



Preacher's Pen

by Gene McCoy

Motivate Your Preacher

Your preacher needs motivation. He is just like everyone else in this regard. There are days when he, like you, lacks motivation.

So what may we do to motivate our preacher?

BE ENGAGED

Take ownership of the ministry. Don't leave it up to the preacher to do the work of ministry. We say we believe in the priesthood of all believers; that there is no Biblical distinction between the so-called "clergy" and "laity" — terms you cannot find in your Bible. But our actions many times contradict our rhetoric.

In Ephesians 4:11-12 the apostle Paul says that every Christian is to be equipped to do the work of ministry or service. While the work of equipping is the specific function of a few, the work of service and ministry is the work of all.

Few things motivate your preacher more than knowing the work of ministry is being shared.

Card ministry.

Visitation.

Activity.

Know newcomers.

BE INFORMED

Your leaders go to great length to dispense information regarding the ministry. Those who plan, strategize, and organize are motivated to go to the next level when it is obvious that people read the bulletins, take note of projected announcements, and honor

appointed tasks. Conversely, motivation takes a serious hit when it is learned that efforts to inform and inspire are ignored or neglected.

As noted in the opening paragraph, your leaders are people. They are subject to human frailties and faults. Among these is the tendency to be discouraged by one instance of failure to be informed, despite the reality that most people do take advantage of the information. Part of the reason for this is the fact that a common complaint in many churches is that the leaders do not communicate enough information. It is especially irritating when that complaint comes from people who do not read or pay attention to the information that is dispensed. Gratefully, we have not had to deal with that very much in our congregation.

People who are punctual.

Members who are on top of church happenings/events.

Leaders who care enough to know newcomers.

People who bring their Bible to church.

Faithful (not regular) attendance.

Support of church functions and activities by participation.

Participation in Bible instruction class.

Parents who reinforce at home the Bible lessons taught at church.