

Following is a typical questionnaire used by congregations to determine the soundness of those being examined to fill the role of preacher/teacher. I am submitting it here for your consideration. If it does not address specific questions that you would like to inquire about, please don't hesitate to ask. I am always happy to give an answer for what I practice and teach as New Testament doctrine. If you feel any of my answers to be out of harmony with the doctrine of Christ I pray that you will show the appropriate concern for one deviating from sound doctrine and extend to me the courtesy of discussing with me why you believe my answers to be incorrect.

1. Do you believe the Bible is the verbally inspired Word of God, infallible, inerrant and absolute?
YES (1 Cor. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Pet. 1:20, 21).
2. Do you believe that in every matter of faith or doctrine that we must be governed by the New Testament?
YES (Col. 3:17; Matt. 28:18; 2 Jn. 9-11; Acts 2:42).
3. Do you believe that each congregation has the right to govern itself in matters of judgement?
YES
4. Do you believe the kingdom and the church are one and the same, or different?
THE SAME (Matt. 16:18, 19; Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:9).
5. Do you believe a person can become a Christian without becoming a member of the church of Christ?
IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR ONE TO BE A CHRISTIAN WITHOUT BEING ADDED TO THE CHURCH OF CHRIST (Acts 2:47; Rom. 16:16).
6. Do you believe that any unbaptized person of an accountable age will be saved?
NO (Acts 2:37, 38; Gal. 3:26, 27; Rom. 6:3, 4).
7. Do you believe there are faithful Christians scattered among the various denominations?
NO (2 Jn. 9-11; Gal. 1:6-8).
8. Do you believe that faith in God and His Word, repentance of sins, confession with the mouth that Jesus is the Son of God, and baptism for the remission of sins are equally necessary to obtain salvation?
YES (Rom. 10:17; Acts 2:38; Rom. 10:9, 10; Mk. 16:16).
9. Do you believe that all accountable people are lost unless they hear and obey the gospel?
YES (2 Thess. 1:8).
10. Do you believe it is permissible for us to participate in joint spiritual activities with denominations?
NO (Eph. 5:11).
11. Do you believe the Holy Spirit works in an alien sinner and Christian through the Bible alone, or through some other means?
BIBLE ALONE
The Holy Spirit bring about the New Birth (John 3:5) By Means Of The Bible (1 Pet. 1:22, 23).
The Holy Spirit convicts man of sin (Jn. 16:7-8) By Means Of The Bible (Acts 2:1-4, 36-37).
The Holy Spirit cleanses (1 Cor. 6:11) By Means Of The Bible (Jn. 15:3).
The Holy Spirit saves (Titus 3:4) By Means Of The Bible (Rom. 1:16; Js. 1:21).
The Holy Spirit sanctifies (1 Pet. 1:2) By Means Of The Bible (Jn. 17:17).
The Holy Spirit makes holy (1 Cor. 3:16, 17) By Means Of The Bible (Eph. 5:26, 27).
The Holy Spirit grants access to God (Eph. 2:18) By Means Of The Bible (Eph. 3:12).
The Holy Spirit brings liberty (2 Cor. 3:17) By Means Of The Bible (Js. 1:25; Jn. 8:32).
The Holy Spirit comforts (Acts 9:31) By Means Of The Bible (Rom. 15:4).
The Holy Spirit purifies (1 Pet. 1:22) By Means Of The Bible (1 Pet. 1:22).
The Holy Spirit guides man (Gal. 5:18) By Means Of The Bible (Ps. 43:3; Rom. 8:14).
The Holy Spirit makes man fruitful (Gal. 5:22, 23) By Means Of The Bible (Col. 1:5-6).
The Holy Spirit accomplishes the will of God by means of the Bible (Eph. 6:17).
12. Do you believe a person today can have the power of the Holy Spirit in a baptismal measure?
NO
The baptism of the Holy Spirit is only seen twice in the New Testament (Acts 2:1-4; 10:44-48). In both of these cases there were two baptisms: 1) Holy Spirit baptism (Acts 2:4; 10:44); and, 2) water baptism (Acts 2:41; 10:47, 48). Acts 2 occurred around AD 30 and Acts 10 around AD 41. However, around 64 AD Paul wrote that there was one baptism (Eph. 4:5). This one baptism that remains is clearly water baptism and not Holy Spirit baptism (Acts 8:38; Eph. 5:26; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:21). To say that Holy Spirit baptism still occurs today one would have to say that there are two baptisms today – Holy Spirit *and* water – or that water baptism

is the one that ended and Holy Spirit baptism remained. Both positions contradict the clear passages already cited.

