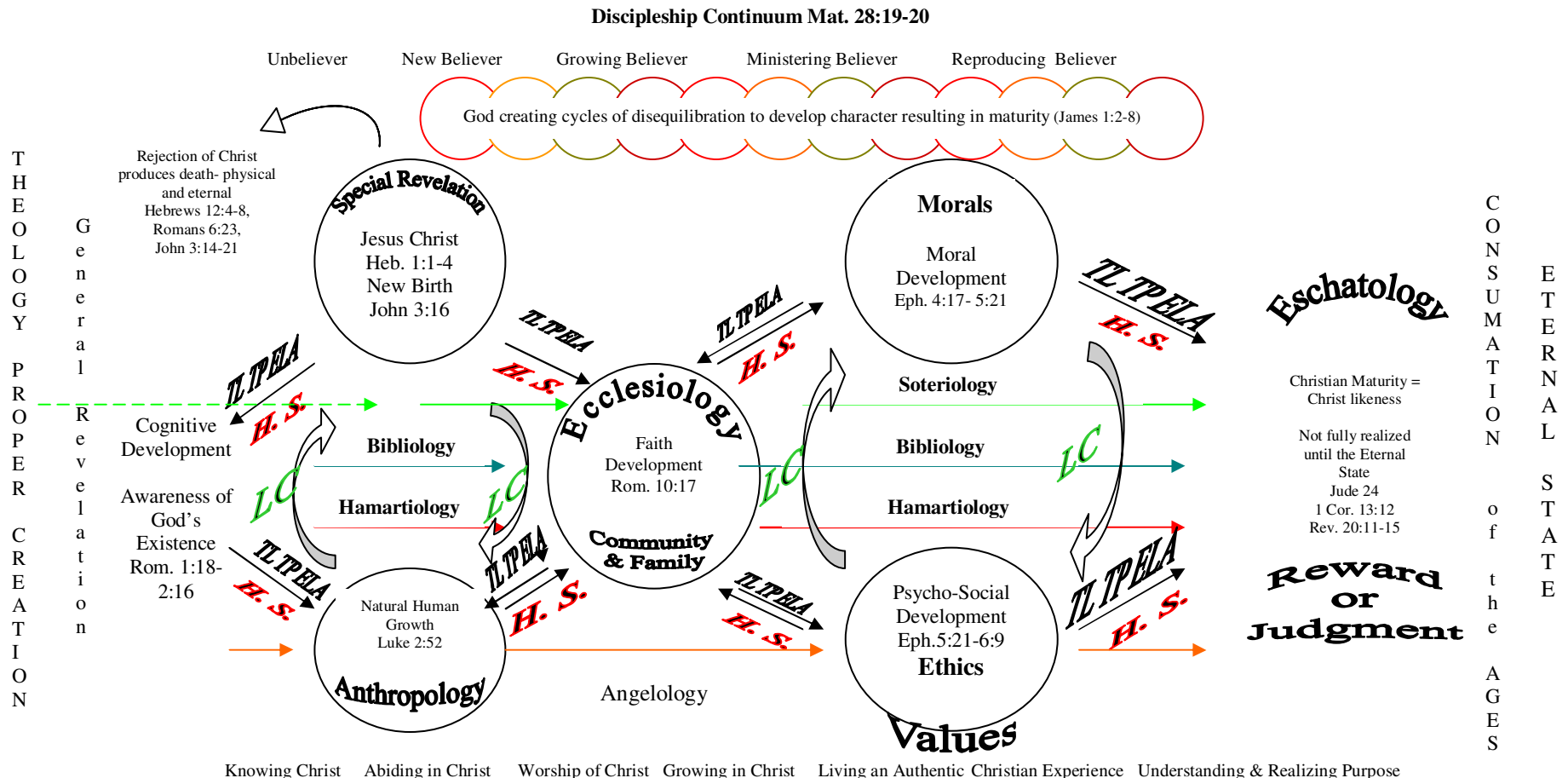


MODEL FOR A PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE PROCESS OF EDUCATION, DISCIPLESHIP AND LEADERSHIP MINISTRY

Christian Education: "The interaction with truth and its implication for life under the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, so as to affect change in the life of the learner-this change being conformity to the image of Christ" (Anthony 2001, 133).

"And He gave some *as* apostles, and some *as* prophets, and some *as* evangelists, and some *as* pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ." - Ephesians 4:11-13 (NASB95)



Metaphysics	Epistemology	Axiology
TL- Teacher/ Learner; TP- Teaching Process; ELA- Educational/Leadership Assumptions; LC- Learning Change (conformity to Christ) ; H.S- Holy Spirit		

MODEL DETAIL

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METAPHYSICS: Defining what is Real.

God is self-existent as Three Persons in One, Eternal, Spirit, Holy, Author and Sustainer of all Creation . Creation was ex nihilo, “out of nothing” and all creation was initially called “good” by God.

Axiological Implications: Goodness, morality, beauty and ethics reside in God and Christians are called to be imitators of God. (Luke 18:18-19, Hebrews 13:7-8, Ephesians 5:1-5)

Theological Presuppositions

Bibliology: The Doctrine of Scripture

Scripture is the inspired word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17). God superintended the material using the individual human author’s style and personality. It is free from error in all matters of faith and practice.

