

One of the diagrams we used back in the early 1960s in "Renewal by Authentic Encounter" --5-10-day learning retreats, especially for church executives--appears below [in this case, from p.37 of Phil and Phoebe Anderson's THE HOUSE CHURCH (Abingdon/75)--Phil having been one of us in on the structuring and using of the "Renewal..." process]. This thinksheet uses this, and a resultant diagram on the teacher/learner leader, to display the factors in teaching/learning in the interest of (1) liberation from "fixes" educational groups get themselves into and (2) adequacy of coverage of subject/theme/contract.

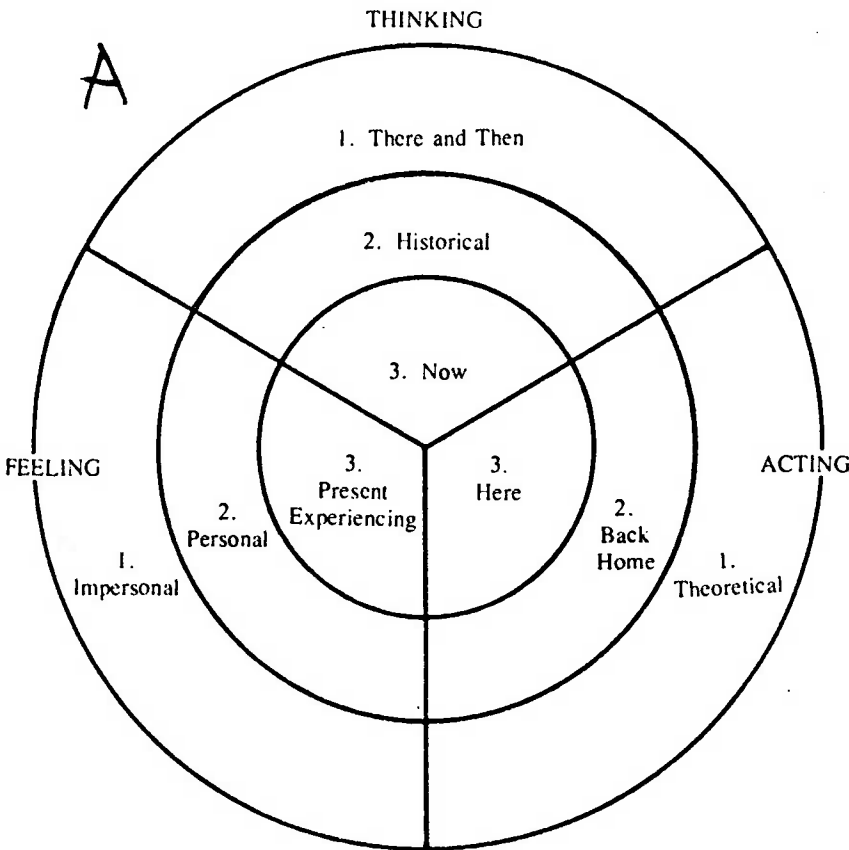


DIAGRAM A is "Levels and Dimensions of the Whole Person." Let me illustrate what I mean by "fixes" or fixations. We've all had a dry-as-archaeological-dust "Bible course" that was locked into T1 [=thinking about there and then] and never got to our own experience, either past [T2, this special meaning of "historical"] or present [T3], i.e. our own experience of thinking--to say nothing of our own feeling [F3-1] or behavior [A3-1]! Chances are we didn't rebel: the there-and-then, impersonal, theoretical orientation was contractual: it's what we expected, and what we got--but educationally, it could have been vastly improved!....You've probably also been in a Gestalt group in which "T" was ruled out along with "F1," "F2," "A1," and "A2": you were locked in-

to "What are you doing here and now?" [A3] and "How are you feeling right now?" [F3].... And, given the current hypersensitivity to "F3," you've certainly been in groups whose contractual or imposed agenda was bombed out by somebody's hurt feelings, which became the agenda.

Now look at DIAGRAM B [from p.115]. This "Model of a House Church Leader" includes much of the house-church agenda. [For pertinent material, see thinksheets #823 ("Group Experience," Theology and Recruitment Implications of), #824 ("Group Experience," Theology of), and #825 (Group Contracting)] "SA1" ["skill in house church process"] includes creative defeating of Diagram A's "F3," the tendency of a group--especially a group of people-helpers--to center in the here-and-now strongest feeling. A house church can be destroyed by this passion-centering: an educational group can be subverted by it, but is not apt to be destroyed if the trip is for credit. NYTS teachers need to develop this skill.

