Reflection Week 2

Name: Garrett Stanger

Total Points: 100

I answered 4 cognitive questions and 2 behavior questions totaling 100 points.

Cognitive –

Why is this week's topic important for teamwork?

This week we investigated how we can influence others as an individual in our groups, workplaces, or communities. I think the best way that we can influence others is by establishing trust. This can be done on a more individual personal level to influence those around you directly. But I also think this can be done at a higher level just by your example of how you work, interact with others, or simply just appear.

How does your experience relate to other experiences you have had?

One experience I think that relates to this is one time when I got chewed out by my boss at my IT job. The reason in my head was not a big deal at all and I think he over-reacted. What I was doing was putting my feet up on my desk while I worked. He came in and said that it is very unprofessional to do so, and I should not do it anymore because of how others would see it. In my eyes then, it seemed like small potatoes, and he was just a stingy dude. But fast forward a year, I started to manage my own team of students, and one my guys would do the same thing with his feet at his desk. At first, I didn’t say anything, but after some days of observation, I saw how much it affected his co-workers. Even though he was working hard, it didn’t look like it with his feet up like that. And his co-workers, especially the new guys, took it as they didn’t have to work hard today, and it was like pulling teeth to get them off their phones. It’s a small and seemingly innocent act but rippled into a big problem quickly.

How do plan on contributing to the team, besides completing your tasks?

A lot of times I tend to take charge of groups, especially in classes because I can’t stand sitting there in silence while someone decides to speak up. I’ve learned that when I do this, I will talk more than listen to others ideas, which gets the whole group in a bind because we end up following my ideas, which are not always the most thoughtful plan, in which we run into more problems. I think I can still be a loud talker in most settings, but instead will try to play a supporting role to get others ideas shared so we can have the most effective plan/discussion.

If this was a religion class, how would you relate this week’s topic to the gospel?

I think this is a huge gospel topic. Influence and trust are some of the largest skills that I need to work on spiritually. Influence being the example I need to set to my peers and my family. I’m not always the best at choosing the right thing to do in a public setting that goes against the crowd. And trust because I trust in myself a whole lot more than I trust in God. And eventually every time I do this, I realize that man is very weak when compared to God.

Behavior -

What is the most significant take-a-way you have gained from your study this week?

Most significant take away from this week for me was observing my score that I got from the personal survey. I find myself ok in the internal process improvement thinking, but I have a long way to go on the ways I can improve myself that can benefit the community around me.

How would you explain this week's topics to a person not in this class?

I would first ask them how many people that they think they influence in a day. Then I would ask if they thought they had a good influence or a bad one. I would ask next what they could do to improve themselves so that they could either influence more people in a good way, or how to change their bad influence into a good influence.