

ASSESSMENT WEEKEND
November 16, 2006

CONFLICT RESOLUTION ROLEPLAY

Thursday, 1:30 PM

Length: 1 1/2 hour

Scenarios:

The Worship War

Agenda Item: There are leading people in the congregation, who are good supporters of the church financially, that do not like the move toward new worship music and the use of a band and worship team. There is currently a blend of traditional and new music with the band and the worship team.

Motion made and seconded: Our church will not use computer projection of song words, or overheads. If it is not in the hymnbook or in Master Chorus book 1 or 2, we won't use it. One song leader is sufficient--no worship team, guitars are ok, but we won't allow drums.

Pastor's position: for new worship music and the use of a band, worship team, and video projection.

Antagonist's position: Strong supporter of the motion and adamant about pleasing the people we already have in the church.

The Pastoral Time Clock

Agenda Item: There have been complaints that the pastor is not working enough, is not available enough to the people of the congregation, and just isn't doing his job adequately.

The Motion made and seconded: The pastor will be in the church office from 8AM to 3PM on Monday through Friday and will make hospital calls and home visits between 3PM and 5PM. He will also have committee meetings, board meetings and visitation nights on Tuesday and Thursday, with Prayer Meeting on Wednesday. Saturday will be his day off.

Pastor's position: There is no way to put the pastor on such a rigid schedule due to the unpredictability of the ministry. From there, you choose your own position.

Antagonist's position: He or she made the motion and wants to know that the church is "getting their money's worth" out of the pastor. The antagonist is a manager working 70 hours a week, so feels that his / her pastor should be doing the same.

The Clean Walls

Agenda Item: The church has just finished a \$50,000 complete church renovation process. There are those that feel that it is vital to keep it perfect, as it is now. Others believe that the church should start going out into the community and bringing children from needy families since God has blessed them with such wonderful facilities.

The Motion made and seconded: The church will put together a committee to set up a Facility Usage Policy with their purpose being how we can maintain the quality of our facilities that we now enjoy. Before that vote is taken you are to have discussion of the types of things that need to be in such a policy.

Pastor's position: He only sees the need for a policy for usage of the facilities for when outside groups wish to use the building. Not for when the church is actually using its own facilities for ministry and outreach.

Antagonist's position: Cleanliness is next to Godliness. Have you seen THESE PEOPLE'S homes?? We don't want our church looking like that! What would the new people who have been coming and who are up and coming in our community think if the building starts to look ragged?

The Unmarried Mother

Agenda Item: The church has always had a baby shower for anyone in the church who is having a baby. The ladies enjoy getting together, bringing in gifts, playing word games, and eating. However, a new girl to the church who is 18, single, and dropped out of high school is having a baby. Some feel that they should reach out to the girl with a shower and others feel that this would only reward immoral behavior.

The Motion made and seconded: We will have baby showers only for married mothers who were married prior to getting pregnant.

Pastor's position: Your primary concern is compassion and evangelism. You are less worried about people getting the wrong message.

Antagonist's position: The church cannot appear weak when it comes to morals. We can't do anything that would appear to be in any way approving of immoral behavior.

The Ineffective Sunday Evenings

Agenda Item: Attendance has been declining on Sunday evenings, but those who attend feel very strongly that it must continue. They remember when Sunday nights were evangelistic in nature and believe that they should be again.

The Motion made and seconded: We will continue to have regular services on Sunday evenings and work harder to bring non-Christians in and win them to Christ.

Pastor's position: You would love to see the church move to meeting on Sunday evenings in homes in small groups, believing that more people will be involved, and that there is a higher likelihood of the unchurched coming to their friend's home.

Antagonist's position: It would be an unholy decision to quit having services on Sunday evening. All "holiness churches" have Sunday evening service. We don't want to get like those liberal congregations who don't have the Sunday evening service, anymore.

Schedule sample

6:30 to 6:40 Introduction

6:45 to 7:00 Scenario #1

7:00 to 7:15 Scenario #2

7:15 to 7:30 Scenario #3

7:30 to 7:45 Scenario #4

7:45 to 8:00 Scenario #5

Procedure:

5 10 minute role plays with each having a "pastor" and church board situation. One of the other 4 participants will be assigned the role to be the "antagonist." 5 minutes in between for evaluation and new role handouts.