

①

Black Ministra

2-27-81

Nat. Black Ministers' Ass  
Chgo.

A. What you are called to be

1. Professional men and women of religion -  
ultimate meaning of human existence
2. Person of missionary zeal - proclaim the Gospel  
Build community of faith  
serve the human family
3. Person with a higher and wider point of view -  
morality (larger question - how does my act of injustice  
affect the larger community)

B. You raise these and other questions, but you always  
raise them in context.

ILLUSTRATION: Two BILLBOARDS in Cleveland

① Welcome to Cleveland - Resources

② industry, employment, health care, culture, art,  
entertainment, banking, commerce, ~~transport~~, etc.

③ Religion not mentioned -

inappropriate - ? (mix of secular + sacred)

irrelevant - ? (religion is an asset, makes no  
difference)

2

Page 2, cont.

② "Jesus answered, "You must love the Lord your God with your whole heart." [79" + Superior]

@ second part of the injunction is missing -

"You must love your neighbor as yourself"

I John - "No one has ever seen God..."

### CONTEXT OF MINISTRY

1. Society Excluding Religion  $\rightarrow$  tension  
Religion Excluding Society (DISTORTION OF XTN. FAITH)

- ° illumine the secular sphere with the light of the Gospel
- ° depth experience

2. COLLAPSE OR EROSION OF COMMON MEANING  
- cf. talk, "CRITICAL PHENOMENA OF TODAY..."

3. EROSION OF BLACK LIFE  
- cf. separate paper

4. Ecumenical & interfaith
5. AWARENESS of what's happening
6. Sensitivity to personhood
7. Need for God

Position

3

5. LEARN to do things to people rather than for them - Empowerment. Don't create dependency.
  - Pastors & terms...
  - Catechists in EL SALVADOR vs. ~~poor~~ lay persons in U.S.
  
6. Shared Leadership. Creative problem solving will only come from the diversity of the group.
  
7. Must keep ourselves together -
  - ~~not~~ personally
  - theologicallywhy Vat. II is so slow in implementation
  - priests did not read.
  
8. Never speak negatively about our people from the pulpit
  
9. Recruitment. Listen to the people to hear their issues. Issues attract people. Organization recruits people.
  
10. Preferential option for poor - <sup>DIGNITY</sup> Dignity among victims
  
11. Respect for leadership - Jesse - Jordan - Hooks