

“Lab reports”

Ministry, **Church** and Society

Dr. Howard Culbertson

Fulfilling specific objectives

- ◆ “Why do much work for a core class?” –
from a student’s course evaluation

Parallels

- ◆ 1. Science classes which require hands-on experiential learning.
- ◆ 2. School of music students are often required to attend musical performances outside of class to gain that experiential side of learning.

“Lab report” objectives

◆ It is not

- It is not designed to force people into having religious experiences they do not wish to have.

◆ It is

- The objective is for students to observe over a period of time a functioning "church."

Aiding the learning curve

- ◆ It's much easier to talk about music if one has listened to it.
- ◆ It's easier to talk about church if one is regularly observing and participating.

Reflection questions

◆ ***You need not answer any (and certainly not all) of these***

1. What triggered some ecclesiological reflections (thoughts about what the church is to do and to be)?
2. This week, how did you sense God's purposes for His Church being fulfilled in a local congregation?
3. In what ways did you sense God's presence in the activities in which you participated?
4. Did you see some unexpected avenues of ministry open up?

Reflection questions

◆ ***You need not answer any (and certainly not all) of these***

4. Did you find yourself reflecting on specific things we have covered in the textbooks or in the classroom?
5. What person's ministry did you most appreciate this week?
6. If you had to compose a prayer of thanks to God for this church experience, what items would be on the list?
7. Ask yourself: "What kind of a Christian will I be after attending this church for 10 years?"

