

Interview – Pastoral Skills

Pa1. Meets monthly with advanced coach.

Are you willing to meet monthly with your assigned advanced coach?

Pa2. Completes 24 monthly praxis exercises.

Let's review the praxis curriculum. Which ones have you done? Which ones did you feel competent in doing? What "scares" you about the ones you haven't done?

Pa3. Annually purchases and reads at least one book on practical ministry.

What are you reading currently in regard to improving your skills as a minister?

Pa4. Conducts or observes a board meeting.

What is your leadership style in regard to working with your local church leaders? Give an example of a difficult issue that you and the local leaders successfully confronted and tell why you were successful. Give an example of an issue that has not been handled successfully and analyze why.

Pa5. Leads a ministry in the local church.

Have you initiated a new ministry in the local church? Describe the ministry and the steps you took to get it accepted by the congregation.

Pa6. Participates in a wedding.

What do you do when someone comes to you and asks you to marry them? What issues concern you in regard to performing weddings for the immature? The previously divorced? The unchurched?

Pa7. Participates in a funeral.

How do you provide comfort to the grieving family before, during, and after the funeral? How does the funeral fit into the Great Commission?

Pa8. Participates in at least two baptismal services.

What is the significance of baptism? Have you thought about the issue of corporate versus private baptismal services? How can this be a time for outreach?

Pa9. Participates in at least two communion services.

What is the significance of the Lord's Supper? Do you personalize the service or simply read the ritual from the Manual? How can communion be an evangelistic tool?

Pa10. Plans and leads at least twelve worship services.

Why do we gather for worship? What are the issues that most concern you when it comes to planning a worship service? How do you deal with the identification of worship style with the music? Do you integrate all the components of worship into a single focus (i.e., do you understand how each component fits with the others so that worship is a cohesive whole and not a series of separate events?)?

Pa11. Preaches and videotapes at least twelve sermons, submitting them for critique. How would you describe your style of preaching? Do you get positive feedback or do you get none or negative feedback from the congregation? How often do you give altar calls (i.e., do you preach for a decision of some sort)?

Pa12. Chairs a committee or board.

Are you familiar with basic rules for chairing a meeting? What do you do when someone wants to make a motion that you don't want to deal with? Do you know when it is proper to go into "executive session"? When can a non-board member attend a board meeting?

Pa13. Serves on a committee or board as a member.

Would you consider yourself a good follower of someone else's leadership? As a leader, do you know how to empower others to lead? What is the difference between empowerment and delegation?

Pa14. Volunteers as a youth counselor at teen or family camp.

Pa15. Volunteers as a children's counselor at kids or family camp.

Pa16. Volunteers as staff for family camp.

Why is it important for a leader to lead by example? Are you willing to volunteer for responsibilities on the district level? How would you convince your church board that your participation is important and beneficial to the local church?

Pa17. Attends Shepherds' Advance each month, unless reasonably hindered.
How important is continuing education to you?

Pa18. Completes personal evangelism training.
Do you know how to lead someone to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? Have you led someone to Christ?

Pa19. Develops materials and conducts pre-marital counseling.
What are you using for pre-marital counseling?

Pa20. Makes hospital visits prior to, on day of, and following a surgery.
Pa21. Makes visit and serves communion to elderly in nursing or assisted-living facility.
Do you make pastoral visits on those going into surgery, to those recovering at home, and to shut-ins? What is your greatest joy in doing this? What is your greatest fear or dislike?

Pa22. Visits at least six families within a week of their visit to the local church.
Pa23. Visits at least six families who regularly attend the local church.
How important is pastoral visitation to you in regard to building relationships with the congregation? In regard to reaching out to the visitor? What about visiting those who have never been to your church (i.e., a referral, cold calling, an unchurched relative or friend of a regular attender)?

Pa24. Meets with at least six individuals to discuss their involvement in a ministry.
How do you recruit people for ministry in the local church? What if they say “no”. How do you deal with the situation where a slot needs to be filled but no spiritually-gifted person is available?

Pa25. Administers a spiritual gifts inventory to at least six people, discussing results with them.
Do you know the spiritual gifts of your leadership? Are people serving in the area of their spiritual gifts?

Pa26. Attends at least one conference or seminar on church health.
Pa27. Visits at least one larger church, meeting to discuss their mission with pastor and key leaders.
Pa28. Visits at least one smaller church, meeting to discuss their mission with pastor and key leaders.
Pa29. Interviews three active pastors on leadership, conflict resolution, and being missional.
Pa30. Attends at least one conference or seminar outside zone and district.
What are you doing to encourage your local church leadership and membership to grow in their understanding of the church and its mission?

Pa31. Other:

Pa32. Other:

Pa33. Other:

Pa34. Other:

Pa35. Other: