

## BE A BARNABAS TO YOUR PASTOR

I was in a seminar in OKC with John Maxwell back in 1993, where he related the following story: During his first weeks as senior pastor at Skyline Wesleyan Church near San Diego, John's schedule was packed. Nevertheless, he agreed to meet with Bill Klassen, a layman he did not know. Bill said, "John, I believe God has called me, a layman, to disciple, encourage, and pray for pastors. And the reason I came here today was so that I could pray for you." John said he wept at the knowledge that God would send someone just to pray for him. Klassen was steadfast in prayer for John and during the next 14 years, Skyline Wesleyan tripled in size and Maxwell became a national leader in the church growth movement. A similar scenario took place centuries ago. Around A.D. 47 the Apostle Paul embarked on his first missionary journey. By his side was a faithful companion, Joseph of Cyprus, nicknamed; Barnabas, or "Son of Encouragement." Why the title? Because Barnabas accepted Saul and introduced him to the other Disciples, the Disciples trusted him because of Barnabas's word. (**Acts 9:26- 28, Acts 11:22-26**) He also stood with Paul through shipwrecks, stoning and rejection. Who encourages *your* pastor? Christian pollster George Barna has discovered that "pastors are the single most occupationally frustrated professionals in America." Yet that needn't be so. Scripture makes it clear that we are to give special affirmation to our spiritual leaders. In **1 Timothy 5:17** we read, "The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those

whose work is preaching and teaching." You don't need to risk life and limb to be a modern-day Barnabas to your pastor, but there are some simple ways you can encourage him/her all year long.

**Attend Church** - In a Barna survey, only 40 percent of the American public claims to attend church every Sunday. Only 60 percent of Christians are part of those weekly congregations.

**Pray for the Pastor** - Many pastors pray regularly for members of their congregations. Who prays for the Pastor?

**Volunteer - With no ulterior motives.** Only about one-third of all Americans donate their time and talents to their church home.

**Share your spiritual growth** - Tell your pastor how his ministry has affected your walk with God. Better yet, write it in a letter so he can reread it.

**Invite a friend to church** - Most people are intimidated if a clergyman invites them to worship. Fact is, "They are more likely to come if invited by a friend."

**Criticize privately not publicly-** Take your concerns to the pastor **directly**. He'll appreciate your honesty and the opportunity to share perspectives.

**Befriend his/her family** - According to a Fuller Institute survey, 80 percent of all pastors feel their jobs have a negative effect on their families. Pastors' wives and children often feel isolated and pressured by high expectations.

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## BE A BARNABAS... (CONT'D)

**Remember him/her on special days** - These are wonderful opportunities to acknowledge your spiritual leader with a card, note, gift, celebration, dinner, or trip.

**Be an advocate to your Pastor** - Paul rejected John Mark as a team member on his second missionary journey; but Barnabas, the Son of Encouragement, stepped in and gave the young man another chance (**Acts 15**). You needn't agree with clergy members on everything. As your spiritual leaders, however, they deserve your steadfast encouragement, especially during difficult times (**1 Thessalonians 5:12-13**).

**Support the ministry and the Church financially** - The Pastor is ultimately responsible for the finances of the church. The Lord has placed him/her in that position and is answerable to God for the stewardship of the church with his time and finances of the church. Randy Barton of the AOG said 20% of the people will be against you; 20% of the people will be for you, and 60% of the people just don't care.

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### **The Perfect Pastor...**

The perfect pastor preaches exactly 15 minutes.

He condemns sin soundly but never hurts anyone's feelings.

He works from 8am until midnight and is also the church janitor.

The perfect pastor makes \$50 a week, wears good clothes, drives a good car, buys good books, and donates \$40 a week to the church.

He is 29 years old and has 40 years' experience. Above all, he is handsome.

The perfect pastor has a burning desire to work with teenagers, and he spends most of his time with the senior citizens.

He smiles all the time with a straight face because he has a sense of humor that keeps him seriously dedicated to his church.

He makes 15 home visits a day and is always in his office to be handy when needed.

The perfect pastor always has time for church council and all of its committees.

He never misses the meeting of any church organization and is always busy evangelizing the un-churched.

The perfect pastor is always the pastor in the church down the street, or in your past.

