**SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT**

for

Caring from a Christian Worldview: Exploring Nurses’ Source of Caring, Faith Practices, and View of Nursing

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by

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**ABSRACT:** This study explored Christian nurses’ views of their source of caring (Deity or other), adherence to biblical faith practices, and view of nursing as a job, career, profession, or calling. Participants who reported Deity (God, Christ, Holy Spirit) as their source of caring were more likely to view nursing as a calling and report a higher degree of volunteering (serving), giving (financially to a religious community), devotions and prayer (personal walk), and fellowship (meeting with a community of other believers). Results have implications for understanding the concept of caring within the context of a Christian worldview.

**KEY WORDS:** caring; Christian worldview; calling; mixed-methods research; nursing

# Caring from a Christian Worldview Survey Questions

**Five Quantitative Questions** (Characteristics of Christian Faith):

1. **Fellowship with Community of believers (**a group of people who profess salvation through Jesus Christ**)**
   1. Regularly meets together with a community of believers more than once a week
   2. Meets with community of believers once a week
   3. Meets with community of believers occasionally
   4. Rarely or never meets together with a community of believers

# Giving

* 1. Regularly gives more than 10% of income to support a place of worship and other ministries
  2. Regularly gives 10% of income to support a place of worship
  3. Gives offerings **(**a contribution to support a place of worship**)** but less than 10% of income
  4. Rarely or never gives to a place of worship

# Service to Others

* 1. Volunteers time to help others in body of believers or community – at least weekly
  2. Volunteers to help others in body of believers or community – monthly
  3. Occasionally volunteers to help others in body of believers or community
  4. Rarely or never volunteers to help others in the body of believers or community

# Personal Walk

* 1. Practices daily Bible devotions and prayer – outside of community of believers
  2. Practices weekly Bible devotions and prayer – outside of community of believers
  3. Occasional practices Bible devotions and prayer – outside of community of believers
  4. Rarely or never practices Bible devotions and pray – outside of community of believers

# To Me, Nursing is a

* 1. Job,
  2. Career
  3. Profession
  4. Calling

# Six Qualitative Questions:

1. Many nurses claim that caring is the “essence” of nursing. Do you agree with tha**t** statement? Briefly explain why or why not:
2. As you evaluate yourself (in life and nursing practice) do you consider yourself a caring person? Provide examples that would validate that claim?
3. Do others consider you caring and if so, give examples to validate
4. If you and others would describe you as caring what do you believe is the source of your caring?
5. As you evaluate yourself (in life and nursing practice) – what examples can you provide of how others have demonstrated caring to you?
6. What do you believe is the source of caring found in others?

# Eleven Demographic Questions

1. Gender
   1. Female
   2. Male
2. Student Status: Please report your current status as a student (select one):
   1. Student: Pre-licensure,
   2. Student: Post-licensure (RN-BSN):
   3. Student, graduate
   4. Not a student.
3. School Affiliation: If you are a student please identify your program:
   1. Indiana Wesleyan University in USA
   2. Other
4. Year in School: If you are currently a student, please select the year of school you are in within your current program:
   1. First year of program
   2. Mid-point in your program
   3. Last year of program
5. Facility - Type of work organization:
   1. Hospital, Education
   2. Long-term care
   3. Home care
   4. Outpatient
   5. Public Health- Community
   6. Not currently working
   7. Other (please note)
6. Work Environment:
   1. Secular – non-religious
   2. Religious affiliation
7. Age (used year of birth to calculate)
8. Years as a nurse: If currently a nurse, please identify how many years it has been since you completed your initial nursing program.
   1. < 5 years
   2. 6 – 10 years
   3. 11 – 15 years
   4. 16 – 20 years
   5. 21- 25 years
   6. 26- 30 years
   7. 31-35 years
   8. 36-40 years
   9. > 40 years
9. Home Country: Please identify below what country you were born and mainly raised within, regardless of the present country of residence and citizenship.
10. Race/Ethnicity: What race/ethnicity do you most closely identify with? (Example: African, African American, Chinese, Korean, Pacific Islander, American Indian, Asian Indian etc.). If multi-ethnic, which groups?
11. Religious Community: Please identify below what your current religion/faith community is (e.g. Catholic, Baptist, Wesleyan, Mormon, Hindu, Muslim Jew, etc. If you have no current religion/faith community, simply state “none”