Christology: The Doctrine of Christ

Jesus is fully God and Man Phil. 2). He was preexistent (Mic.5:2;Jn. 8:58). Virgin birth (Is. 7:14 and Lk. 1:30-35), lived a sinless life and died as a sacrifice for sin Heb. 4:15 and Rom. 5:1-8:39). Resurrected and ascended to heaven (Jn. 20:1-21:25; Mt. 28:1-20). Holds the offices of Prophet, Priest, and King (Mt. 24–25 Heb. 5:1-10; Rev. 5:9-14). Intercedes for the saints (Heb. 7:25) and is head of the church (Col. 1:18; Eph 4:8)

Ecclesiology: The Doctrine of the Church

The church is the Body of Christ seen both as universal (believers in all times and all places) and local with the mission to go and make disciples. This mission is carried out by the ministry and enablement of the Holy Spirit. Disciple making is central to all activities.

Eschatology: The Doctrine of Last Things

Eschatology is the consummation of the ages. Those who have rejected Jesus will face eternal Punishment (eternal damnation). Those who accept Christ experience being fully transformed into the likeness of Christ and experience eternal life in the presence of God.

Anthropology: The Doctrine of Humanity

Humanity was created in the image of God (imago Dei) with the capacity to live forever (living soul), but as a result of sin the imago Dei was marred and death reigns.

Hamartiology: The Doctrine of Sin

Sin is lawlessness (1John 3:4). Sin is the direct opposite of the command of 1 Corinthians 10:31 to “do all to the glory of God.” Sin is personal and against God (Psalm 51:3-4). Sin is imputed to all (Romans 5:12, 3:23).

Soteriology: The Doctrine of Salvation

Salvation was God’s plan before the creation of the world (Revelation 13:8, Ephesians 1:4). Salvation belongs to the Lord (Psalm 3:8) and is in the person of Jesus (Acts 4:12) by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9). Jesus’ death is the substitutionary penalty paying the sin debt (2 Corinthians 5:21). It is the process of restoring the imago Dei that will be ultimately realized in the eternal state.

Implications: Curriculum is based in the Theological Presuppositions.

Epistemology: Defining what is Truth

Truth is first found in the person of Jesus Christ (John 14:6). Secondly, truth is the individual being conformed to the revelation (both natural and special) that God reveals.

Axiological Implications: Truth is not held as valuable until it is consistently lived out through out the totality of life (Ephesians 3:17-6:20, Hebrews 5:11-6:20)

Educational Assumptions

Values, Ethics and Morals

Values (the standard to attain) Scripture is the standard determining right and wrong. Ethics (what ought to be) Human understanding of right and wrong is understood through general revelation of the conscience (Romans 2:14-15) and special revelation demonstrated in the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount. Morals (the current state) Governed by God’s standards yet some moral practices vary between cultures. Church and family are the primary institutions teaching values, ethics and morals as directed by Scripture (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).

Community

The church and community are central to the communication of God’s values, morals and standards for the purpose of producing mature Christians (Ephesians 4:11-15). It is the locale of understanding where a person is on their faith journey (Fowler) and helping them to progress.

Incorporation or Judgment

Understanding that Christian discipleship is a lifelong process appropriating God’s truth to life situations (Ephesians 2:11-22 2Peter 1:3-8) Those who refuse Christ’s invitation will ultimately experience judgment (Revelation 20:11-15).

Teacher-Learner: TL

Both teacher and learner bear the image of God that has been marred by sin. Both teacher and learner are on equal grounds before God. Teaching is redemptive helping the learner understand God as a person and His ways. The teacher instructs in content and application to daily living. The teacher is under the guidance of and in cooperation with the Holy Spirit.

Learning Process: LP

God is active in the learning process via the Holy Spirit who equips the teacher and the learner to teach Scripture (John 14:26). The objective is for the individual to progress through the Discipleship Continuum. God is active in creating situations that cause learning and conforming the individual to the image of Christ over the life span of the believer (James 1:2-4, Ephesians 2:10, Philippians 3:8-11).

Learning Change: LC

This is where the individual cooperates with God becoming conformed to the image of Christ. The process will not be complete in this life.

Education Leadership Assumptions: ELA

Leadership Character and Style

The teacher is to consistently exhibit character qualities described in 1 Timothy 3. The style of leadership is servant based in the example of Jesus (Philippians 2). The goal is the spiritual development of people demonstrated in understanding and obedience to scriptural principles that advance the Kingdom of Christ.

Management Skills

Planning (short and long range) organizing, staffing , controlling, performance appraisal under the authority and leading of the Holy Spirit. The manager, administrator or leader should use “Situational Leadership” (compare with Ken Blanchard) and “Transformational Leadership” (compare with James MacGregor Burns) to enable individuals to become more than what they would otherwise on their own.

Implication: The curriculum builds a bridge between orthodoxy and orthopraxy.

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A Visual
Understanding
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Higher Education Learning
Into Life-Ministry Situations

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