

AN APPRAISAL OF THE MINISTER'S INTEGRITY
AS A FACTOR FOR EFFECTIVE PASTORAL MINISTRY

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ABSTRACT

This piece of work is set out to appraise how Minister's Integrity affect his effectiveness in the Pastoral Ministry. This research work used Primary source of data collection which is considered generally to be the ideal method. Questionnaire was the only instrument used in this research work to collect information. The questionnaire was distributed among ten churches in Ogbomoso South Local Government Area of which five were Baptist churches and five non-Baptist churches- with the aim of collecting information about personal data of respondents as related to An Appraisal of the Minister's Integrity as a Factor for Effective Pastoral Ministry.

It was discovered that integrity is an essential factor which play a vital role in the Minister's effectiveness in pastoral Ministry. It also revealed that a minister with integrity, however, must endeavour to manage time well, has good home control and good reputation in the society. In addition to that ministers must be aware that whatever they preached must be practiced. The work also revealed that much is required from the ministers as one talks of speech, relationship, respect and the kind of Christian imager showing to the people in the society. As a result, ministers need to be conscious of their integrity for their ways of life, what church members see them do or hear ministers say go along way to influence the life of the members either in a negative or positive manners. Ministers are also to watch their integrity when it come set or the society to which they belong; in time management in attitudes towards money or wealth acquisition and of course in every sphere of human life.

Above all, Ministers should see Jesus as model of Integrity in the Pastoral Ministry. Hence, there is need for Ministers Association to address this issue of Pastoral Integrity and its role in the Minister's Effectiveness in Pastoral Ministry in their annual conferences and retreats.

Conclusion

In conclusion, concerns for the ministerial integrity of the ministers in the Pastoral Ministry should be taken with every sense of responsibility. These are to be taken as noble challenge for them to engaged in modeling their character and pattern it toward Christ-likeness. Knowing fully well that integrity is very much essential for ministers to be effective in the Pastoral Ministry, they needs to participate fully in

valuing their integrity. They would be found fit and relevant if they could consider some recommendations below.

Recommendation

The following recommendations are made for the purpose of this work:

1. Ministers in the Pastoral Ministry should be conscious of their integrity and adhere to life style that refrains from tarnishing the image of God in the Pastoral Ministry. Through this souls can be won for Christ.
2. Effectiveness in the pastoral ministry is inevitable; therefore, ministers should hold their integrity in high esteem in various life challenges in the ministry. They should endeavour to live out what is been preached that the preaching way have impact in the life of the heavens.
3. Ministers should be courteous of their life style in the midst of their members as they lead and nature spiritually that members too may develop and grow spiritually.
4. Love of money is the root of all evil and it is capable of destroying ones integrity in the profession, therefore ministers should be moderate in their love or desire for wealth acquisition. All wealth acquired should be according to God's will.
5. Ministers should be well educated on the significant of integrity as related to their relationship with others, their family up keep involvement in the immoral acts and time management.
6. The writer of this research work recommends that further studies should be carried out on this study. Effort should be made to sanitize Christian's community through minister's integrity.