

Formational Leadership
ML 727 (Spring 2015)
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The Greatest Influence of my Spiritual Development:

I was but a young man when I met and felt the call of God on my life and, like most who struggle with a calling to ministry, I viewed those strange and perplexing emotions as something to fear and worry about. I would often lie awake at night, wondering why it was that, if God were calling me to ministry, I didn't have more natural talent for the task. Others were talented. They could sing. They could speak fluently. I was backward. I could not play music or do any of those things that really contributed to ministry. Yet the inner turmoil lingered. Later I found that the Holy Spirit calls, He leads, He directs and guides, and He enriches our efforts far beyond what we are capable of accomplishing.

Firstly, I am honored to say Juliet and I have been happily married now for fourteen years and I love my wife more than my words could ever express. Our life is a beautiful picture of God's power and what he can do if we will only let Him. God used Juliet for me in a mighty way in a way where it seemed all hope was gone. The impact that she have had on me spiritually has caused me to come to know Christ more intimately and grow together as husband and wife. I will be forever grateful for her influence in my life. And it's been a privilege for me to watch the way my wife, Juliet, has impacted the lives of our kids.

Secondly, Marcia Ruth Anderson, who was my professor of Old Testament Class at ASCM, Seminary, Manila in 1999-2000 and now my spiritual mother has impacted my life in such a powerful way that even nearly after 14 years she still continue to impact my life through her mentorship. I know for certain that my character and faith has been shaped and molded by her teachings and by the testimony of her life.

Thirdly, Christian Community has also played a key role on my spiritual development. Mentoring is increasingly being recognized as a tool for advancing the God initiated life-long quest for spiritual formation in new believers.

- They challenged me and taught me to serve Christ in a truly spiritually and relationally healthy way for me, my wife and my family.
- Sharpened the focus of my ministry to the ministry of the heart beginning with my own. Deepened my walk with the Lord.
- Has drawn out the real issues of my heart that I must address biblically.

My faith has been influenced in many surprising ways during my training at Pentecostal Theological Seminary under MACM program. This degree program consists of knowledgeable professors dedicated to helping students learn about the Christian faith. Through sophisticated classes I have been able to better understand my faith through knowledge of Christianity's history and ways in which to read and understand Scripture. Though teaching has been a considerable part of forming my faith, the most significant ways in which my training has affected in my spiritual journey is the learning of the pedagogy of the Holy Spirit with Wesleyan understandings. This specifically has challenged me to consider the nature of God and God's role in humanity: compelling me to wrestle with my faith. As my awareness of suffering has increased, so has my sense of humility. I am aware that I am limited in my capacity to help those who seek my care with love and I have found there is a space for recognizing true change comes from our creator. My prayer life has been transformed into a space where I seek the Lord's guidance and his blessing dealing with the people.

My professors, the coursework, and training opportunities available through this MACM program are preparing me to ameliorate such issues for the purposes of healing emotional and spiritual pains and restoring relationships.