

Quantum Thinking

What They Didn't Teach Us In Seminary

Version 1.25

We can tell a lot about ourselves based on how we respond to the following



A big big thank you!

To all the pastors and seminarians who contributed to this amazing project. Thank you! It's crazy to think that your contribution to this may have a greater impact than all the work we all do. Keep the lessons coming and thank you.

Let's Get Started

Let's get started with . . . “What is the biggest challenge you are currently facing in any area of your life and/or ministry?”

Would it be fair to say that whatever seminary training you have had, whatever experience or wisdom you have, whatever counsel you have been given, well . . . it probably doesn't take a seminary degree to realize that whatever we have learned, or thought we learned . . . it's not working obviously.

Our hope, our passion, is to help us as pastors to laugh at themselves and maybe, just maybe through this interesting white paper / project we as pastors may even see God in a different way which will give us the ability to solve our problem above.

This is our heart in writing this white paper.

Just Some Ground Rules

Please do not take offense at anything that is shared. Have a sense of humor, realize that there is some truth in whatever is shared. Clearly understand that we are not saying anything is 100% true or false. In fact . . . we don't give a percentage of truth as we don't have university studies to "prove" anything and the truth is, even studies don't reveal the truth. University studies reveal some degree of the truth.

If we as pastors / seminarians take "great offense" with what is shared, it would probably be a good idea to ask "Why am I taking offense with what is shared?" Probably good to ask ourselves "What % of truth do I think is true?" and then realize that, obviously we're not God so maybe we are wrong and we have a very limited perspective of what goes on out there.

If we get defensive and upset . . . maybe we are like most human beings and it reveals that there is more truth to something than we would like to admit. Yes, it's true that we as pastors / religious leaders tend to have a lot of people share how kind and humble we are . . . but in God's eyes, there is a very good chance that we are no more humble or kind than others. If we take offense at what was shared, then maybe it would be good not to share in the Sunday sermon how we are just like everyone else. Either we are or we are not, but we can't have it both ways.

What Seminary Didn't Teach Us

Example . . . if we were to say that what they didn't teach you seminary that "Pastors / seminarians don't have a sense of humor" how would you respond? Would you have a sense of humor or would you become defensive and/or explain why that was not a true statement? Would you seek support from a Barna report which would "prove" in your own mind that whatever was shared pastors was 100% false? Or . . . would you have the ability to laugh about it, and take whatever percentage of truth there was and learn from it? Make sense? OK . . . let's get started.

Lesson #1: We as pastors do not have a very good sense of humor. :-)

Lesson #2: We as pastors are often wrong and don't know it and often are not really good at listening to people's perspective. Pastors are often like CPAs, doctors and others who have a lot of education and think they are smart and think when they say something is true . . . well . . . it's true. Why is it true? Because you said it was true. Yes, we obviously have some data, maybe a lot of data to prove that what you said is true, but there is also a lot of data that would point someone to a different conclusion.

Lesson #3: We as pastors are weak in understanding that they aren't the nice, kind and smart people they are often told they are.

Lesson #4: We as pastors often lie / do not tell the truth, rationalize it and then even find scripture to back up that lying not really lying it's just showing grace, mercy.

Lesson #5: We as pastors think we are busy and important.

Lesson #6: We as pastors think we have a lot of stress.

Lesson #7: We as pastors lack perspective.

Lesson #8: We as pastors don't think through things so well.

- For example, on being busy and important, take a look at anyone who is doing God's calling, they will be just as busy and important as we are.
- We think we have a lot of stress . . . wow . . . think of a little 9 year old girl who is being raped 30 times a day. Now . . . that will help us gain perspective.
- Hmm . . . who are we trained in seminary? Often people who have been pastors. Hmm . . . wonder if that's like the blind leading the blind? Wonder what percentage of truth there is in the statement . . . "If you can't do it, teach it."?
- Join a call on Friday at 5:30 pm (et) and/or Saturday 8 am (et) and ask about what the President of Judson University shared his biggest challenge was. That story helps us to deeply understand what may be wrong with seminary's today and why so many pastors are having challenges once they get out of seminary and into the "real world." 712-775-7031 - code: 688-592# // Webinar to see the screen of the host: www.RavingFan.net

