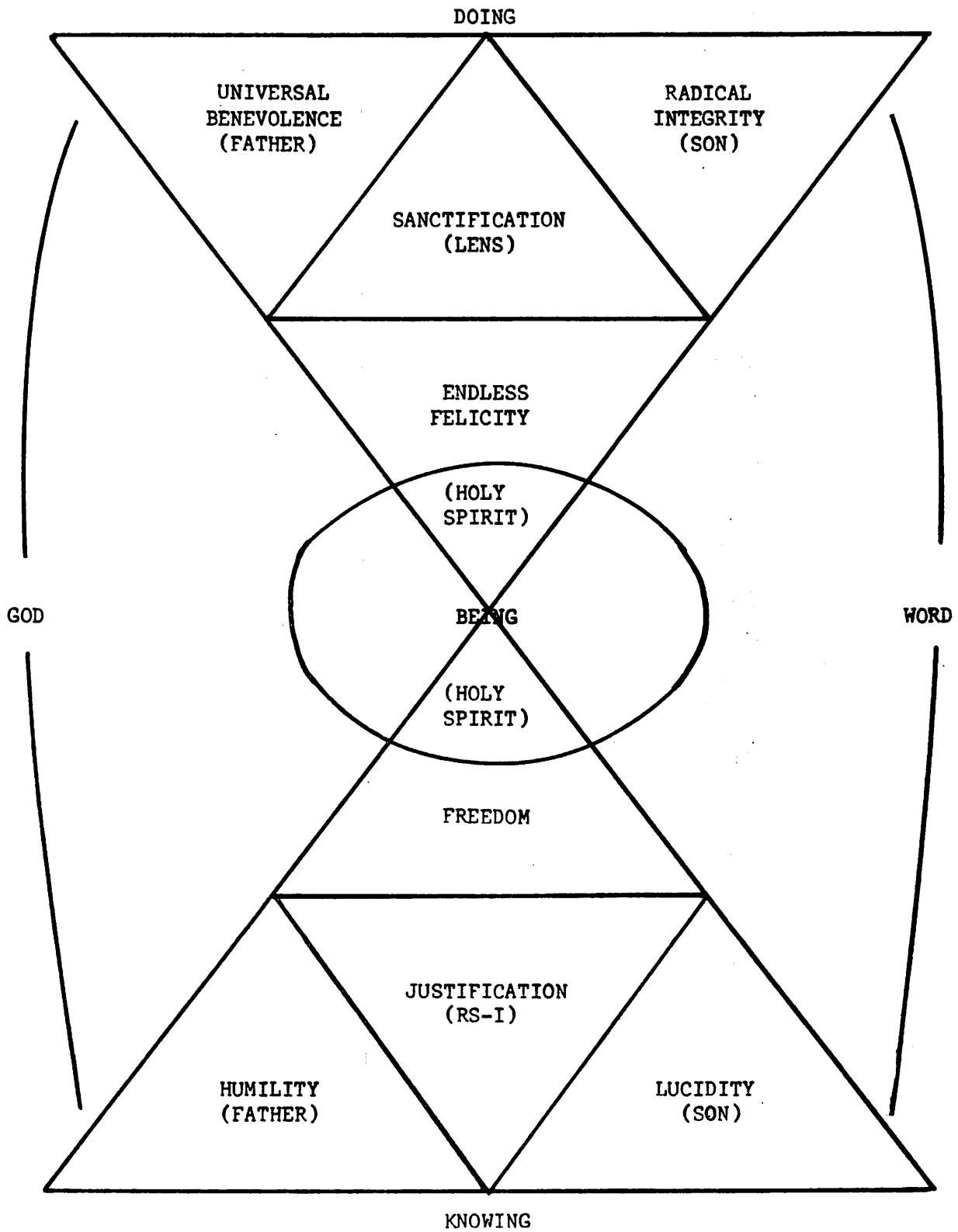


- can never get out of projects
 1 yr - proj
 4/30 - proj
 life → chun
 6/30 - proj
 - bit of world
 (rock) on
 back; always
 been there
 & will always be
 - Surrender to
 destiny (or freedom)
 ↳ choice: death
 both ways
 RSI Freedom - put
 flesh on - manifest
 in world
 - No civ. 5
 - Vocation
 - love essence of neighbor

