

THE DARK KNIGHT – RELIGION 9

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

EVERY DAY WE ARE FACED WITH MORAL DILEMMAS FROM THE MOMENT WE WAKE UP, TO THE MOMENT WE GO TO BED. THE MEDIA DISPLAYS TO US A CONSTANT REMINDER OF MORAL DECISION MAKING. SOME CURRENT EVENTS CHALLENGE US TO WEIGH IN ON THE PRO OR CON SIDE OF AN ISSUE.

YOUR ASSIGNMENT IS TO WEIGH IN ON A CURRENT CONTROVERSIAL NEWS REPORT AND FORMULATE AN AUTHENTIC, VALUES-BASED RESPONSE TO THAT REPORT. YOU MUST USE THE LISTEN PROCESS AS A GUIDELINE. I HOPE THAT WITH THIS YOU REALIZE THAT DECISION MAKING IS BOTH A SKILL AND AN ART, AND THAT A GREAT NUMBER OF FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO ANY MORAL DILEMMA.

LISTEN IS AN ACRONYM FOR THE STEPS IN A DECISION-MAKING PROCESS:

LOOK FOR THE FACTS

IMAGINE POSSIBILITIES

SEEEK INSIGHT BEYOND YOUR OWN

TURN INWARD

EXPECT GOD'S HELP

NAME YOUR DECISION

THE LISTEN PROCESS:

LOOK FOR THE FACTS

1. WHAT FACTS DO I NEED TO KNOW TO MAKE A GOOD DECISION?
2. WHAT EXACTLY IS GOING ON IN THIS SITUATION?
3. WHY IS IT HAPPENING?
4. WHO IS INVOLVED?
5. WHY ARE THEY INVOLVED?
6. WHAT ARE THEIR MOTIVES?
7. WHEN IS THIS SITUATION HAPPENING?
8. IS THERE A TIME FRAME INVOLVED WITH THIS SITUATION?
9. WHERE IS THIS SITUATION HAPPENING?

IMAGINE POSSIBILITIES

1. WHAT ARE ALL THE POSSIBLE CHOICES I COULD MAKE IN THIS SITUATION?
2. WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES, SHORT- AND LONG-TERM, FOR EACH POSSIBLE DECISION?
3. WHAT IS THE MOST LOVING RESPONSE I COULD HAVE IN THIS SITUATION?
4. HOW CAN I BE CREATIVE IN MY APPROACH TO THIS DECISION?

SEEEK INSIGHT BEYOND YOUR OWN

1. WHAT WOULD MY FAMILY ADVISE ME TO DO?
2. WHAT WOULD MY FRIENDS AND COMMUNITY SAY I SHOULD DO?
3. IS THERE A LEGAL ISSUE INVOLVED?
4. WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?
5. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THIS SITUATION?
6. HOW COULD THE VALUES IN THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OR BEATITUDES LEAD ME TO A GOOD DECISION IN THIS SITUATION?
7. WHAT IS THE CHURCH TEACHING ON THIS MATTER?

TURN INWARD

1. WHAT IS MY INNER REALITY SAYING TO ME?
2. WHAT IS MY CONSCIENCE TELLING ME?
3. WHAT ARE MY PERSONAL FEELINGS ABOUT THIS SITUATION?
4. WHAT ARE MY MOTIVES FOR ACTING ONE WAY OR ANOTHER?
5. WHAT DO I NEED FROM THE DECISION I MAKE?
6. WHAT DO I MOST WANT FROM THE DECISION I MAKE?
7. WHAT DOES MY GUT-LEVEL SENSE OF THINGS SAY ABOUT THIS?
8. DO I HAVE AN INTUITIVE UNDERSTANDING OF THIS SITUATION?

EXPECT GOD'S HELP

1. HOW IS GOD PRESENT IN THIS SITUATION?
2. HOW IS GOD WITH ME AS I DISCERN WHAT I SHOULD DO?
3. WHAT CAN I PRAY FOR AS I MAKE THIS DECISION?

NAME YOUR DECISION

1. WHAT AM I GOING TO DECIDE?
2. WHY SHOULD I DECIDE THIS?
3. WHAT VALUES AM I LIVING OUT IN MAKING THIS DECISION?
4. WHAT IS MY PLAN FOR CARRYING OUT THIS DECISION?