

QUESTIONS FOR ORDINATION/CONSECRATION

PERSONAL HISTORY

1. State your family background, your father's and mother's vocation and relationship with you.
2. Share your experience of conversion, baptism, and any subsequent significant spiritual experience.
3. What is your personal pattern of devotional prayer and Bible study?
4. What is your family devotional pattern related to your wife and family?
5. Relate your experience in determining "God's call" to the ministry.
6. What evidence have you seen of God's blessing on your ministry?
7. What particular strengths/weaknesses have emerged in your first years of ministry?
8. Do you, as a general rule, find it easy to get along with other people? How do you evaluate yourself in relationships with other people?
9. What is your attitude about stewardship and the personal use of money?
10. How do you define success in ministry?

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

11. Define and distinguish between revelation, inspiration, and illumination.
12. Explain the relationship between the Word of God and Scripture.
13. What is your opinion of extra-biblical revelation?
14. How do revelation and divine guidance relate?
15. What is your position and understanding of scriptural inerrancy?
16. What does the concept "canon" mean?
17. What is your understanding of the criteria used for determining which books were included/excluded in the canon?
18. How would you respond to the charge that the doctrine of the inspiration of Scripture is irrelevant since "all we possess are very faulty copies and translations of the original documents of biblical authors?"
19. How necessary is Scripture to correct church practice and doctrine?
20. Explain how Scripture is relevant to the average person in your church.

THE TRINITY

21. List several biblical passages, which give basis for the doctrine of the Trinity and indicate why you feel they are significant.
22. Why do we confess “there is one God?”
23. Why do we confess that God exists “in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit?”
24. List three attributes of God and show from Scripture how they are evident in each person of the Trinity.
25. Are there any particular attributes truly unique to each person?
26. How do the three persons relate to creation? revelation? salvation? the Church?
27. What contemporary theological positions raise serious questions for the traditional doctrine of the Trinity?
28. What contemporary cultic groups evidence deviation from the traditional doctrine of the Trinity?

PERSON OF GOD

29. Give a biblical definition of “God.” (John 4:24; Hebrews 12:29; I John 1:5; I John 4:8).
30. What is the basis for the Christian belief that God is a person?
31. Name some of the attributes of God.
32. Give a few scriptural incidents that reveal these attributes.
33. Explain the meaning of “holy” in reference to God and tell why it underlies all else in the character of God.
34. Explain the terms theism, deism, atheism, humanism.
35. What are some of the evidences and arguments for the existence of God?
36. How does God maintain a personal relationship with His creatures?
37. What is your belief concerning God, creationism and evolution?

PERSON OF CHRIST

38. State some of the names referring to Christ (Messiah, Lord, Jesus, etc.) and explain their meanings.
39. Why do you believe Christ is Lord?
40. What is meant by the preexistence of Christ? Is He eternal? Does He have beginning or end?
41. What are the fundamental characteristics of His person?

42. Explain how the historic Christ was conscious of His divinity.
43. How is the person of Christ dealt with in the Old Testament?
44. How may it be proved that Christ was really a man?
45. How do you account for the fact that Christ had both a divine nature and human nature?
46. Why are both natures essential to the person of Christ?
47. How do you know that Christ is alive today?

THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

48. How does our Lord's teaching concerning the Holy Spirit indicate that He is a person?
49. What qualities and ministries, possible only for a person, are attributed to Him?
50. How is the personality of the Holy Spirit expressed by His activity in the early Church? In the Old Testament?
51. Why is belief in the personality of the Holy Spirit essential to orthodoxy?
52. What are the gifts of the Holy Spirit?
53. How are these gifts given to the Church?
54. Differentiate between the fruit and the gifts of the Spirit.
55. In what measure are the gifts that were exercised by the Apostles manifest today?
56. What is the relationship between the baptism with the Holy Spirit and the filling with the Holy Spirit? Give biblical support to your answer.
57. What are the lessons to be learned and the errors to be shunned by the evangelical church in light of the charismatic movement and its emphasis on the baptism and gifts of the Spirit?

THE ATONEMENT

58. Give a definition of atonement.
59. Where did the plan of the atonement originate?
60. What attributes of God moved Him to provide for the atonement? Explain from Scripture.
61. What aspects of man's condition made the atonement necessary? Explain.
62. How could God justly put man's sin upon an innocent victim?
63. What qualified Christ for being such an offering?
64. Could anyone other than Christ have made an acceptable offering?
65. What assurance do we have that the offering was acceptable to God?
66. Is there any limitation concerning who may benefit from the atonement of Christ?

