

Some questions for discussion:

1. Is there such a thing as a “calling” to ministry? If so, what is the nature of it? Simply, what transpires to motivate an individual to serve in the capacity of pastor or elder?
2. Are pastors “born,” made, called or some combination thereof?
3. Does/should discovery of calling originate with the individual or the church?
4. What role does the church play in discerning calling of a pastor or elder?
5. How do you know you're called by God?
6. Is calling only subjective? How is it objective?
7. Is it a gifting and/or to an office?
8. Is there an aspect of duration to which one is called?
9. Does God only call "to preach" or to other pastoral aspects?
10. Does God only call to vocational ministry?
11. Does God call to the non-vocational eldership? How might it be different?
12. Is it presumptuous to declare an aspiration to the pastorate/eldership?
13. What advice would you give to a young man who perceives he is called?
14. What role does the church play in equipping the called?
15. What role does the seminary play in equipping the called?
16. What role does pastoral "success" play in confirmation of calling?
17. What advice should be given when one doubts his calling?
18. What role does one's wife play in the process of discerning calling?
19. What's the relationship between pastoral discouragement/depression & calling?
20. How does one know when he's called to another ministry? (e.g., church change)
21. Under what conditions might a church challenge a perceived calling?