

Session 10: Reading Journal

Paris Holy

Primer

In Chapter 10, Wilson discusses the nature of the church. He relates the doctrine of church to the doctrine of salvation based on the fact that both doctrines are widely based on interpretation. The nature of the church and its purpose is a subject that is also open to interpretation. Depending on what religion you are apart of, you may have a different perception of church. In order to explain the doctrine of church, Wilson uses various subheadings to organize his thoughts, these include: marks of the church, mission of the church, structure of the church, and activities of the church. Wilson notes that church allows people to develop a sense of unity in the gospel, even though there are many different ways to interpret the gospel (Wilson, 114). An important point to take away from this reading is that the gospel plays a different role in everyone's life and can be interpreted in many ways. The tie between the gospel and the church is the body of Christ (Wilson, 113). This reading relates to this week's theme of "How do we relate to the earth", because it exemplifies the fact that church unifies people no matter who they are or where they come from, supporting the argument that everyone on earth is interconnected. Church grounds members of society from a spiritual point of view, while earth physically grounds individuals and creates geographical ties between people of all kinds.

Belonging

Clarkson looks at how national happiness can be measured using Bhutanese principles (Clarkson, 164). She discusses levels of generosity, ethical consideration, tolerance, and perseverance in Canada to measure gross national happiness. In my opinion, generosity is one of

the utmost important characteristics for individuals and societies to embody. Clarkson notes that if not for generosity, Canada would not be the multicultural, diverse place it is today (Clarkson, 165). Generosity helps break down barriers between people of all kinds, whether those barriers are religious, ethnic, racial, or cultural. The concept of generosity closely relates to this week's theme of "How do we relate to the earth", because it exemplifies the fact that we all must cater to the interest of the common good if we want our community to function well and evolve as a society. The way I see it, earth roots us all and connects us all. The earth binds individuals to communities and communities to nations: everything is interconnected.

The Earth Charter

This text argues that human beings have an obligation to protect our planet. Not only is it our duty to contribute to the well being of our planet, but it is also in our best interest. Cultural and technological advancements have been both a blessing and a curse to our planet: they have led to more diversity on earth, but have also created conflict and danger. The various life forms on earth are interconnected, and every action that humans carry out affect the many life forms. This writing makes note of the fact that people often become too caught up in the commodities they have, and not what they can offer to better the earth (The Earth Charter). We only have one earth, and it is important that we work to protect it and all of its life forms to the best of our ability.