

Request for Certification
Office of Church Advance
Alliance Transitional Ministries Network



PART TWO

The following questions are intended to determine the applicant's aptitude for intentional transitional ministry. There are no right or wrong answers. You may answer in the space provided or you may use a separate document to do so. However, please respond to each of the following questions as completely and as candidly as possible.

1. Give two examples of situations in your adult life (in or out of the church) where you had to stand for your faith, a value, or a moral principle even though it cost you something.
 - a.
 - b.
2. Identify a personal relationship in your role as a volunteer or church leader that broke down or ended in conflict. Describe how you came to understand your contribution to the problem.
3. Describe the single most important lesson you learned from the experience you described in the previous question (#2). How has that helped you since then, to establish healthy relationships.

4. Stress over a period of time can produce discouragement. How do you avoid becoming discouraged and defeated in ministry?

5. Describe your most typical reaction when someone disagrees with you.

6. If your group or church leaders had a “this is how we do it” reaction to most new ideas, how would you go about trying to convince them to adopt a different ministry approach that you thought was more effective?

7. There are three parts of preaching: researching and studying the passage, writing the sermon, and delivering the sermon. Even if you enjoy all three, which *one* do you enjoy the *most*? Explain why.

8. In a few sentences, describe a church you pastored that had deep conflicts or serious barriers to health. Now, did you tend to expend your emotional energy solving the problems, or did you tend to expend your energy supporting the church through its problems? Please explain (there is no right or wrong answer).

9. One pastoral leader finds it naturally easy to recruit and supervise staff/ volunteers to meet the needs of the people. Another pastor leader finds it naturally easy to personally meet the needs of the people. As you review your pastoral experiences, which sentence best describes your leadership, and why?

10. Give an example of a time in your pastoral ministry when it was especially important to build rapport and to connect with people from an ethnic, cultural and/or linguistic background other than your own. Describe how you did that.

11. Which statement most accurately describes your leadership style when in charge of a group? Explain your choice:
 - a. I lead others most successfully by making steady progress toward our already shared goals.
 - b. I lead others most successfully by defining new goals and inspiring others to work with me to accomplish them.

12. Which is your typical reaction to most problems that come up in daily life?

- a. It wears me out trying to come up with solutions; I find that most problems others worry about work themselves out in the end.
- b. It challenges me to think deeply about solutions to problems; I do not wait to see if others will work them out.

13. When others share a problem and seek your advice or counsel, which is your most typical response?

- a. I naturally provide encouragement and support while they decide what to do.
- b. I naturally figure out the root issue early on and suggest recommendations as to what they should do.

14. On a scale of 1-4, indicate the degree to which each of the following statements best describes you.

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| ○ I am interested in other cultures and I enjoy meeting people from cultures. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| ○ I try to change my behavior to make others more comfortable when I interact with people from a different cultural background. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| ○ I am more careful about the way I speak and act when I am with people from another cultural background. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| ○ I generally understand other cultures and cultural values. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| ○ I plan carefully before I meet with someone with a different cultural background. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| ○ I am confident that I can live in a different culture and adapt to that culture's way of doing things. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |