

## Ordination Council Questions

### *I. Conversion:*

1. How has conversion led to a changed life?
2. What are your spiritual gifts?

### *II. Spiritual Life/Growth:*

1. How do you keep your daily walk with God alive? (Or what are some of your spiritual disciplines?)
2. Why is it vital for a pastor to continue growing in his faith?
3. How do you “work out your salvation”?

### *III. Call:*

1. What motivated you to be a pastor?
2. What are some dominant metaphors or images in your mind that best describe what a pastor is?
3. Do you feel called to pastoral ministry in general or an aspect of pastoral ministry in particular?
4. Do you have long term ministry goals for where you’d like to be serving 5, 10, 20 years from now?
5. What training have you pursued to better prepare for ministry? Do you plan to continue your schooling?
6. Do you think God has a distinct call to service for everyone or just full-time ministry?
7. Have you had experiences that have confirmed your call to the ministry, and if so, what were some of them?

### *IV. Theology/Doctrine:*

1. Describe your stance on the role and work of the Holy Spirit historically and today.
2. What is the role and work of God in salvation, and what is the role and work of man?
3. Is the Bible inerrant? Defend your position against an opponent.
4. How did God create the world? Explain your view of creation?
5. How can we reconcile the goodness of God with human suffering?
6. What is a deacon? Is it a gender specific role in the church?
7. In what way should the church and Christians engage in politics/not engage in politics?
8. How would you defend the reliability of the Bible to a seeker?
9. Can you explain the theological term “original sin”?
10. What is your view of marriage, divorce, and remarriage?
11. Are you aware of the Fellowship’s view of baptized membership? Explain.
12. What is your eschatological position? How would you defend it when challenged?
13. What does it mean to say that humans are made in the image of God?
14. Does God know all the future, including the free choices of humans? If so, how are those choices actually free?
15. Are those who die in infancy saved or lost? Why?
16. What is the significance of the resurrection of Christ?
17. What is the meaning of the biblical doctrine of election?

18. How do you explain people who have professed faith in Christ, have given strong evidence of genuine faith, and then have denied Christ and returned to an unbelieving lifestyle?
19. What is the mission of the church? Is social action part of that mission?
20. Should believers who were baptized as infants be re-baptized as a condition of church membership? What about believers who were baptized as believers by modes other than immersion?
21. What does it mean to eat the Lord's Supper "unworthily"?
22. Is it right to describe eternal life as "going to heaven"?
23. What are the practical implications of the imminent, personal, bodily return of Jesus? How would you seek to lead your congregation in appreciating these implications?
24. Do you know what your preferred leadership style is? What are its strengths and weaknesses?
25. What is your view of working with other ministries and local churches?
26. What is the gospel?
27. What is the defining task of a missionary?
28. What is the purpose of the local church?
29. What is the value/purpose of voluntary associations such as our fellowship of Baptists?
30. What do the scriptures teach regarding gender roles in the church?
31. How do you know that the Bible is God's Word?
32. State three or four ways in which the Deity of Christ can be proved from Scripture.
33. Name and define four works which the Spirit performs in us at the moment we accept Christ as Saviour.
34. Define "sin" in a way that is consistent with the biblical description.
35. Define what you mean by "total depravity".
36. Explain briefly (as though you are conversing with an unsaved man) what one needs to know in order to be saved.
37. What is saving faith?
38. Explain the difference between justification, regeneration and adoption.
39. Prove from Scripture the doctrine of eternal security.
40. What does the Bible teach about Sanctification?
41. State the distinctives (eight if you can) of what makes a "Baptist" church.
42. Do you believe in a literal "hell", a place of eternal punishment?
43. Name the 66 books of the Bible. What is the basic/main message of each book?