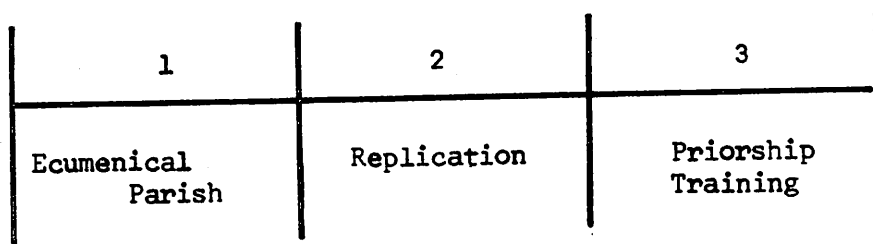
- cease to have prob
 & come
 love his essence
 LIFE-GIVING PRESENCE
 Give him
 bit of
 world
 Cease to have prob
 - perseverance in integ
 - happiness
 - choose actual H or not there
 - Mys - true - Love - ful
 in every situation
 - I AM MY happiness
 - Perseverance

- Death is fact of Life
 - M-f-l-f in both
 - St Francis - in hands of
 same final reality
 ∴ NOT L + D
 but BEING - Endless
 Perfect Love
 ↳ March into Hell for
 a heavenly cause



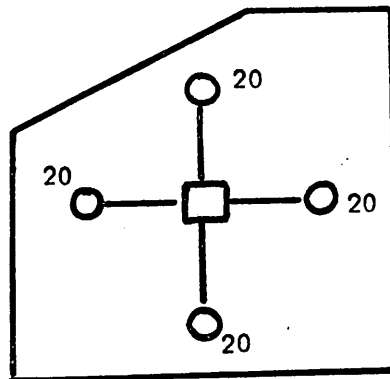


OVERALL
CONTEXT



ECUMENICAL
PARISH
CONTEXT

1



REPLICATION

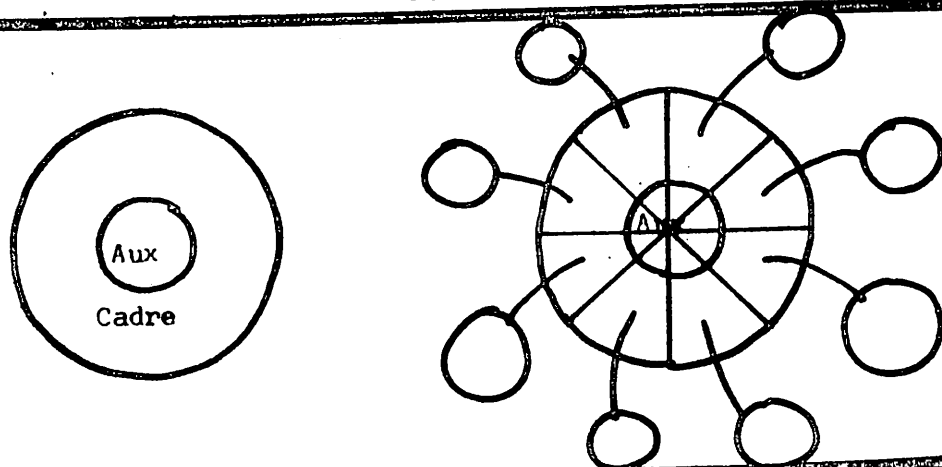
2

1	2	3	4	5	6
A	A	A ₁	A ₄	A ₄	A ₄
		B	B	B ₁	B ₄
				C	C

One Metro

PRIORSHIP
TRAINING

#3



OVERALL
COLLEGIUM
CONTEXT

5 min.