13. Do you believe a person can have the power to speak in languages miraculously and/or work miracles today?
NO – Spiritual gifts ended with the completion of the written word (1 Cor. 13:10; Eph. 4:13).
14. Do you believe that we may fellowship in worship those whom we believe to be in fatal error in doctrine (such as the Christian Church, Baptists, Methodists, or other denominations)?
NO (Eph. 5:11).
15. Do you believe the International church of Christ (previously Crossroads and Boston) to be scriptural?
NO – they have apostatized by their twisting of Scripture to serve their own purposes (Rom. 16:18; 2 Pet. 3:16).
16. Do you believe in supporting homes for homeless children and widows out of the church treasury?
YES (Gal. 6:10; Js. 1:27).
17. Do you believe two or more churches can cooperate with one another (financially) in preaching the gospel?
YES (Phil. 4:15-17; 2 Cor. 8:5).
18. Do you believe the church can help from the treasury people who are needy but not Christians?
YES (Gal. 6:10).
19. Do you believe all the lost will suffer annihilation or live eternally in hell?
THE LOST WILL BE PUNISHED WITH ETERNAL CONDEMNATION (Matt. 25:46).
20. Do you believe that the creation of the universe involved 6 literal, 24 hour days to accomplish?
YES (Gen. 2:2; Ex. 20:11).
21. Do you believe God made all things through the process of evolution or by special creation?
SPECIAL CREATION (Gen. 1:1; Jn. 1:1-3; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:1-3).
22. Do you believe that at Christ's second coming He will set up a kingdom on earth and rule personally in Jerusalem?
NO – Jesus, a descendent of Coniah, could not rule in Jerusalem (Jer. 22:28-30; Matt. 1:11-12; 1 Chron. 3:16, 17).
23. Do you believe God has any special plans or purpose to use the Jews or the nation of Israel in any way which he will not use any other nation or people?
NO – The church is the Israel of God (i.e. God's chosen people) today, not any physical nation (Gal. 6:16; Jn. 18:36). Gal. 3:27-29; 5:3, 4 – All the promises to the physical nation of Israel have been fulfilled.
24. Do you agree with the "Max King Doctrine" that teaches the second coming of Christ occurred in AD 70?
NO – The earth will be destroyed at the second coming of Christ (2 Pet. 3:10), therefore Christ could not have returned in AD 70, Dan. 9 (70 weeks).
25. Do you believe that women should be permitted to lead prayers, lead singing or teach in the presence of men?
NO (1 Cor. 14:34; 1 Tim. 2:12).
26. Is it approved of God for a woman or women to conduct a Bible study in private, where there is a student/teacher relationship, with a man or men and teach them the Gospel?
NO (1 Tim. 2:12f) – Paul says that it is not permitted for a woman to teach *or* have authority over a man in spiritual matters. Teaching is identified as an authoritative activity that would put a woman in the position of spiritual leadership over a man. Just as Jesus went back to creation to establish the universal nature of God's marriage laws (Matt. 19:4-6), Paul appeals to the creation to establish the universal nature of God's law of male spiritual leadership (1 Tim. 2:13-14). Therefore, it is wrong for a woman to be in a position of spiritual leadership over a man, including teaching, regardless of whether they are Christians or not.
27. How do you feel about using women translators in the worship or in a Bible study where men are present?
IT IS A VIOLATION OF SCRIPTURE – according to the same principle of the previous question, such an arrangement would place a woman in the position of teaching (i.e. a position of spiritual leadership or authority) over men. In Nehemiah 8 Ezra read the law to a mixed assembly (2-3). While he was reading, it says, the Levites went among the people to give them the understanding of what was being read (7-8). Notice in verse 9 that Nehemiah, Ezra *and* the Levites are said to have taught the people. This clearly shows that the interpreter is involved in doing the teaching and, thus, a woman cannot fill such a role where men are present.

