**THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION PAPERS ASSIGNMENT**

For each theological reflection paper, the student will choose a ministry experience from his/her internship and use the following format to reflect upon it in depth. Follow the format instructions carefully.

The theological reflection papers are to be shared only with the mentor pastor and the faculty supervisor.

*Your responses should be typed double-spaced in 12 pt. font. This assignment is a minimum of* ***seven*** *pages, including the questions.*

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**Theological Reflection Paper #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Name of Intern: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date of Supervision: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Prologue**

1. What about this experience in ministry compelled you to want to reflect on a deeper theological level?
2. What is your goal for this supervisory session?

**Description**

Provide a brief issue-oriented description of this particular ministry experience. (The intern will elaborate on the story verbally with the mentor pastor.)

**Theological Framework**

What theological framework (*loci*) do you plan to use for your reflection on the ministry experience? (e.g., Wesleyan, womanist, feminist, *mujerista*, black liberation, constructive, liberation, classical, evangelical, Pentecostal, postcolonial, radical orthodoxy)

**Be Aware**

**How did you react emotionally, spiritually, physically and intellectually to this situation/encounter/experience?**

*Prompts:*

1. *What assumptions about yourself, the situation, and the person(s) did you bring to this ministry experience?*
2. *Reflect on how your Christian beliefs and/or values were challenged or affirmed in this ministry experience.*
3. *How did your reaction affirm your MBTI in terms of self-perception and behavior in this ministry experience?*
4. *What systemic power dynamics were evident in this ministry experience?*
5. *What personal strengths were affirmed and what areas of growth were discovered?*

**Think Theologically**

**How did the lens of your social location and personal identity *affect* your self-awareness and awareness of others and their context and *shape* your perception of God in this ministry experience?**

*Prompts:*

1. *How did you experience God in this ministry experience?*
2. *How is your reflection on this ministry experience informing your understanding of the nature of God and how God relates to humanity and Creation?*
3. *What Perkins courses (faculty lectures and reading assignments) are shaping your understanding of the nature of God in this ministry experience? Cite these sources.*

**How do you understand God’s dream for all of Creation?**

*Prompts:*

1. *Identify and briefly exegete scriptural text(s) that support your understanding of God’s dream for all of Creation.*
2. *As you think about this ministry experience that is the topic of this paper, how do you see the Godself being revealed and leaning toward God’s dream?*
3. *What spiritual disciplines and/or resources help you bring God’s dream into your ministry practice?*

**Lead Faithfully**

**Explore how a theological framework informs the practice of faithful leadership in bringing about God’s dream.**

*Prompts:*

1. *Describe how your leadership in this ministry experience was congruent with your chosen theological framework.*
2. *Did your leadership lean toward revealing God’s dream? In retrospect, what would you have done differently?*
3. *What other theological framework would you like to explore for faithful leadership in order to bring about God’s dream?*