Just before Joe Mathews, George West and Charles Moore left on the Global Formulation trip, Mathews laid out what in his opinion were the 4 arenas of research that we as a movement needed to deal before Summer '73. They were sanctification, guild, parish tactics, and the new sociological form of the church. We want to spend some time looking at 3 every directly related issues this morning. They are the ecumenical parish, replication, and our own training as priors in the church. And though we can't wrap it up, we want to push our edge and use this time to see if we can't break loose some new images and insights in these arenas both for this galaxy and for the whole experiment. And in a way these 3 are really sort of the LCX's groundings for the dynamics of sanctification that talked about in the lecture. The ecumenical parish holds the endless felicity; replication holds universal benevolence; and our training as priors, the radical integrity.

FIRST
CONTEXT

THE
ECUMENICAL
PARISH

Let's look first at the Ecumenical Parish -- and by that I mean what it takes to actually do a parish I think most of us have probably come to see that no one local congregation can do one parish -- even if its only 20,000 people. So our present image is that what we will have is one galaxy of four churches in one ecumenical parish. Now to get at the issue of the ecumenical parish, let's assume that there has been a full galaxy functioning in a parish and that there is in the parish and that there is in the parish 80 trained and working guildsmen. (20 per church)

THE
ECUMENICAL
PARISH

1. After 4 years of work, what signs of the parish would you see? What is actually going on? (8 min)

2. What would the guildsman and movemental forces have had to do to bring off those signs? (8 min.)

3. What are the real issues we have to deal with to do the ecumenical parish? (8 min.)

WORKSHOP

AND

QUESTIONS

4. Now which 3 of these issues are the three key ones for our work at this moment in our history? (4 min.)

5. Then push for about 12-15 minutes on the one or two or even all three issues? Initial images of dealing with them? Other alternatives ways of coming at that issue? Consequences of dealing with it in that way? If we came at it that way, how would that effect _____? etc. and etc.'

Wrap it up and then ask: What might we mean if we said that the ecumenical parish is the arena in which the LCX may very well experience the state of endless felicity?

Summary statement on relation of endless felicity and ecumenical parish and these 3 issues.

NOW SERVE SNACKS

Total:
40 minutes

ISSUE TWO:

REPLICATION

Now as the 1st structural, missional step toward the ecumenical parish (beyond your training), we probably need to take a look at REPLICATION. Because we obviously have move to create galazies in ecumenical parishes and, of course, nobody is clear how fast we can do that but---

1. From your perspective, how would you talk about our present images relative to replication.

List 5.

2. What is the form of replication with galaxy pastor couples?

(using pastor couple as priof of "old galaxy" with R. H. prior couple beginning the new galaxy)

3. What is presently being done to train and sustain auxiliary priors? What has to be done to train and sustain this new form of the auxiliary prior couple dynamic? What kinds of structures and relationships to the symbolic order would we need to create or have in order for a local pastor to play the aux. prior role? (15 min)

4. What is the rational geographical expansion in which replication could best be done? (15 min)

5. What considerations must we maintain to insure that every galaxy ans local church that enters the experiment after the first galaxy in a metro is at least the same quality and intensity as the first?

(10 min)

THIRD
CONTEXT

PRIORSHIP
TRAINING

II. Now let's look for a bit at our own training-- And by that I mean your own personal and corporate preparation for creating and bringing off that ecumenical parish and replication galaxies we've just been talking about.

PRIORSHIP
TRAINING

WORKSHOP
&
QUESTIONS

1. First of all, list 5 things you imagine yourself doing in that task that you are not now doing (particularly in terms of new roles and responsibilities). Get those out and
(8 min.)

