Encouragement Now Ministries
Loving People Home

October 2026 Newsletter

October Is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Have you ever sat down with your pastor for counsel or support? Most of the time we do not think about how much our pastor is doing between Sundays. What we see is not representative of what actually happens. Our leadership team has been or is currently serving on staff with a church. We know what happens between Sundays, and we appreciate the time and sacrifice our pastors give to the local church. We believe that the pastor is the first line of help when it comes to Mental Health. They shepherd God's people both inside and outside the church equipping them to be the hands and feet of Jesus. This can come with a price.



Right now there are approximately 500-600 thousand pastors or clergy in the United States. About half of them are senior pastors. There is no census that can tell us how many new pastors we get every year, but there is about an approximate 1.2 - 1.5% number of pastors who leave other than death or retirement. Here are some of the reasons:

1. A change in personal calling (37%)
2. Church conflict (23%)
3. Burnout (22%)
4. Poor fit with the congregation (17%)
5. Family issues (12%)

If you are smart. You will see that the numbers exceed 100%. There is a reason. The Lifeway Study allowed pastors to select more than one option for leaving. Let us be real. Sometimes there are multiple reasons a pastor will leave. We do not take the time to think about what a pastor may be dealing with day to day. We need to stop criticizing and critiquing our pastor every Sunday, and role up our sleeves to help them carry the load. How can we help our pastors? Here are 3 things we can do to help them:



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Encouragement Now Ministries has served clients in over 60 countries including Egypt, China, Iraq, Ukraine, Ethiopia, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Canada, Turkey, Jordan, Spain, Morocco, Brazil, Pakistan, India & UAE.

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1. Pray for you pastor - Prayer not only is useful in spiritual battle, it can also help change and soften our hearts.

2. Stop spectating and armchair quarterbacking - Pastors do not need anyone to critique his message and delivery. He spends many of his Sunday afternoons doing it to himself. Encourage him! Take what you have been given and run with it.

3. Lock arms with your pastor - A pastor is only as good as the people he is serving. Warming a seat does nothing for the seat (or for anyone else). Serving is what we have been called to do. Jesus said in Mark 10, *"...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all."*

Do you find yourself criticizing your pastor and staff? Are you showing up to church to check a box or quell a guilt? Take some time to go over the 3 things you can do to help your pastor, and see what God can do in your life too! Are you a pastor that is looking at walking away? Are you burned out? We are here to help you. Please click on the QR Code below and fill out the Consult Form Here. We would love to minister to you.

Galatians 5:13-26

13. You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. **14.** For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." **15.** If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

16. So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. **17.** For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. **18.** But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

19. The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; **20.** idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions **21.** and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23.** gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. **24.** Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25.** Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. **26.** Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

ENCOURAGEMENT NOW PODCAST



Kevin, Laura, And Joseph

We Need Your Help!

We are looking for corporate, church, and individual partnerships for our ministry. Mental health is one of the most sought after and talked about subject our society is focused on, but they are missing the Biblical truths that God's Word has to offer. Churches are finding themselves unable to handle some of the challenges they are presented with, and they need a safe place to send their members. We are that place, but we need your help. Encouragement Now Ministries (ENM) is donation funded. Monthly partnerships are the backbone of our ministry. This allows us to train up counselors, minister to the needs of churches and individuals, and grow our ministry. We are a 501(c)(3) organization that can be that place. Talk to your company about donating to ENM, and consider a monthly partnership. Every dollar is connected to a soul.