

" G R O U P   P R O C E S S "

IS,

*DESCRIPTIVELY,*

WHAT ACTUALLY "GOES ON" (or "GOES DOWN") WHILE A GROUP IS TOGETHER, NO MATTER HOW CONSCIOUS ANYBODY IN THE GROUP MAY BE OF WHAT IS ACTUALLY HAPPENING. A lot, always, is happening--especially when "nothing's happening"!

*STRUCTURALLY,*

GROUP PROCESS IS THE DELIBERATE DESIGNING AND EXECUTING OF A STEP-BY-STEP COURSE OF ACTION WHICH, LIKE THE HUMAN SPINE, MEETS THE NEEDS OF BOTH ORDER AND FREEDOM. Therefore, this structure is person-oriented, not power-oriented; and the guiding question is not "Who's in charge?" but "What's happening to God's children right here and now?"

*IDEALLY,*

GROUP PROCESS IS THE CONTINUOUS NEGOTIATION, THROUGHOUT A SESSION AND THROUGHOUT A GROUP'S LIFETIME, TOWARD TRULY HUMAN GROWTH AND COMMITMENT TO TRULY HUMAN PURPOSES: self-understanding, personal and societal liberation, respect for the Spirit in all life-processes and for the time it takes.