

A Letter from Church Members

Dear Pastor,

Thank you for being our shepherd. While we may not show it all that much, deep inside, most of us really do appreciate the time and efforts that pastors put in to keep our churches running smoothly...and to care for us.

You have a tough job- probably, at times, much tougher than we think. But it's also an important job. And because our success is obviously linked to yours, it's critical that you do the very best job you can.

Will there be times when we totally disagree with you on issues? Of course! Will there be occasions when we push, or actually cross over, the boundaries you establish? Probably. Will we ever test your patience and maybe make your job harder than it needs to be? Perhaps. But despite how we sometimes may act- regardless of what we sometimes may say- know this: **we want and need a good, strong, and compassionate pastor!**

We've experienced weak pastors in the past. We don't need any more. And we certainly have more than enough "buddies." So, do what you're here to do. Be straight with us. Apply the scriptural principles the same way to everyone. Provide us with direction and support. Be there for us. Listen to us. Give us the benefit of the doubt, but set us straight when we need it. Help us learn and mature. Hold us to high standards. Appreciate us- and the work that we do. Be a role model and teacher...a coach and an advocate. Be a pastor.

We're counting on you, shepherd. Please don't let us down!

Your Congregation