

Shoulder to Shoulder Bible Study

A Bible Study Series of The Mt. Zion Church
We Have the Vision to be a LEARNING Church!
We are Rooted in Christ and Reaching the One!

Pastor Ken Patterson, Ph.D.



Book: *Shoulder to Shoulder: Strengthening Your Church
by Supporting Your Pastor*

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Chapter 2

Champion Your Pastor's Humanity

Jeremiah 3: 15 And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Introduction: You have a pastor! If you were asked what their uniform looks like, none would say it had a Superman feel to it, but often we have expectations that pastors will have lives of steel, unshakeable faith, and be able to figure any and every problem out “faster than a speeding bullet”. As members, we can often elevate our pastors to near God-like status and then crucify them when they have human frailties. Yes, pastors should stand as an example of strong faith, strong prayer life, and strong devotion to God. However, they are not THE example. Only Christ is the perfect example of perfection. With that in mind, let's study how we can champion our pastor's humanity.

Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 4: 5-7

⁵ For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,”^(a) made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

Humanizing Your Pastor!

When we understand that our pastors are people who have life goals and other interests than simple the church's business we can have a realistic view of them.

5 Did You Knows:

1. What does your pastor do for fun?
2. What is your pastor's dream job?
3. What type of music does your pastor like?
4. What is your pastor's biggest fear?
5. What is your pastor's favorite food?
6. What does your pastor like to watch on TV?

Are you Authentic with Your Pastor?

One method for getting to know your pastor is through authenticity. Too often we engage in conversations with our pastors and others yet we are not authentic about ourselves. It would stand to reason that authenticity is at the core of all relationships. How can you help build a “real” church if you are not real with the church leader and do not give them room to be real with you? Example: When was the last time you talked with your pastor after a sermon and let them know, I understood/did not understand such and such part or I can totally relate to that because...? Or, have you ever asked your pastor if they are mentally, emotionally, and physically healthy and meant it without a judgmental attitude if they said they were struggling in one area?

Leadership Style and Giftedness

All pastors have their own leadership style and giftedness. Leadership and giftedness are often misunderstood. Leadership style is the personality you sense as they are “making things happen”. Three main leadership styles are *charismatic*, *organizational*, *relational*. No person is just one style, however they lean towards one style. What type of pastor do you have?

Knowing my pastor’s leadership style helps me in what way?



1. Which of the following do you perceive as the top three spiritual gifts of your pastor?

Administration	Mercy
Evangelism	Leadership
Faith	Teaching
Intercession	Wisdom
Knowledge	

1. How does knowing your pastor's top gifts help you?

2. What are the current priorities of your church?

3. How can you support self-care of your pastor?

4. In what way are you praying for your pastor?

What Did you Learn This Week?

Closing Prayer