67. Can the atonement in any way be effective in human lives where the gospel is unknown?

JUSTIFICATION

68. Give a definition of justification.

69. What is the basis on which God justifies the sinner?

70. Identify and discuss the primary Scripture passages, which teach the concept of justification.

71. What is the nature of the change brought about by justification?

72. Describe the relationship between justification and regeneration.

REGENERATION

73. Give a definition of regeneration.

74. Identify and discuss some Scripture passages, which teach about regeneration.

75. Who performs the work of regeneration?

76. What attitudes must be present in the individual before regeneration can take place?

77. What is the nature of the change brought about by regeneration?

78. What is the continuing purpose of regeneration in one's personal life?

SANCTIFICATION

79. Give a definition of the term sanctification.

80. What has sanctification meant in your personal life?

81. What is the relationship between justification and sanctification?

82. What significance does sanctification have to your lifestyle?

83. Why must holiness be a characteristic of God's people?

84. What is meant by positional sanctification?

85. What is meant by experiential sanctification?

86. Explain why there is a crisis connected with experiential sanctification.

87. In what way is progression connected with experiential sanctification?

88. In what way is the believer "dead to sin and alive to God?"

89. What steps would you develop through discipleship to lead your people into sanctification?

90. What relationship does sanctification have to Christian service?

91. What is meant by the phrase "the indwelling Christ?"

92. What are scriptural evidences of a sanctified life?

93. How does sanctification relate to the Lordship of Christ?

HEALING

94. Explain the phrase “healing in the atonement.”

95. What do you believe concerning the healing ministry of the church for this day?

96. What procedure should be followed to minister to the sick who request prayer for healing?

97. Is the “gift of healing” manifest in the church today?

98. In the church body, who is scripturally obligated to take the initiative in the ministry of anointing and praying for the sick?

99. In the anointing and prayer ministry for the sick by the elders, what does “the prayer of faith” mean?

100. What is your theology of suffering?

101. How would you counsel a believer who has followed the instructions of James 5 and is still seeking a miraculous healing?

102. How does the obedience of the believer relate to the ministry of healing?

103. How is the problem of sin related to the problem of sickness?

104. What is the difference between miraculous healing and divine life for the believer?

105. What is your understanding of the difference between faith healing and divine healing?

THE RETURN OF THE LORD

106. What biblical passages have been major factors in developing your convictions concerning the second coming of Christ and related events?

107. On what basis do you believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will personally and physically return to earth?

108. How will the second coming of Christ differ from His first coming?

109. What are the differences between the doctrines of premillennialism, post-millennialism, and amillennialism?

110. Do you hold a premillennial view? Why?

111. When do you believe I Thessalonians 4:16 will occur? What is the ministry of the church before and after the described event? Substantiate your particular view with additional Scripture.

112. What scriptural terminology is used to describe the Great Tribulation?

113. Define and give scriptural evidences of the imminence of Christ’s return.

114. In what ways will Christ be manifest as judge to the believer and to the unbeliever?

- 115. What is the relationship between Israel and the Church?
- 116. What will be the status of Israel in the kingdom that Christ will set up?
- 117. What events will occur during the millennium and after the millennium?

THE RESURRECTION

- 118. What does the term resurrection mean?
- 119. Is it possible for a resurrection to occur without a physical body?
- 120. What is the basis for your belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ?
- 121. How important is the doctrine of the resurrection to the Christian faith?
- 122. What is the relationship between the resurrection of Jesus Christ and future resurrection?
- 123. What does the Apostle Paul have to say about resurrection in I Corinthians 15?
- 124. What happens to the believer when he is resurrected? to the unbeliever?
- 125. What does the Bible mean by the “first resurrection?”
- 126. What is the biblical doctrine of heaven?

THE LOSTNESS OF MAN

- 127. What does the Bible teach concerning the lostness of man and the inevitable result of lostness?
- 128. What is the future destiny of those who die without ever hearing the gospel?
- 129. What does the Bible teach about hell? Is it literal?
- 130. What does eternal punishment involve?
- 131. Is there any possibility of salvation after death?

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

- 132. Have you read and are you in full support of the Statement of Faith as found in the current Manual of the Christian and Missionary Alliance?
- 133. How do you purpose to evangelize the lost at home and abroad?
- 134. In what way will you teach and preach the doctrine of eschatology?
- 135. How will you deal with controversial theological issues within the evangelical community in your church?

