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**Board of Ministry Interview Questions**

**YEAR TWO - SCOPE & SEQUENCE**

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|  | **Year One** | **Year Two** | **Year Three** | **Year Four** |
| **Articles of Faith** | I-IV | V-VIII | IX-XII | XIII-XVI |
| **Covenant of Christian Character** | 21.1 (1-4) | 21.1 (5-7), 21.2 (1) | 21.2 (2-5) | 21.2 (6-8), 21.3 |
| **Covenant of Christian Conduct** | The Christian  Life | Sanctity of Human  Life | Human Sexuality and  Marriage | Christian  Stewardship |
| **Core Behaviors\*** | Win One | Disciple One | Start One | Reproduce One |
| **Special Focus** | District Culture | Global Church | Funding The Mission | Women in Ministry |

It is necessary for a candidate to personally demonstrate competency in these four behaviors before interviewing for ordination. Wesley taught us that the Holy Spirit bears witness to us objectively and subjectively. Objectivity comes through Scripture and the study of the Word, where the Holy Spirit will bear witness in our spirit. Subjectivity is our personal experience outside of Scripture with the testimony of the Holy Spirit, who bears witness in our life. In other words, what is your answer from scripture, and how do you live?

1. **Articles of Faith  
     
   Article 5: We believe that “sin is of two kinds: original sin and personal sin.” How would you explain the difference between an “inherited propensity” toward sin and the “voluntary violation of a known law of God” as an act of sin? (Please explain the difference between the sin nature and acts of sin)**

**Article 6: We believe that Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross made “full atonement for all human sin.” Contrast Old and New Testament covenants, rituals and scriptures to establish Christ’s atonement as “the only ground of salvation.” (Hebrews is an excellent point of reference for “side by side” comparison of Levitical practices vs. Jesus’ sacrifice)**

**Article 7: We believe that Prevenient Grace, the grace that goes before, is God’s gift for a depraved humanity that cannot choose faith in God in their own natural strength. Talk about the significance of this Wesleyan distinctive in the Church of the Nazarene.**

**Article 8: We most often speak of and teach the repentance of sinners as “a sincere and thorough change of the mind in regard to sin.” But Wesley also taught the repentance of believers. What did he mean by that? What is the difference between the repentance of a sinner and repentance in a sanctified believer?**

1. **Covenant of Christian Character**

**21.1 (5) Discuss how compassionate ministry shows “evidence of salvation by a godly walk and vital piety”.**

**21.1 (6) How would you explain tithing as a biblical principle of Christian stewardship to a membership class?**

**21.1 (7) How would you emphasize the importance of the spiritual disciplines (worship, the sacraments, devotions, prayer, discipleship, etc.) as they relate to Christian maturity?**

**21.2 (1) What does it mean to take God’s name in vain?**

1. **Covenant of Christian Conduct  
     
   B. Sanctity of Human Life  
     
   We believe that “from the moment of conception, a child is a human being with all the developing characteristics of human life” and is “therefore, to be nurtured, supported, and protected.” Talk about the ministry steps of a community of faith to a young woman in crisis with an unwanted pregnancy.**
   * 1. **A seventeen-year-old girl in your youth group is pregnant in her Senior Year of High School. What would be your counsel if she asked if she should abort the baby, keep the baby or seek an adoption family? (Her parents do NOT attend your church) The girl is also the only one of her family attending your church. She is active in the youth group, sings on the praise team and is planning to go to NYC after the baby is born. You have a teachable moment! How you respond will impact the youth group, her unchurched family and the rest of the church. How do you see the sanctity of life informing how you counsel the many layers of this situation?**

**30.4 Why is cloning a moral issue?**

**30.5 How would you counsel an 87 year-old widower suffering from a painful terminal cancer, with no cure in sight, asking you what you believed about ending his life mercifully?**

**30.6 You’ve been invited into a family discussion about starting life support for a parent. The family members are divided on the decision. They turn to you for spiritual input and guidance. What is your response?**

**IV.** **Core Behaviors: Disciple One**

1. **Are there any programs or methods you have found effective in discipling new believers? Explain what you have used and how you are leading immature Christians to maturity in faith.**

**If for some reason you are not actively discipling new believers, what might that look like in your ministry?**

1. **Have you ever led someone into the experience of Entire Sanctification? Describe those conversations/encounters.**
2. **In your church membership class, you are being questioned on several issues. A new couple is asking you about 1) Same sex marriage and homosexuality, 2) social drinking and 3) occasional use of marijuana. How would you address those 3 areas? (A minimum of 200 words for each of these matters is requested)**
3. **You announce a new discipleship training time and promote it widely. NO ONE ATTENDS. Describe how to make disciples when no one seems to have the desire to be discipled?**
4. **Special Focus: Global Church**
5. **What would you say to a board member who wants to keep local monies/offerings at the local church and not send a portion of the contributions to support the World Evangelism Fund? How should we maintain a balance?**
6. **How do or would you promote these Global Mission initiatives to your congregation?** (We are seeking not what your present church is doing but what you would do if you were leading the church if indeed you are not presently).  
   1. **Compassionate Ministries**
   2. **Child Sponsorship**
   3. **Jesus Film/Harvest Partners**
   4. **Work and Witness**
   5. **Alabaster Offering**
   6. **World Mission Broadcast**
7. **There are many solid compassionate para-church organizations doing good work. (Samaritan’s Purse, Interserve, World Relief, etc.) What is our denominational advantage when promoting global mission giving/serving opportunities? (Why not promote para-church organizations?**
8. **Bonus Question:   
     
   We are part of a global church family. You are on a district ministerial credential team. Two Hispanic pastors are interviewed for a district credential and you learn they are both undocumented. (Both pastors are being used to grow congregations on your district!) The two Hispanic pastors are dismissed from the room. Someone on the district team wants to call federal officials and report two illegal immigrants. How do we balance immigration laws of the land and Christ-like care of our global church family?**