

Article Review: Ministers and Church Conflict Management in Pastoral Ministry

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Article Review

What is one concept that stood out to you in this article?

One concept that stood out to me in article is that the core of a relational pastor is the service provided to others, relating to the congregation with affirmed dignity and empowering a God-glorifying live (Olabade, 2016). For this to be realized, the minister must be willing to “die to self” and devote his time and resources to serving the congregation and not just think of himself. This means devoting the time and resources to handling church conflicts that arise. The pastor must be humble and be honest with himself and the congregation that there is a conflict, and take responsibility to resolve the conflict. This process involves “dieing to self”. Secondly, the pastor must treat the parties involved in the conflict with dignity and respect. Since we are all created in God’s image, all humans are deserving of respect and dignity. As a pastor, we must display appropriate words and actions. Third, we must represent God well to others when handling conflicts. We are “like salt” and need to live in a way that makes others thirsty for the word of God. We should “lead by example” and behave like we want our congregation to behave.

What implications does this concept have for leading in the church?

As discussed previously, as a pastor in the church, we must have good character and be humble. This means “dieing to self” and realizing that a conflict exists and doing what it takes to help resolve the conflict. That is devoting our time and resources to handle the conflict. In addition, we must use appropriate words and actions when communicating to others about the conflict and treat others with dignity and respect. Also, we must represent God well to others when handling conflicts.

What needs to change in your life as a result?

First need to be humble and “die to self”. Secondly be consistent with treating others with dignity and respect. Third “be like salt” and live in a way that makes others thirsty for the word of God.

References:

Olabode, Oladele. Ministers and Church Conflict Management in Pastoral Ministry, 2016.