THE DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH

136. What Is the Church?
137. What is the purpose and function of the local church assembly?
138. What is the scriptural mission of the church? Relate your answer to our understanding of the Great Commission.
139. What does it mean to “make followers of Christ” and what is the process to accomplish that purpose?
140. What are you doing in your church to “win” lost people to Christ?
141. What are you doing in your church to “build” believers up in their faith?
142. What are you doing in the church to “equip” people in your church to care for and share their faith with their peers?
143. What are you doing in your church to “multiply” and train leaders to oversee the disciple-making mission of the church and its ministries?
144. What are you doing to “send” called ones to plant churches in a neighboring community or city and internationally?
145. What is your understanding of the church as an organism, and as an organization?
146. What is the biblical basis for a reproducing church?
147. Why is it necessary for the church to grow?
148. What is the future of the church?
149. What is the procedure for church discipline?
150. What is the function of the pastor in church leadership?
151. What are the qualifications and functions of elders?
152. State several requirements for church leadership from Scripture.

ALLIANCE MISSION AND VISION

153. What is the mission of The Christian and Missionary Alliance?
154. How do you reflect this mission in the life of your congregation?
155. What is the vision of the President of The Christian and Missionary Alliance?
156. How are you as a congregation or leader incorporated the ‘themes’ of this vision into what you are trying to accomplish?

ALLIANCE CHURCH GOVERNMENT

- 157. What is the form of local church government in The Christian and Missionary Alliance?
- 158. In what way is the local church related to General Council and District Conference?
- 159. What is the role and function of the district superintendent as it relates to you and your church?

ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

- 160. What is the overall objective of Alliance international church planting and missionary work?
- 161. In what way is the task of Alliance missions also your personal responsibility?
- 162. How have you included the missionary emphasis in your regular preaching and church programming?
- 163. In what sense does the Christian calling involve a missionary obligation for every believer and every church?
- 164. In what ways do you encourage the sending out of “called ones” to participate either short term or long term in missions?
- 165. What is the importance of an annual missionary conference to your local church and to The Christian and Missionary Alliance?
- 166. In what other ways do you promote missions to your congregation?
- 167. Why do we use the Faith Promise concept for giving to the Great Commission Fund?
- 168. What is the primary role of Alliance missionaries overseas?
- 169. How do you plan to instill in your congregation the necessity of missionary intercession?

ALLIANCE CHURCH MINISTRIES

- 170. What resources have you used from Church Ministries that have been helpful to you?
- 171. Can you articulate the philosophy of ministry embraced by Church Ministries and The Christian and Missionary Alliance?
- 172. What impact is the national and district church planting emphasis having on you and your congregation?
- 173. How will you lead your church to reproduce itself by planting a daughter congregation?
- 174. What is your specific understanding of the district’s church planting process?
- 175. What specific actions will you take to impact your Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and earth’s unreached people groups?
- 176. Are you willing to release workers as the Lord would call them to be part of a new church plant?

CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY IN THE C&MA

177. Define “constituted authority” as understood in The Alliance. Give a biblical basis for constituted authority.
178. What is your relationship with your district superintendent?
179. Are you willing to serve under the leadership of a district superintendent?
180. What difference is there in being led by the Spirit and being subject to recognized authority in the church?
181. In New Testament terminology, what is your attitude towards those over you in the Lord?
182. Do you regard the legislation of General Council and District Conference as binding upon you, even though your opinions and desires may be otherwise?
183. Why is it important for the pastor to attend General Council and District Conference?
184. What would your attitude and anticipated action be if your superintendent suggested that you make a change in your place of ministry?
185. If the majority of your governing board desired your resignation and you felt otherwise, what would you do?
186. What is the proper procedure for submitting a pastoral resignation?
187. What procedure should be followed in seeking opportunity to candidate in another church?
188. If you should become personally involved in doctrines contrary to Alliance teaching, what would be your procedure?
189. Is your desire to be identified with the work of The Christian and Missionary Alliance a settled, God-given conviction?

PASTORAL ETHICS AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

190. In what sense is the pastor called to be a shepherd?
191. What is servant leadership as described in Scripture?
192. What is the relationship between the pastor and the governing board?
193. How would you begin to deal with a conflict between you and a board member?
194. Describe the procedure you would follow if you had a conflict with a church member.
195. What is your procedure in counseling with persons of the opposite sex?
196. How do you manage your work commitments?
197. What is your attitude toward financial indebtedness?
198. What is your feeling about developing personal friendships in ministry?

199. What is your attitude about your personal convictions that may conflict with those of the church you serve?
200. What does the Scripture mean when it says to “avoid all appearance of evil?”
201. When you leave a particular church would you continue contact and relationships with people in the church for the purpose of giving advice and/or counsel?
202. Have you and are you still maintaining a personal accountability relationship? Who is that person(s)? What is that relationship like?