28. Do you agree with the practice of “humming”, vocal imitations of mechanical instruments, or any other practice other than singing in praising God in the worship?
NO, IT IS UNSCRIPTURAL TO DO SUCH – Eph. 5:19 says *speaking to one another* and Col. 3:16 says *teaching and admonishing one another*. Humming, vocal imitation or any other practice other than singing cannot fulfill these commands to *speak, teach and admonish one another* and thus are unscriptural.
29. Do you approve of the use of special singing groups such as quartets, choirs or soloists in worship?
NO – again, in order to fulfill the commands of Eph. 5:19 and Col. 3:16 we must all sing one to another. The only scriptural expression of music in the worship assembly is that of congregational singing.
30. Do you believe the use of mechanical instruments of music in worship is sinful and men will be lost for using them?
YES – whatever we do in worship must be authorized by the word of God (Jn. 4:24; 17:17). There is no such authority for the use of mechanical instruments in worship, therefore, the use of such would be an expression of vain worship (Matt. 15:9). It is an addition of a man made doctrine and will cause us to be lost (Rev. 22:19).
31. Do you approve of singing during the observance of the Lord’s Supper or taking up the offering?
NO – there are no examples of the New Testament church doing such. Also, doing such would necessitate that some refrain from singing and would be a violation of the command to sing congregationally (Eph. 5:19). It would also necessitate a distraction from the self-examination that is to take place during the observance of the Lord’s Supper and the Contribution.
32. Do you believe the Lord’s Supper may be scripturally observed on any day of the week other than Sunday?
NO – the New Testament church assembled on the first day of the week to break bread (Acts 20:7). There is no scriptural authority for any other day. The observance of the Lord’s Supper on any day other than the first day of the week would constitute the addition of a doctrine of man (see above).
33. Do you believe a person can divorce their mate for any reason, and marry again with God’s approval? _____ If yes, please explain.
YES – Though God hates divorce (Mal. 2:16), He does allow for divorce in the event, and only in the event, of fornication by one of the marriage partners (Matt. 19:9).
34. Do you believe a person who has been divorced (but not because of their mates’ fornication) can remain in a second marriage with God’s approval?
NO – such an unscriptural marriage would constitute an adulterous relationship and would have to be dissolved before a person could be in fellowship with God (Matt. 19:9, 12; 5:32; Luke 16:18).
35. Do you believe the New Testament authorizes what is sometimes called “mental divorce”? That is, for example, a husband puts away (divorces) his wife but not because of fornication. The wife objects. She does not want a divorce. Some time later after this divorce is final the husband marries another woman. This could happen years after the divorce. The wife now says her husband has committed adultery and she is putting him away and is free to marry again in God’s eyes. Does God authorize this?
NO – the language of the verses cited above would no allow for such. Those verses do not say that the person marrying the one put away would be guilty of adultery “unless the one put away objected to the divorce.” This idea of a mental divorce makes for *two exceptions* rather than the one exception Christ gave, that being for fornication. Sometimes an attempt is made to distinguish between “civil” divorce and “spiritual” divorce in order to say that although a person has had a “civil” divorce they have not had a “spiritual” divorce because God did not approve of their divorce because it was not for reasons of fornication. This disregards that fact that there is no such usage of the words “divorce” or “putting away” in Scripture. These words always refer to the act of “civil” divorce. In the event of one being put away for reasons of fornication, there is an innocent party that is free to be remarried. In the event of a divorce without the exception of fornication, there is no innocent party, or victim, of an adulterous spouse to meet the qualification of being free to marry another.
36. Do you believe that willful absence from the assemblies of the church is sinful?
YES (Heb. 10:25).
37. Do you believe that the one who practices willful absence from the assemblies of the church should be disciplined, even to the point of withdrawing fellowship from that person, if repentance does not follow proper teaching and exhortation?
YES (2 Thess. 3:6; Heb. 10:25).
38. Do you believe that “social drinking” of alcoholic beverages in moderation (small amounts) is sinful?
YES (Prov. 23:31).

