

# THE PASTOR AND THE ANALYST: AN INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION OF RELIGION AND PSYCHOANALYSIS

FEATURING  
**DAVID SACHS, M.D., &  
SONJA WARE, TH.M., M. DIV.**

What do a psychoanalyst and a pastor have to say to each other? Apparently a lot! Sonja Ware and David Sachs have been discussing the relation between psychoanalysis and religion for several years and feel they have just begun.

During their many conversations, they observed that people in psychoanalytic psychotherapy or psychoanalysis often struggle with important value conflicts that are addressed in exclusively secular or exclusively religious ways. They considered two hypotheses. First, “do analysts neglect religious perspectives to conflicts arising from value conflicts of religious people?”; second, “How could psychodynamic insights inform pastors in working through conflicts in counseling or congregational settings?” In addition, they discussed how choosing only one of the two approaches represents a countertransference blind spot.

Dr. Sachs will provide an example of the first hypothesis and Pastor Ware will do the same for the second. Both examples are a blend of different people to facilitate discussion and preserve confidentiality.

During these presentations, they hope that everyone will join in and express their ideas.

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**SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2021  
10:00 AM TO 11:30 AM  
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