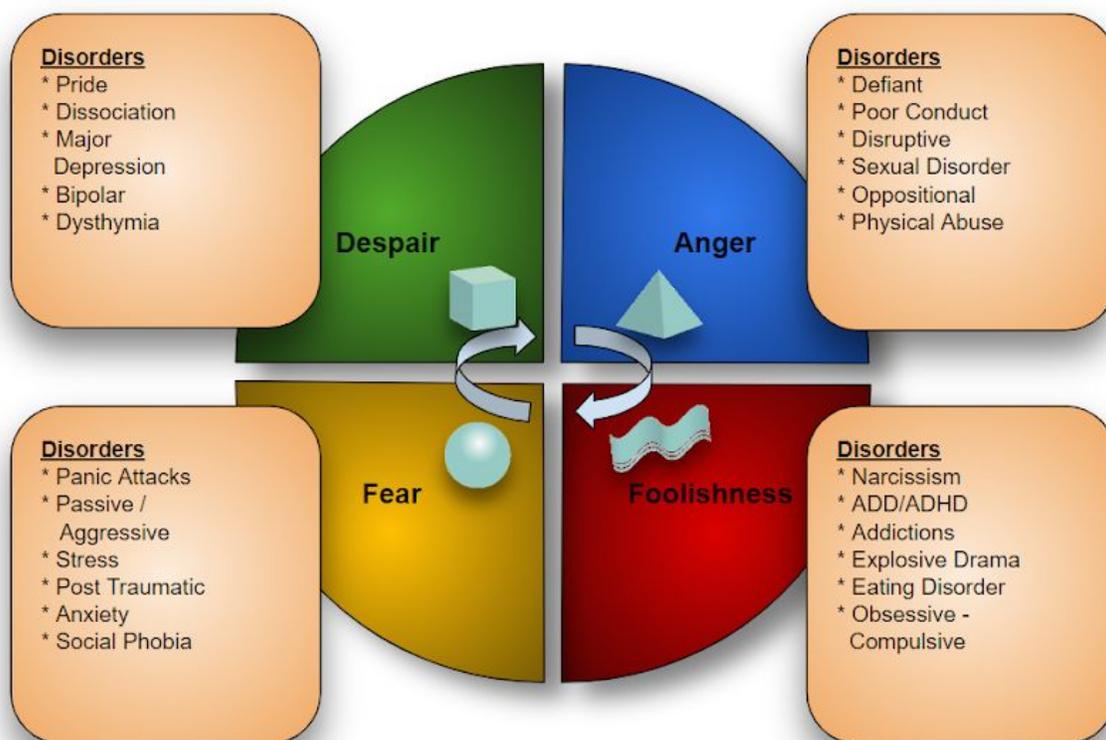
Lesson #9: We as pastors struggle practicing what we preach.

- We have fears of how **people think** of us and people leaving the church so we often are not honest or truthful with people.
- We share all kinds of stories about how we should trust God with our **money** and how we can't outgive God, but then struggle with being generous with our own money and seek to have a rock solid retirement in place.
- We struggle with trusting God with our **time** so we give time to people we shouldn't (they aren't good stewards with our time) and don't give people the time who are good stewards with our time. It's like we're the master who doesn't take from the servant who wasted his 1 talent and give to the 10 talent person but we take from the 10 talent person and give all that time or energy to the 1 talent person in violation of God's Word.
 - We don't even know the depravity of our own heart. We think that we're doing it to serve others, when in fact, a large part of it is to fulfill our own ego to show ourselves and others how caring of a person we are.
 - Do NOT show this to your spouse and children as they will latch onto this and say "I have been telling you that for years."
 - We tell business people to give more and more and more and more and when they go out of business due to how we have taken all the time and money we can from them (can't outgive God), it's any wonder that we not only burn ourselves out but burn out those around us.
 - Most of us are firm that the tithe should be given to the local church. But, if we believe what we are preaching, wouldn't we trust God that He's going to take care of us and encourage our members to give to the many other great causes out there. Especially those connected to the widows and orphans which the Bible says is where true religion is.

NOTE: It would seem that we as pastors are not far behind the world in having the burden be heavy which seems to demonstrate itself to negative stress, depression, and anxiety.

The following is a powerful 3 minute personality assessment which can give us insights into ourselves and those around us. This is a very powerful ministry tool which can bring positive peace to us and those around us.

> <https://solutions.dnaforsuccess.com/solutions-3-minute>



Again . . . join the Friday afternoon or Saturday morning call.

- 712-775-7031 - code: 688-592# // webinar to see the screen of the host:
www.RavingFan.net

If you have any questions on this white paper, connect with the person who passed this along to you or you can call toll free 888.230.2300. If outside the US please call 630.393.9909

If you have thoughts on the white paper and / or other lessons you have learned that were not taught in seminar, please feel free to email ~ service@lifemasteries.org