**Casandra Latney Self Awareness Analysis**

**How to Mentor Graduate Students**

My self-awareness analysis. growth as teacher in part includes becoming a full-time teacher. I am currently in the process of reconstructing my career objectives and focusing on requirements and qualifications necessary to acquire a career as a teacher. Although I have done substitute teaching, group instruction and trainings; my desire to teach has become a particularly important aspect of who I am. When I decided I wanted to teach in 2008; or shall I say when this revelation was revealed to me, it quickly became a driving desire that soon landed me in a teachable type of volunteering opportunity of life coaching and being mentored to be a coach. While acknowledging the path that God has been directing me; this opportunity here at Seminary; has shed light of my desire to teach. In this walk, I have become a Life Coach. After receiving the certification I soon realized I needed to be able to speak from an experienced background level, I lacked healthcare experience, so I took on a healthcare job in order to help round out my experience in private industry, non-profit, government, government contractor along with Human Resources Management would bring together a knowledge of experience that is fact based and assist in qualifying me as a qualified Life Coach. Simultaneously, my desire to learn more about Christianity tugged on my being. Well, after having several Life coaching sessions; mostly one-on-one, I realized I wanted to reach more people in a larger venue. Along with teaching, I desire to include Christianity as a staple in their lives as part of the teaching method I will eventually attain. Many ideas include, realistic direct role play, interactive engaging activities that would target not just teacher-to-student learning but more engaging thought-provoking learners, incorporation of visual and/or music intelligences to create ways of remembering and recapturing the learning that can be applied to everyday live.

These non-traditional teaching methods can be tailored to the curriculum program that would address concerns of individuals to form education of real life, everyday issues that would help to aid in a generation of hope instead of despair. I intend to show how one can acknowledge Christ in offering *emancipator hope* in acknowledging one’s person agency in God’s vision for human equality.[[1]](#footnote-1) Although Parker’s book references African American teenagers; this level of engagement with the teaching in a theological framework for a curriculum that could be implemented for the lives of men and women of any age, race, or color, not just African American. This concept of the spirituality of individuals who seek guidance can learn the ability to articulate Gods care for them with the transformative activity of the problems most troubling[[2]](#footnote-2) in the areas of their lives, in their home life, work life, social life and Christian life. As I have been seeking Teaching opportunities, I will continue to work in the community.

Most recently, I have joined the National Arts Education Association, where art in many forms is being received and applied in varies ways of learning. My ideas include analysis, critical reflection, and possible practical ways to address ideological questions with regards to hope in creating theological framework for that can be Christian curriculum-based program and offered this reward of achievement in a way that can be received and passed on to be strengthened as a society.

My efforts in teaching would be to continue to educate myself, finish my master’s and to strengthen my weakness when it comes to teaching. Ironically, I don’t like to speak in front of people, as much as I do it, I have always felt way. God has been aiding in my areas of wea. ss. For my church participation as a Greeter, I was recently nominated as a Chaplain, which, I never saw coming. I praise God for this opportunity as it reinforces my desires of my Christian walk. I will continue to seek God guidance through Christ as I am on this journey.

1. *Parker, Evelyn, Trouble Don’t Last Always: Emancipatory Hope Among Africa Adolescents, p. 1* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Parker, Evelyn, Trouble Don’t Last Always: Emancipator Hope Among Africa Adolescents, p. 1* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)