Bishop Bob Jayne

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## NON-PROFIT CORPORATION vs

## NON-PROFIT TAX EXEMPTION

It's been a whirlwind first month in the district office. Although I missed a couple sections, I enjoyed traveling with Bishop Jayne on his tour to several of the other sections. During the Bishop's tour, we had the opportunity to address several questions from our ministers. I want to take a moment to clarify one that seems to confuse many in our district. It is the difference between a non-profit corporation versus a non-profit tax exemption.

The state of Texas and the federal government do not require a church to be incorporated to operate as a non-profit tax exempt organization. However, to do business as a church, open a bank account, buy goods or property, or pay for services exempt from sales tax there must be a formation of legal governance. The Southwest Texas District of the Pentecostal Church of God [SWTXPCG] can issue an official charter to a local church, which in turn can file a "Doing Business As" [DBA] with the county.

The church charter and DBA allows the church to legally do business as a non-profit tax exempt organization under the umbrella of the SWTXPCG and the Pentecostal Church of God [PCG] by using the IRS group tax exemption; however, this does not protect the private individuals; i.e., pastor, elders, board members, etc. in the event the church is faced with legal action. The only way to protect the leadership of the church is through the establishment of a Texas Non-Profit Corporation.

A Texas Non-Profit Corporation creates what is called a "corporate veil" between the church and the private individual. Additionally, it creates layers of protection from the state and federal governments, as well as private individuals, in audits and/or legal action. The national PCG and SWTXPCG offices both are non-profit corporations, and we recommend each church establish a non-profit corporation as well. By doing this, we become good stewards of God's Kingdom resources, and protect them according to the rules, statutes and laws of our land.

The cost for establishing a Texas non-profit corporation is a little bit of time, patience and a \$25 filing fee with the Secretary of State for Texas. I want to extend my support to assist you, if you so desire to set up a non-profit corporation for your church or ministry. We, at the district office, are your resource for Kingdom advancement and success.

Happy Fall,

James Miller Jr, COO

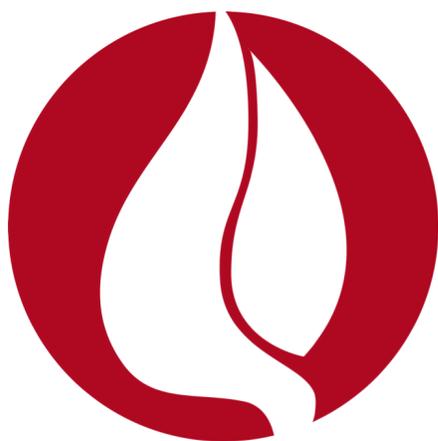
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October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and I pray that every church recognizes their Pastor in some way for their diligent service and ministry to the church throughout the year and years. Be sure if you are a minister in one of our churches that you make sure something special is done for your Pastor or...get the information in the hands of someone who will be able to make something happen.

Bishop Bob Jayne

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**www.swtx-pcg.org**  
**Southwest Texas District**  
**Pentecostal Church of God**



**WE ARE PCG!**  
 PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD

**BIRTHDAYS**

Pearl Trapini	3
Melvin Clearman	4
Jerry Ward	10
Eric Ellis	11
Sheila Stidham	13
Tom Wilson	13
Jesse Webb	26

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Ed & Cathy Newman	10
Jeanine & Chris Coppedge	17
Robert & Sherri Thomet	20
Bobby & Belinda Dickey	25

**DISTRICT OFFICE & CONFERENCE CENTER**

**Mail:** P.O. Box 766,  
 San Marcos, TX 78667  
**Phone:** 512-353-8595  
**Fax:** 512-353-8505  
**Email:** info@swtx-pcg.org  
 bishop@swtx-pcg.org  
**Website:** www.swtx-pcg.org

**MARKED**  
 Impact SWTX Service  
 7PM – All are welcome

12.01.16 GULF COAST SECTION – New Beginnings, Rockport  
 12.08.16 CAPITOL SECTION – Liberty Lighthouse, Johnson City  
 12.09.16 HOT SECTION – North Pointe Church, Copperas Cove  
 12.15.16 PROSPERITY SECTION – Trinity Christian, Beeville  
 12.16.16 GATEWAY SECTION – Freedom Fellowship, Early

**MINISTERS ON CALL**

Dr. Dan Chapman (Early).....(325) 646-3943

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Delores Chapman      Mike Stidham  
 Jerry Ward              Tom Wilson

**2016 DISTRICT CALENDAR**

<b>Oct 25</b> District Board Meeting—District HQ	<b>Nov 19</b> School of Ministry—District HQ
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