What now?

Case Studies – a unique teaching tool

Ministry, Church and Society
Southern Nazarene University
What’s a case study?

- An open-ended actual story
  - No ending given
  - Brings chunks of reality into the classroom
- A difficult problem, a dilemma without an obvious solution
- Pioneered by Harvard business school
- Forces us into a real situation where we have to answer: “What do we do now?”
Divergent thinking
Generate lots of ideas

First, most obvious idea

Random crazy idea

Convergent thinking
Filter best ideas

http://blogs.hbr.org/cs/2012/10/create_presentations_an_audien.html
Case studies in MCS

“Drink or not to drink”
- When values you cherish are at odds with the expectations of those around you

“Racism in the church”
- A local church gripped by unbiblical attitudes and actions

“Youth group sponsors and a stripper”
- When church members may have made bad judgments in attempts at humor

“He walked away”
- An attempt at sharing one’s faith doesn’t turn out like expected
Case Study #1: To drink or not to drink

- Young American believer in France

- [http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert.fs/drinking.htm](http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert.fs/drinking.htm)
When we are puzzling to non-believers

- Alcoholic beverage is not key issue
  - This is not a “temperance” lesson
- Key issue: A believer in a situation where others do not share, and perhaps are even puzzled by his lifestyle positions
The question for us

Question: What do I do in situations where my convictions are in direct opposition to other people's expectations?

http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert.fs/drinking.htm
This PowerPoint presentation is available along with related materials and other PowerPoint presentations at http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/ppt.htm