39. Do you believe a Christian can use tobacco in any form and be pleasing to God?
NO (1 Cor. 6:19, 20; 1 Pet. 1:15, 16; 1 Thess. 5:22).
40. Do you believe a Christian can participate in dancing without sinning?
NO – in so far as this question is concerned with the practice of unmarried men and women dancing together in such a way as to incite lust, whether intentionally or not (Gal. 5:19).
41. Do you believe a faithful Christian can dress in immodest attire such as shorts, swim suits, etc. in public places?
NO – in Gen. 3, after Adam and Eve had eaten of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil they realized that they were naked and made “aprons” (loin coverings) for themselves (7). Then when God came into the garden and called to them, they said that they hid because they were “naked” (10). Clearly, the loin coverings that Adam and Eve had made for themselves were not sufficient to prevent them from being “naked,” though they were likely more covering than most modern short-shorts and swimwear. God also recognized that they were “naked” despite their “aprons” (11). When God got them dressed (21) it was with a garment that covered them from their neck to at least their knees. The Hebrew word for the “coats” or “tunics” that God made them refers to a garment whose length ranges from the knees to the ankles. We can know that the garment was at least to their knees but could have been as long as to their ankles. Notice that when God gets people dressed it is always with a covering from the neck to at least the knees.
42. Do you believe that homosexuality and lesbianism are the result of inherited traits (therefore not sinful) or the rejection of God’s Will as suggested in Romans 1:28?
Homosexuality is a chosen lifestyle that must be repented of before those practicing such lifestyle can be saved (1 Cor. 6:9-11).
43. Do you believe that the church should practice discipline, including when necessary, withdrawing of fellowship from the impenitent sinner all forms and expressions of fellowship?
Church discipline is a biblical doctrine for the conduct of the New Testament church. Therefore, if a congregation does not practice biblical church discipline then that congregation is not the New Testament church.
44. What authority do elders have?
Elders are the only ones spoken of as having the rule over the congregation. They are the ones God will hold accountable for the spiritual condition of the congregation they serve. Godly elders have the authority to oversee their own local congregations in regards to matters of expedience. They are the ones responsible for making sure the teaching and preaching is sound and that the congregation is being instructed in sound doctrine. They are the ones to whom every member of the congregation, including the preacher, should be in subjection. They do not, however, have the authority to expect anyone to compromise sound doctrine and no one would be obligated to subject themselves to elders contradicting the word of God.
45. Do you view all things in the Christian’s life (except sin) as worship?
No. There are five designated acts of worship: 1) Preaching; 2) Praying; 3) Singing; 4) Lord’s Supper; 5) Giving. Of these acts of worship, the Lord’s Supper and Giving are restricted to being done in the assembly on the first day of the week. Study, prayer and singing are daily acts of worship. Those things we do in service to God in benevolence, evangelism, etc., are acts of service but not worship. Our worship to God is part of our service and not all service is worship.
46. Does God’s law on marriage, divorce and remarriage apply to non-Christians?
Yes. Christ appealed to creation for the underlying authority for His law of marriage, divorce and remarriage (Matt. 19:1f). He showed the principle of one woman for one man for one life to be the original intent of God in creation. In establishing His doctrine on this matter He was restoring the original intent for all mankind. All mankind is accountable for submitting to the doctrine of Christ.
47. How do you feel about abortion?
Abortion is murder!
48. How do you feel about Children’s Church?
There is no scriptural authority for such. Children should be taught about the New Testament order of worship by observing their parents and other adults engaging in worship. Children’s Church necessitates that some forsake the general assembly.
49. Would you be in favor of having someone preach/teach in your congregation that believed Christ’s law concerning marriage does not apply to non-Christians even though their lessons would not deal with that subject?
No - there is to be no expression of fellowship with false teachers.

50. Under what circumstances would you participate with a brother who teaches only one false doctrine? For example, he believes it is not wrong to take the Lord's Supper on Friday.
None - they are to be marked as false teachers and avoided.
51. Do you believe the New International Version of the Bible is free from fatal error?
No - the NIV is not a reliable translation of God's word. As people who understand the importance of every word of God, we must place a very high degree of importance on using a reliable translation of God's word. From my study of the Greek and Hebrew, in regards to translations, I have found the New King James Version and American Standard Version of 1901 and the King James Version to be reliable translations.
52. What version of the Bible do you use in teaching and preaching?
I preach and teach from the New King James Version. I also use the ASV 1901 for comparison purposes.