Let’s recall the circular diagram that we’re using as a model for TR (theological reflection).

For this unit, we are emphasizing that TR takes place among Christians who are experiencing formation in spirituality that fosters transformation. Thus, we should always try to maintain in our TR an attitude of spiritual openness to God’s ongoing presence and activity among us. The foundational questions for TR spirituality, then,

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can be phased as “How is God working here?” and “How does God call us to respond?” We can show this in our diagram as:

Krisak uses slightly different wording in his article, but I think that the process he proposes for theological reflection (see pp. 317-325) is very similar to mine. My proposed Discussion Questions will, I hope, help you to highlight other themes in the article that will build your understanding.

Unit 3: TR as Formative for Ministers
Glossary

- **Formation**: process of shaping individuals into membership in a group with a particular and common set of values and way of life. All Christians are called to lifelong formation in discipleship, following the way of Jesus Christ. For members of religious congregations, formation involves multidimensional activities of study, ritual, prayer, service and community building in faithfulness to the special mission of the founders. “Formation” should be oriented toward “transformation.”
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- **Spirituality**: our orientation to the deepest dimensions of life, encompassing our relationship to God, other humans and the entire created order. Prayer is an essential part of spirituality, but spirituality is not limited solely to prayer.
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- **Transformation/Conversion**: profound change in persons and groups through the grace of God and our response to that grace, drawing us into deeper relationship to God and faithfulness to our vocation. All Christians are called to such ongoing “conversion” in openness to the working of the Holy Spirit. Conversion affects us in all dimensions of our lives: physical, emotional, intellectual, moral, cultural and spiritual.
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