**Table 1.** Overall Characteristics of the Sample

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Characteristics | n (%) |
| Overall Sample |  |
| Gender (380 responses) |  |
| Female | 363 (93%) |
| Male | 17 (7%) |
| Age (347 responses) |  |
| Min / Max years | 19/83 |
| Mean Age | 44.50 |
| Years as a Nurse (312 responses) |  |
| > 40 | 20 (6%) |
| 36-40 | 17 (5%) |
| 31-35 | 34 (11%) |
| 26-30 | 45 (14%) |
| 21-25 | 34 (11%) |
| 16-20 | 41 (13%) |
| 11-15 | 40 (13%) |
| 5-10 | 36 (12%) |
| <5 | 45 (14%) |
| Subject Status (369 responses) |  |
| Student (275) 75% |  |
| Pre-licensure | 64 (23%) |
| Post-licensure | 115 (41%) |
| Graduate (MSN) | 96 (35%) |
| Not a student | (94) 25% |
| Year in School (274 responses) |  |
| First year of program | 106 (39%) |
| Mid-point in program | 65 (24%) |
| Last year of program | 103 (38%) |
| School Affiliation (280 responses) |  |
| IWU | 261 (93%) |
| Other | 19 (7%) |
|  |  |
| Type of Work Facility (364 responses) |  |
| Hospital | 163 (45%) |
| Education | 61 (18%) |
| Long-term care | 17 (5%) |
| Outpatient | 18 (5%) |
| Public health - community | 16 (4%) |
| Home Care | 8 (2%) |
| Not currently working | 47 (13%) |
| Other | 34 (9%) |
| Work Environment (324 responses) |  |
| Religious Affiliation | 125 (39%) |
| Secular/Non-Religious Affiliation | 199 (62%) |
| Home Country (376 responses) |  |
| USA | 330 (88 %) |
| Other (representation of 20 countries internationally – 5 responses the next highest from both Chile and Nigeria) | 46 (12%) |
| Race/Ethnicity (341 responses) |  |
| American Indian | 12 (4%) |
| Hispanic | 12 (4%) |
| African/African American; Black | 27 (8%) |
| White | 290 (85%) |
| Religious Communities (360 responses) |  |
| 32 different communities identified; all but 3 categories were Christian affiliations) | Christian 351 (97%)  None/Atheist/Buddhist 9(2%) |

**Table 3: Source of Caring and Faith Characteristics (*n* = 326)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Chi Square: *Fellowship* (Q1*) and Source of Caring* (Q9) Significant, p = < .001 *X2* (*df 3,* N = 326?) = 47.70, *p = .001.* | | | | |
| Fellowship with community of believers | | Source of your caring | | Total |
| Multiple sources of caring | Deity source of caring |
| Frequency of meeting: | Regularly meet together with a community of believers more than once a week | 26 | 118 | 144 |
| Meet with community of believers once a week | 35 | 63 | 98 |
| Meet with community of believers occasionally | 24 | 30 | 54 |
| Rarely or never meet together with a community of believers | 24 | 6 | 30 |
| Total | | 109 | 217 | 326 |
| Chi Square: *Giving* (Q2*) and Source of Caring* (Q9) Significant, p = < .001 *X2* (*df, 3* N = 326) = 20.16, *p = <.001* | | | | |
| Giving | | Source of your caring | | Total |
| Multiple sources of caring | Deity source of caring |
| Percent of Giving: | Regularly give more than 10% of income to place of worship & ministries | 13 | 72 | 85 |
| Regularly give 10% of income to support a place of worship | 24 | 48 | 72 |
| Give occasionally to support a place of worship but less than 10% of income | 53 | 78 | 131 |
| Rarely or never gives to a support a place of worship | 19 | 19 | 38 |
| Total | | 109 | 217 | 326 |
| Chi Square: *Service* (Q3*) and Source of Caring* (Q9) Significant, p = < .001 *X2* (*df, 3* N = 326) = 16.07, *p = .001* | | | | |
| Service to Others | | Source of your caring | | Total |
| Multiple sources of caring | Deity source of caring |
| Frequency | Volunteer time to help others in body of be-lievers or community every week | 17 | 69 | 86 |
| Volunteer time to help others in body of be-lievers or community every month | 24 | 61 | 85 |
| Occasionally volunteers to help others in body of believers or community | 51 | 68 | 119 |
| Rarely or never volun-teer to help others in body of believers or community | 17 | 19 | 36 |
| Total | | 109 | 217 | 326 |
| Chi Square: *Personal Walk* (Q4*) and Source of Caring* (Q9) Significant, p = < .001 *X2* (*df 3,* N = 326) = 27.02, *p = < .001* | | | | |
| Personal Walk | | Source of your caring | | Total |
| Multiple sources of caring | Deity source of caring |
| Frequency of Personal Walk Activities | Daily Bible devotions and prayer outside of community of believer | 41 | 128 | 169 |
| Weekly Bible devotions and prayer - outside of community of believers | 26 | 53 | 79 |
| Occasional Bible devotions and prayer - outside of community of believers | 28 | 32 | 60 |
| Rare or no Bible devotions, prayer out outside community of believers | 14 | 4 | 18 |
| Total | | 109 | 217 | 326 |

