

Question Guide: EFCA Pastor Small Groups

Cultivating transparency, vulnerability and grace-compelled accountability among EFCA pastors.

Before you start: Please consider the background, context and life situation of each leader in your group. The questions provided in this study may not be relevant to everyone. Use your best discretion in how and when to ask the study questions.

Instructions: Choose **one group of questions** to process together at your pastor gathering.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- How is your relationship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
- How are you abiding in Christ outside of sermon and ministry preparation?
- How are you experiencing spiritual growth in your life?
- Where do you sense the Spirit wanting to produce more of His fruit in your life and ministry?
- How are you receiving and responding to God's grace for you and your sin?
- How are you feeling seen and loved by the Father?
- How are you abiding in the unconditional love of God the Father, the finished work of Christ, God the Son and the securing power of God the Holy Spirit?

RELATIONSHIP AT HOME

- How is your marriage? How would your wife describe the state of your marriage?
- How are you meeting your wife's needs and serving her like Christ?
- How are your needs being met?
- What does your witness look like at home? Where might God be calling you to expand it?
- How are your relationships with your kids?
- How are you loving and leading like Christ with your kids?
- Where do you see God at work in your family?

RELATIONSHIP WITH SIN AND IDOLS

- What is the status of your appetites/lusts, needs and impulses?
- Are they managing you, or is the Spirit managing them?
- What appetites, needs and/or wounds are coming to the surface lately?
- What idols, needs or wounds are you tempted to satisfy through your ministry or in other ways outside of ministry?
- How are you trying to meet those needs in biblically healthy ways through Christ and gospel community?

RELATIONSHIP WITH BROKENNESS

- In what ways are the wounds or experiences from your past coming to the surface in your relationships and/or ministry?
- What past experiences, patterns, thoughts, feelings or beliefs are you hiding in shame?
- How are you experiencing healing and redemption in Christ or where is Christ inviting you to bring your burden or wounds to Him to experience healing?
- What areas of your life are you hiding in shame or avoiding responsibility?

RELATIONSHIP WITH REST

- What is your pace of ministry right now? How would your wife describe your pace and priorities?
- How are you practicing and honoring your need for Sabbath on a weekly basis?
- How are you placing trust in Jesus as the Head of His Church where you serve and trust in the Holy Spirit as the one who causes spiritual growth and change in your congregation?
- How are you experiencing rest in the Lord as a lifestyle? How has your prayer life been lately?
- If you could schedule a ministry retreat, what would that look like for you?

RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR CONGREGATION

- What do the relationships with your church leaders and congregation look like right now?
- What relationships in your congregation are breathing life into you right now?
- In which relationships do you need to apply forgiveness or seek reconciliation?
- Do you have healthy boundaries around your time and availability with the flock?
- How are you equipping the saints instead of fostering dependency?
- In what ways are you over-functioning and trying to be the Father, Son or Holy Spirit for people in your flock?

QUESTIONS FOR HEART-LEVEL DISCUSSION:

- Questions regarding attitudes, idols, affections and operational beliefs:
 - What attitudes, idols, affections or beliefs did this reading expose for you?
 - What was convicting to you about this month's reading? How are you going to respond?
 - What truth or point encourages your soul, stirs your affections and inspires your faith?
- Questions about relationships with God, wife, kids, elders, congregation, etc.:
 - What does it look like to apply this insight or teaching from the book to your marriage, parenting, relationship with your elders and/or congregation?
 - What is a relationship to which you want to apply the content from this month? What specifically does that look like in action?