

3. If you were not serving as a pastor, what kind of ministry do you think God might call you into?

4. If you were suddenly taken sick or had to leave the area, what information would a new pastor need in order to step in smoothly?
 - a. Gather that information in one place and clearly label it, “In Case the Pastor Cannot Serve.”
 - b. Make sure church leaders know where to find it.
 - c. Make sure they understand that it’s just in case of emergency. You don’t want them to think you’re secretly planning to leave!

5. If you are part of a denomination or group that has a policy for how to handle accusations of wrongdoing against pastors:
 - a. Do you know the policy?
 - b. Do your leaders know it?
 - c. Are you comfortable with the policy, in case an accusation is brought against you?

6. If your church does not have a policy for handling accusations against pastors:
 - a. Which churches or groups will you look at as models for a policy your church might adopt?
 - b. What steps will you take to raise the issue with your leaders and help them see the need for it?

APPLYING CHAPTER 11

1. Which of these rules are your favorites? Why?

2. Think of some times you neglected one of these rules. What happened?

3. What rules would you add to the list?
4. Are there any rules you think should be removed from this list? Why?

APPLYING CHAPTER 12

1. In your church, who is officially responsible for deciding the direction of the church's ministry?
 - a. Is that really how it works, or does another person or group actually make those decisions?
 - b. If "officially" is different from "actually," is the difference important enough for you to do something about it? If yes, what might you do?
2. List all the people you turn to for help in discerning God's direction and priorities for your church and your ministry.
 - a. Why do you turn to those people?
 - b. How do you work with them to find God's direction?
 - c. Compare this list to the official decision-makers of your church. What do you learn from that?
3. Reread your answers to questions #2-6 in "Applying Chapter 1." In light of this chapter, would you add to or change any of those answers?
4. In making decisions, does your leadership team use voting, consensus, or some other method? Is that working well for you and your mission?
5. Does your church have a strategic or long-range planning process?
 - a. If so, is it working well?
 - b. Can you think of any way to make the process better?
 - c. If you don't have a planning process, ask God if you should consider implementing one.