**Table 5: Demographics and Source of caring**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Chi Square: *Student Status* (Q13*) and Source of Caring* (Q9) Significant, p = < .001 *X2* (*df 1,* N = 322) = 13.05, *p = .001)* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Status as a student – Not a Student | | | | | | Source of your caring | | | | | | Total | | |
| Multiple sources of caring | | | | Deity source of caring | |
| Status: | Student | | | | | 92 | | | 147 | | | 239 | | |
| Not a Student | | | | | 14 | | | 69 | | | 83 | | |
| Total | | | | | | 106 | | | 216 | | | 322 | | |
| Chi Square: *Organization* (Q16*) and Source of Caring* (Q9) Significant, p = < .003 *X2* (*df 4,* N = 243) = 14.96, *p = .005* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Type of organization currently working | | | | | | | Source of your caring | | | | | | | Total |
| Multiple sources of caring | | | | Deity source of caring | | |
| Current organization: | | | Hospital | | | | 59 | | | | 86 | | | 145 |
| Education | | | | 8 | | | | 46 | | | 54 |
| Long-term care | | | | 8 | | | | 8 | | | 16 |
| Outpatient | | | | 5 | | | | 8 | | | 13 |
| Public health - community | | | | 3 | | | | 12 | | | 15 |
| Total | | | | | | | 83 | | | | 160 | | | 243 |
| Chi Square: *Religious Environment* (Q17*) and Source of Caring* (Q9) Significant, p = < .001 *X2* (*df 1,* N = 285) = 11.20, *p = .001* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Is current work environment religious or non-religious? | | | | Source of your caring | | | | | | | | | Total | |
| Multiple sources of caring | | | | Deity source of caring | | | | |  | |
| Current environment is: | | Secular - non-religious | | 70 | | | | 105 | | | | | 175 | |
| Religious affiliation | | 23 | | | | 87 | | | | | 110 | |
| Total | | | | 93 | | | | 192 | | | | | 285 | |
| Chi Square: *Years from Nursing Program* (Q19*) and Source of Caring* (Q9) Significant, *p* = < .001 *X2* (*df 8,* N = 273) = 26.62, *p = .001* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Years since completing initial nursing program | | | | | Source of your caring | | | | | | | | Total | |
| Multiple sources of caring | | | Deity source of caring | | | | |
| Years: | Less than 5 | | | | 19 | | | 22 | | | | | 41 | |
| 5-10 | | | | 17 | | | 14 | | | | | 31 | |
| 11-15 | | | | 11 | | | 22 | | | | | 33 | |
| 16-20 | | | | 17 | | | 19 | | | | | 36 | |
| 21-25 | | | | 4 | | | 26 | | | | | 30 | |
| 26-30 | | | | 9 | | | 31 | | | | | 40 | |
| 31-35 | | | | 6 | | | 22 | | | | | 28 | |
| 36-40 | | | | 7 | | | 9 | | | | | 16 | |
| More than 40 | | | | 2 | | | 16 | | | | | 18 | |
| Total | | | | | 92 | | | 181 | | | | | 273 | |

Note: Demographics that made no difference: Gender, Age, Country, Race, Nursing Program, Year in Nursing Program.