

REFLECTION TOOL #1

BASIC REFLECTION GROUP

Ministry Reflection Groups have historically been essential components of Gordon-Conwell's Mentored Ministry Program. Through these groups students, staff and lay people/lay leaders have the opportunity to examine various issues which affect the spiritual life and ministry of ministers and those they minister to. This involves issues such as personal growth and identity, professional development, spiritual dynamics and theological awareness. Taking the time to conduct this group during a unit of Mentored Ministry can be an invaluable learning experience for all involved.

Basic Reflection Group: This group, composed of the student and at least 3 other church staff and/or lay people may meet for eight one-case-study or four two-case-study sessions during which the following case studies will be discussed, from Ken Swetland's book, *The Hidden World of the Pastor*:

The Pastor's Daughter is a Rebel
Can Dirk Survive?
You're a Snot-Nosed Young Pastor!
Norm Was Fired
Is There a Place for Me?
Was Ted Unfair?
What Would Lonnie Say to George?
Should Pete Be Reinstated?

The student is asked to do a one-paragraph write-up for each case discussed in the group, outlining their own theological reflections and the group's impressions and conclusions.

Estimated length, 2-3 pages
Please attach to completed Reflection Tool Cover Sheet