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Brother Clements

CSE 170

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Total Points: 100

Week 8 Reflection

This week I prepared for class by reading the prep material and the Phillip Walker case study part B. From the study material I learned about the importance of conflict in the workplace and how it is needed but needs to be expressed properly for it to be beneficial. This week’s scenario was a continuance of last week’s where there is a struggle and disagreement of deciding on the proper time to get a project done. Phillip is arguing with his boss that he needs 9 months, but his boss has already agreed to 6 months and is being rather stubborn and hard to work with on the disagreement. This week’s scenario relates to this week’s topic on conflict because when there is conflict there will be things like disagreements, passiveness, assertive, or even aggression elements that need to be properly handled. This week with our ACORN projects we finalized the proposals and submitted them for approval. We also started on our first ACORN project: becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ, by going and discussing the Bednar devotional. This week’s topic is important because without conflict, the team would have no sense of different perspectives and different ideas. It is important to have several opinions speak up so that we can consider several viewpoints to refine our project vision. When we agree on everything and there is no conflict, project ideas and perspectives would be more vulnerable to public scrutiny. A huge take-a-way I got from this week was how important listening is when you are in conflict and how conflict doesn’t mean a fight. Conflict is a time of negotiation, and we should not be defensive, passive, or offensive when in conflict. We need to be willing to understand the other’s point of view. If I were to explain this to somebody who was not in class, I would ask them what they think conflict is and why. Then I would either demonstrate or explain the activity we did in class where linked hands behind each other’s backs with every other person in a circle. From that we were able to support each other through opposing forces, much like conflict. I would then remind the person that they need their projects officially approved. After teaching this topic to another person, I learned how opposing forces are needed to balance the team and refine the focus or goal in mind. Without it, the team would lack communication skills and lack depth in its plans. Aside from completing my tasks, I plan to contribute more to the team by being more involved in planning our meet up times and creating a deeper discussion. I think this will increase the productivity in our team and invite others in the team to contribute more. If this were a religion class, the topic of conflict would relate to the topic of trials in church. Trials are there to test us and make us stronger spiritually. Similarly, conflict in the team helps strengthen the team and helps us understand each other better so that the next time a conflict comes around we will be more efficient to handle and solve than the last time.