2. Where and in what experiences and structures in the past have you matured and grown most helpfully in terms of discipline, decision to be the church, and in embracing new roles and responsibilities as the movemental church? List 10. Get them out and spin. (12 min)

3. What kind of direct training events does your galaxy need to embark on in the next 12 months or so in preparation for ecumenical parish. List 5. Get them out.
How about you personally? List 5. Get them up.
Is there any meshing, overlap, in the two lists? differences? Anybody see any holes where we've overlooked an arena or event? Choose the most important three. (12 min.)

4. What missional tasks or roles do you see in the next year that your auxiliary or you need to embody (beyond present level of either intensification or roles)? List 5. Get them out.
What are the edges in those that will train you? (8 min.)

5. How would you talk about the relationship of training and the sanctification category of radical integrity? (5 min.)

CONTEXT:

I. Consciousness is created



Present existential encounter--
Being creates new clarity re:
authentic humanness, Paul's ex-
perience on Damascus Road.

II. Sanctification --Poetry to
articulate new encounter with Being.
Once you've given your life --What's
next? --sanctification has to do with
the "What's next" in the journey of
faith.

III. Back out from center to World--
Great Resurgence/Great Turn. This
afternoon want to give shape to our
experience of God's love.

SONG SONG	JOURNEY	WITNESS
ENDLESS FELICITY	UNIVERSAL BENEVOLENCE	RADICAL INTEGRITY
<p>Write 3 verses of a Song to the tune which you select. If you cannot reach a consensus in 5 minutes then use the "Impossible Dream" tune.</p> <p>This can consume an infinite amount of time. Therefore be careful to remind the group that they need to trust their intuitions and not be concerned with a perfect product.</p> <p>EMPHASIZE</p> <p>F. Problemless expenditure S. Glorious Perserverence HG. Perfect Love</p> <p>Keep in mind Tillich's "The Sanctified man is one who, on the battlefield between the Divine and the Demonic pre-vails (thru courage in the face of 'doubt and in ambiguity) vs. Demonic, tho fragmentally*"</p>	<p>Write a one-two page story focusing around the 3 dimensions of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Imposed Dominion 2. Impossible Obligation 3. Boundless Caring <p>Addressed to the Symbolic leader of the denomination. Indicate the things that have been happening to you/ the local congregation etc.</p> <p>Indicate the practical wisdom with which to send the Pastor back to the (this) congregation.</p>	<p>Write a one page witness on the glorious life of Radical Integrity in History with a grasp of humanness standing in radical solitary integrity. Focus the witness around the three dimensions of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Boundless affirmation 2. Representational Expenditure 3. Life Giving Presence <p>Keep in mind that this witness might be used with the Congregation or Cadre.</p>

NOTE: It appears necessary to check with each group every 15 minutes to keep them moving. Get a good typist and reduplicate the material while the group continues with the consult.

SONG WRITING

JOURNEY TELLING

WITNESS PREPARATION

1. Spin on interior mood of feli-
city. Brainstorm song tunes rela-
tive to felicity. Select and
learn tune. 5 min.

2. Spin images relative to each
pole of "endless felicity." Se-
lect master image for song, and
related images per verse (3). 10 min.

3. Break into 3 groups and
each writes a verse--put on
butcher paper. 30 min.

4. Come together, put verses up
and work through each verse
corporately to establish common
imagery, clarify theology,
maintain rhythm. 45 min.

