

## Caring for God's People

Donald W. Winslett, Ed.D.  
Director, Center for Clergy Care & Education



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Be the Good News

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Pastoral Conversations & Social Conversations

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Social Conversation focuses on:	Pastoral Conversation focuses on:
A. External subjects: weather, world events, local events	A. The person
B. Maintaining a congenial atmosphere	B. Accepting tension areas
C. Comfort through avoiding	C. Comfort through facing fears

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Social Conversation focuses on:	Pastoral Conversation focuses on:
D. Inane chatter	D. Appropriate silence
E. Sharing stories: experiences, mutual trading	E. Helping the person share himself/herself
F. Being pleasant, positive	F. Being understanding, empathic
G. Generalizings – universalizing, what <u>they</u> say – what <u>people</u> do	G. Being specific – what <u>you</u> do, think, feel

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Social Conversation focuses on:	Pastoral Conversation focuses on:
H. Attempting to entertain	H. Being helpful by intimate sharing
I. Religion: difference between churches, services, ministers	I. God – and my, your, relationship to God
J. Telling my story	J. Listening to his/her holy stories

---

---

---

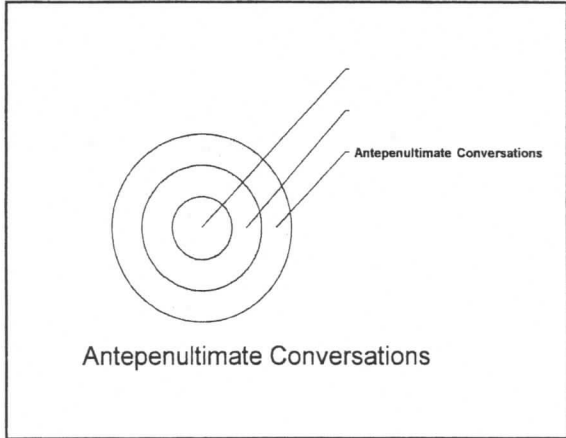
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

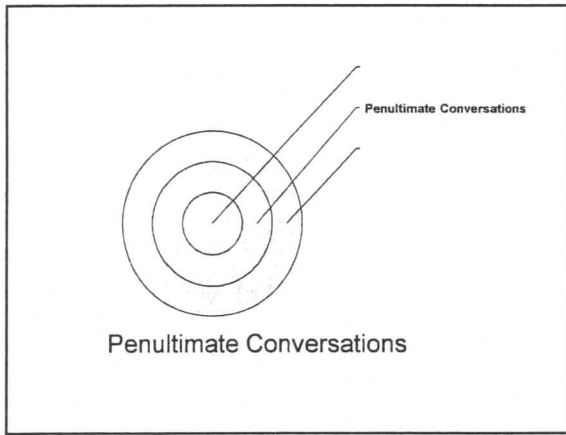
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

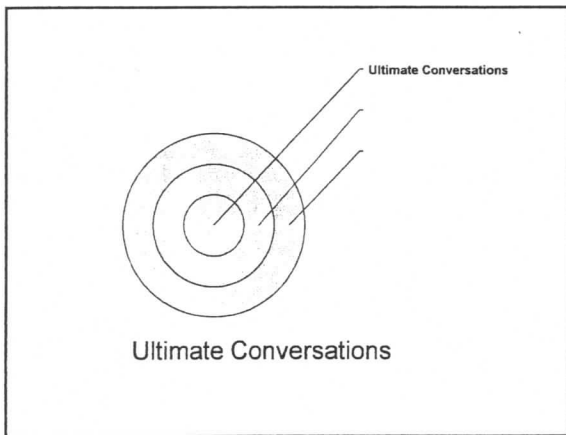
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Pastoral Care is not theological education

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Avoid use of clichés

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Avoid any sentence that begins with "at least"

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Positive Use of Silence  
(non-anxious presence of God)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

"The shadow behind the "fixes" we offer for issues that we cannot fix is, ironically, the desire to hold each other at bay. It is a strategy for abandoning each other while appearing to be concerned... When you speak (to someone) about your deepest questions (concerns or issues), you do not want to be fixed or saved; you want to be seen and heard; to have your truth acknowledged and honored."

A Hidden Wholeness by Parker Palmer

---

---

---

---

---

---

---