

**THE MINISTER OF MUSIC IN THE CONTEXT OF MULTI-
STAFF MINISTRY IN A LOCAL NIGERIAN BAPTIST
CONVENTION CHURCH**

NBTS
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AN ESSAY PRESENTED TO THE

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READ AND APPROVED BY

**IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
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music is one in which both servants of God must work with collegiality, support and encouragement for the other pastor.”¹

To the church ministers of music, they should admit that they have a lot to endure as first generation of church musician in the Convention and a lot to put in place for the coming generations. They should be committed to their calling, be united among themselves till the hearts of many are penetrated and are able to trust ministers of music the more.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to the short existence of the position of minister of music in the Convention, the researchers have the following recommendations; to these quarters the minister of music, the Seminary, the pastors and the Convention.

To The Minister Of Music

1. **Relationship:** Every minister of music should learn to maintain good relationship irrespective of the person they are called to work with. It will be advantageous if he can make a home in any ministry involvements, admit that he is a wife who married legally and should not divorce but continues to love the senior pastor whether he behaves well or not.
2. **Patience:** In case of a new pastorate, minister of music as an agent of change should not be in haste to make a change. He

¹ Paul O. Davidson, Lecture At Supervised Ministry Large Group, Ognomoso Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary, 4 March 1998.

can effect whatever he wishes by being strategic and prayerful. The process of being patient is also to study the church, other pastoral staff.

3. **Team Work:** Ministers of music should work with his/her fellow minister of music to constitute a body who provides information for the Convention, and to serve as a music resource persons. Everybody should try to make his works available through printing. There could be periodicals where issues are discussed to guide our churches.
4. **Set Priorities:** Priority could be that every chorister should be able to sight-sing by the end of my second year in this church and so forth. The purpose of this is to guide the minister of music in daily activities.
5. **The Bible:** Beyond music activities, every minister of music must soak his/herself into the study of the word of God. Because music ministry meant more than music activities.
6. **Point of Demarcation:** The minister of music should know he is a pastor but has an office under another pastor to whom he is accountable. He should not struggle for any other ministry except when he is called to do so, especially, preaching or Bible studies.
7. **Readiness:** The duties of the minister of music are artistic and requires demonstration of skill through performances. He should therefore be at alert to face any ministerial

challenges through constant – continuous practice of his instrument or vocalizes.

8. **Holiness:** Every minister of music should follow the biblical teachings of God's holiness and Godliness to the letter. We are God's servant purposely to please Him by what we do and how we relate. The nature of church music attract more women than, men. Therefore, a minister of music should watch how he relates with his members to prevent immoralities. If immoralities should be spoken off, it should not be about a minister of music.
9. **Self Development:** Growth is daily, as minister of music seeks to develop his church. He should consciously look for a way of developing himself by reading, writing, mixing with others, listening and practicing. Other area of development include computer literacy and its application to the music ministry, also internet.
10. **Self Control:** In case of any misunderstanding, minister of music should seek to settle such dispute with the senior pastor. He should not share with the church members or deacons.
11. **Contentment and Gratefulness:** A minister of music should be grateful to God for his noble calling and be contented likewise. He should face the reality and make full proof of his calling. Also, he should avoid pride and being used against the senior pastor.

12. **Correction:** He should be happy to listen to the advice of his senior pastor and never appear to be wiser than he is.
13. **Humility Personified:** Just as Christ demonstrated humility and obedience to God till the point of death, so also a minister of music must be humble and do away with anything of pride.
14. **Conviction:** Be sure of your calling, depend upon the Holy Spirit for the fulfillment of that calling and be steadfast in prayers to God.
15. **Shock:** Every minister of music should read Things They Didn't Tell Me About Being A Minister of Music by C. Harry Causey. There are lots of surprises, which will face anybody who is into associate ministry, but that individual must be prepared to handle such challenge to the glory of God.
16. Whatever the experience might be presently for the minister of music, he should just know that his among the first generation and must be ready to endure the situations. By and by, the situation will be alright.

To The Seminary

- A. The first part (section "A") is for the seminary while the second part (section "B") will be for the faculty of the church music itself.
 1. Apart from 2001 Ministers' Conference which centered on multi-staff ministry, the Seminary should think of another Ministers' Conference on the same issue as a follow-up.

There is that strong tendency for the memory and effectiveness of 2001's Ministers' Conference emphasis to have faded away.

2. The Seminary could make multi-staff ministry as a minimester or a regular semester course. It is very evident now more than ever before that the multi-staff ministry is the talk of the day, the new hope and the new ministry approach in our great Convention. The Seminary should try to remove the notion that I am the overall boss or "minister in charge" when I am in my church from the mentality of her theological students. This was true many years ago but now irrelevant in the context of multiple-staff ministry. This kind of course will definitely help. Peradventure the course is arranged for minimester, it will give room for pastors in the field to participate.
3. There are many old Pianos that needed to be replaced or be thoroughly repaired while more instruments like guitars, saxophones and indigenous instruments needed to be purchased. The music calling requires skill to make a minister of music function effectively. For the Seminary to produce able and sound minister of music she needs to invest in providing all the equipment.
4. During the Seminary semester spiritual retreat, a minister of music could be called upon to lead any worship related

