

## Prayer Triad 7 Compilation

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 3:1-6

**Scripture Question: Paul talks about being made a competent minister of the new covenant. What do you think it means today to be a competent minister of the church?**

- They believe in the bible and in the saving blood of Jesus. Ministry cannot be a mental decision but one from the heart.
- He or she needs to lead by example, leading the congregation spiritually with full knowledge of the Bible and a demonstrated spirituality.
- A competent minister today gives the glory to God not to himself.

**Question 1: What do you think is the most important thing a pastor does?**

- Impart the Word of God to us. Give counsel and spiritual leadership. Follow the example of Christ.
- Visiting the sick, the shut-ins, the people in nursing homes and in hospitals in a timely manner is important. His ability to connect with his congregation, his ability to preach and being available in times of need are essential. Enabling others (and himself) to grow spiritually and the ability to solve problems are important. The pastor is the unconditional leader of the congregation and he represents all of us to others about what we believe.
- Is the head (hub) of the church. He sets a good example.
- We couldn't decide on the most important but we think he or she needs to be able to relate to the congregation, show his/her faith, offer a meaningful sermon regularly, visit members of the church and community often, hold a degree, be involved in community activities and represent the church at Union meetings, as well as regional assemblies and general assemblies.
- This most important thing a pastor does is spiritual leadership. He holds the church family together.
- The most important things are being a spiritual leader, teaching and preaching, counseling and comforting and leading by example – not necessarily in that order.
- The most important thing a pastor does is to constantly, in as many ways possible, keep the congregation focused on what God wants us to do as a church – to love one another, to live our lives as Christians and to communicate God's message of love and salvation through Jesus to everyone, especially to those who do not know Jesus. Along with that, the minister needs to preach and teach the foundation of our faith, the Bible.

**Question 2: What do you think is the least important thing a pastor does?**

- Everything is important to someone, so we don't think there is a least important.
- Every job that he undertakes is important; however, maybe we could help do some of the menial tasks like paperwork so that he can be free to focus on the very important things that he does in serving our congregation.
- We're not sure.
- We couldn't decide on a least important as we think everything is fairly important; however, the minister shouldn't have to attend all of the committee meetings. We have conflicting

opinions about what should or shouldn't be worn when delivering a sermon or when in the office.

- There is not a least important thing. Everything he does is important in some way to some member of the congregation.
- One member of our group thinks that everything he does is important; however, the rest feel that the minister can't do everything if we're fortunate enough to grow, so we think being a member of every committee is least important. The Elders and Deacons need to step up.
- Administrative duties – while they are important to the work of the church, others in the congregation can perform most of the administrative work, leaving the minister to concentrate on the most important pastoral duties.

### **Question 3: What are the gifts or qualities you would look for in a pastor to lead our congregation into the future?**

- He is a follower of Jesus; is willing to deny himself; is submissive to and filled with the Holy Spirit; possesses and practices discipline in his life; reads the Word of God consistently; seeks, asks for and uses God's wisdom; is sincere and cares deeply; has godly friends and stays accountable; knows how to forgive; finds his acceptance in Jesus; prays for others; helps others succeed; knows the difference between ambition and vision; is able to articulate vision; possesses and sense of urgency for God's work; stands on strong convictions; is kind; has a growing love for Jesus; loves his family; loves his church; recognizes the value in others; shares information well; has above average character; uses his influence for the good of others; is skillful and competent; is not afraid for others to succeed even at the risk of being outshone; serves others with no thought of reward; continues to learn; remains accessible, approachable and accountable to others and is visionary, always looking toward the future. Other characteristics include honesty, integrity, purity, courageousness, confidence, humility, kindness, compassion, loyalty and responsibility.
- A person of character and integrity who is godly, innovative, compassionate, charismatic, loyal, humble, servant-minded, filled with the Holy Spirit and who has a sense of humor and has the ability to preach and disciple, remaining available to all the congregation.
- A good leader who is strong in motivating people – someone good at PR.
- He or she should be a wordsmith with good verbal communication skills and who can use proper English. He or she should have a keen knowledge of the Bible and the beliefs and practices of the Disciples of Christ denomination. He or she should have a deep understanding of the Disciples of Christ denomination's history. He or she should have a commitment to the well-being of the congregation. He or she should have the flexibility to change to the needs of the congregation by accepting new ideas and yet still relating to the core of faith.
- He or she should have a personal relationship with Christ. He or she should be compassionate and encouraging to others and should have a good character. He or she should recognize members' gifts and be able to relate to the varying age groups. He or she must be a visionary to lead the church where it needs to go.
- A superhero! A person who is a good listener, trustworthy, unafraid to try new things, a true Bible scholar, a sincere and caring person with concern for the congregation and the community. Maybe a person who has a spouse and children so we can get several good things for the price of one.

- Along with the other qualifications and general expectations in the minister's job description, he or she should have the ability to inspire and teach in sermons based on scripture and in regular Bible study programs. He or she should also have the ability to preach eloquently, but in a way that everyone can understand.

**Question 4: Describe the person you think should be the next pastor of our congregation.**

- We can never find a perfect person (except Jesus) but our minister should embody a lot of the characteristics we listed above in question three.
- A person who embodies the gifts and characteristics we described.
- A person with some experience who is personable and comes across as a natural leader.
- A person who is educated, dedicated to the attributes of our community, willing to stay current with national trends in the Disciples of Christ denomination, has an open door policy, is technologically savvy, willing to live in a rural community and enjoy its advantages and willing to take criticism constructively.
- See the criteria above.
- All of the above characteristics, plus being loving, approachable, open-minded and able to relate to every age/generation.
- A person who fervently believes in the Bible and enthusiastically shows it. Someone who can relate to the different age groups in the congregation, particularly young people, and excite them about the message in the Bible and the mission of the church.