5. Type and print.

1. Spin images relative to 10 min
existential dimension and rational
objective of the "story"---form
consensus.

2. Spin images relative to 15 min.
each pole of universal benevolence.

3. Spin concrete examples for 15 min.
each pole from the auxiliary
and congregations life.

4. Create rational structure. 5 min
20 min.

Intro	
1	I.D.
2	I.O.
3	B.C.
Concl	

5. Assign
groups/individ.
to write each
paragraph.

6. Exchange para. and clean. 15 min.
20 min

7. Read thru aloud and
critique/rewrite.

8. Type and print.

1. Spin images relative to 10 min.
existential dimension and rational
objective of the "witness"--
form consensus.

2. Spin images relative to 15 min.
each pole of radical integrity.

3. Spin concrete examples for 15 min.
each pole from the auxiliary and
congregations life.

4. Create 3 X 3 with examples. 5 min.
20 min.

5. Assign groups/individuals
to write each paragraph.

6. Exchange paragraphs and
clean. 15 min.

7. Read through aloud and
critique/rewrite. 20 min.

8. Type and print.

WITNESS

1. We Methodists are fortunate to have had a forefather who of all men in the history of Christianity emphasized the aspect of Christian faith known as sanctification. Wesley spoke of repentance as only the porch of religion, faith as only the door of religion, but of sanctification as religion itself. Sanctification refers to holiness. What is the holiness that is possible for every Christian? One aspect of this quality of life is Radical Integrity. Radical Integrity is to live totally out of the Word of God in Christ, boundlessly affirming existence as given, expending self as a servant of Christ on behalf of all men, and being the Christ as a life-giving presence in every moment.

2. Boundless Affirmation--In the 18th Century a spirit resurgence began. John Wesley was one of the sparks of a great spirit resurgence. Always concerned for every person there he became a famous preacher of the Great Awakening. People were always wanting to keep him with them and their families. But he would never settle down to one place. Instead he used to say that the world was his parish. This kind of unqualified concern for the world doesn't come easy with anyone. In fact, the people who dramatize this saying of YES to every situation are people like Granny Behrens. With a stroke and bedridden she is always cheerful and has a good word to say. She is concerned, not with her own aches and pains but with life. She constantly responds, "I can't complain". She is a local Helen Keller. She could be bitter and cynical, but has chosen to say YES to living. What a decision!

3. How would you talk about representational expenditure? My picture of the women who bring in the food at the funeral to enable the bereaved families. They are not doing it for thanks or praise but only because it needs to be done. The supreme example is Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane. He comes with his disciples and asks them to pray with him. They were weary and fell asleep, but he continues on their behalf and on behalf of all men to pray and to make his decision that what his life is about is to willingly lay it down. Here is a man who knows what life is about is to expend it for a better world in the future. Woodrow Wilson was a man beyond his time who could see that peace does not come without structure to enable it and set about to work out the League of Nations as a way to deal with world problems. He died without having realized his aim but in doing so laid the ground work for future solutions to be built. In our own community we can see lives being given in the form of women who spend their time and energy cooking and sewing at meetings and funerals on behalf of the congregation. They are not looking for thanks or reward only they see themselves as doing the task that needs to be done.

4. So often, the person who exhibits the kind of radical integrity we are talking about is one whose very presence is a life-giving source to others. This presence takes different forms, but it is consistent in all cases in that it is the quality that generates power. One example that comes to mind is that of George C. Scott's portrayal of General Patton. Those who saw the recent film, based on the General's World War II experiences, will remember the episode in which the American tank column was blocked by a traffic jam at a crossroads somewhere in France. Do you recall how Patton cleared the confusion? It was more by his presence than anything else? That was the same quality that the late President Johnson exhibited in dealing with situations in government. In his case it was nicknamed "The LBJ treatment"--that ability to generate harmonious action by being a powerful presence.

Oddly enough, we see the same quality in operations in such everyday activities as choral singing. For example, a choral group that seemed to be the dynamo that set the key note for the whole group? One who provided the spark that the group couldn't get along without? Such people are found in most groups--armies, political bodies, and even the local church choir; and we always admire those individuals and recognize their worth. But how many of us have the notion that we, in some way or another are that kind of person ourselves? The truth is, we all have the capability of being a life-giving presence for others.

5. Such sanctification is possible for all. It is not just for the very blessed or the famous. Nor is it something that depends upon our own accomplishment. It is something which God in the Holy Spirit can work in all men who are yielded unto him in faithful obedience.

Houston Galaxie
Feb. 17, 1973