DQ 1

What is your definition of "spiritual care?" How does it differ or accord with the description given in the topic readings? Explain.

Personally, I believe spiritual care is utilized religious power to satisfy individual spiritual needs and the final goal is to aim people reach physical and spiritual health (holistic health). In addition, with spirituality care, patients can be helped to boost their support and coping skills among stress and sickness.

According to Shelly & Miller (2006, p264), "spiritual care means putting people in touch with God through compassionate presence, active listening, witness, prayer, Bible reading and partnering with the body of Christ". The spiritual care of the topic readings focuses on building a relationship with God, with specific methods and it addresses in Christian worldview. My personal idea of spiritual care is very general and superficial to express the beneficence of spiritual care.

Shelly & Miller clearly describe what is spiritual care, which offers me a good example and resource of spiritual care. As a Christian, God via us to deliver the good news from the God and assistant the lost people to find the way back to the God’s purpose. Therefore, spiritual care is essential to not only limit in hospital settings, should be everywhere.

Reference:

Shelly, J. & Miller, A. (2006). Spiritual Care. Called to care: A Christian worldview for nursing (2nd Ed.). Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press.

DQ 2

When it comes to facilitating spiritual care for patients with worldviews different from your own, what are your strengths and weaknesses? If you were the patient, who would have the final say in terms of ethical decision-making and intervention in the event of a difficult situation?

My personality traits, which are patience, compassion, and passion, are my strengths for providing spiritual care for patients with worldviews different from my own. I really like to spend my time to listens to them as well as share my personal experiences to help them understand how the God works in my life. Pray for patients is never a challenge for me. My weakness is “Bible reading”. I read Bible in Chinese so I could not read fluency or well refer Bible Stories to them in English. I do have a bilingual Bible and I need to spend the time reading the English part so in the future I can convey the words of God to everyone in a different language.

If I was the patient, I would be the final say in terms of ethical decision-making and intervention in the event of a difficult situation. I have my own autonomy and I am responsible for my own life. I may listen to other advice and let God guide me but I would be the only one to make the final decision.