



Office of Career
Development

Ministry Interview Questions

BE PREPARED FOR THE INTERVIEW

Effective interviews require careful and thorough preparation on your part. Knowing what to expect, the kinds of questions you may be asked, and how to respond to them gives you greater self-confidence and increases the chances that your interview will be successful.

Be sure to review the [Interviewing Guide](#) from the Southern Seminary & Boyce College Office of Career Development for further details related to interview preparation and winning your interview.

Here are 74 questions you should be prepared to answer for your ministry interview.¹

1. What is your testimony?
2. How will you teach and preach the Bible?
3. What does the Bible claim concerning itself?
4. What should a believer's posture toward Scripture be?
5. What does the Bible say about telling the truth?
6. What plan do you follow for personal Bible reading and study.
7. What are basic guidelines for faithful interpretation of the Bible?
8. How does one effectively lead a small-group Bible study?
9. What should we believe and teach about God's triune nature?
10. What are the benefits of memorizing Scripture?

¹ Questions adapted from Greg R. Scharf & Arthur Kok, *The New Elder's Handbook: A Biblical Guide to Developing Faithful Leaders* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2018), 68-71.

11. What is God like? What are his attributes?
12. What should you do to prepare to read Scripture in public worship?
13. How do you encourage someone in sound doctrine? How do you recognize false doctrine? How do you refute error?
14. How do you make a case for the deity of Christ? Why is it important to affirm that Jesus is fully God?
15. What is the importance of servanthood?
16. How can Jesus be both fully human and fully divine yet one person?
17. What does the Lord's Prayer teach us about prayer and how we should pray?
18. Why did Jesus die? How do you understand the atonement? What difference does this make in practice?
19. What is the gospel? How do you explain the gospel to unbelievers?
20. Why do you believe that Jesus was raised from the dead? What can be known about his resurrection body?
21. What is included in the present ministry of the ascended Lord Jesus?
22. What does the Bible teach about fasting? How do you practice it?
23. What do we know about Jesus's second coming?
24. How do you describe the person and work of the Holy Spirit? How has the Spirit's ministry changed since Old Testament times?
25. How would you distinguish between the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the fullness of the Holy Spirit?
26. How can someone discover his or her spiritual gifts?
27. What is the place of prayer in the economy of God?
28. How should you lead the congregation in prayer in public worship?

29. How would you offer proactive Christian counsel?
30. How would you comfort the bereaved?
31. What is the human condition apart from Christ? What happens to those who have not heard the gospel when they die? What happens to those who have heard and rejected the gospel?
32. What must happen for someone to be saved?
33. What has "taking up your cross" meant to you in practice?
34. What is the nature and purpose of the local church?
35. What is your attitude toward those in authority in various spheres?
36. How are individuals initiated into the church? How does baptism relate to a person's salvation?
37. How would you disciple an individual?
38. As you understand Scripture, who may be a member of a local church?
39. What will you do to maintain fellowship with other Christians in your own church and other churches?
40. How will you maintain a good reputation with outsiders?
41. What does the New Testament teach about church leadership?
42. What qualities make one an effective leader in the family?
43. What is the nature and function of the Lord's Supper?
44. How will you practice confession?
45. Is it possible for someone who professes faith in Christ to lose his or her salvation? Why or why not?
46. How will you keep a clear conscience?
47. What is your attitude toward work? What biblical texts shape that attitude?

48. How will you pursue holiness?
49. How will you resist sexual temptation?
50. How does legalism differ from gospel obedience?
51. How will you receive criticism?
52. Who is Satan? What do we know about him from Scripture?
53. How do believers confront and defeat the devil?
54. What is your plan to maintain physical fitness?
55. What constitutes heresy? How should church leaders respond to it?
56. How does a godly leader address conflict inside and outside the church?
57. What sorts of strategies should we use to maintain the priority of corporate, public worship?
58. How do you discern the will of God-for your life, for the church, for the world?
59. What is the role of grace in the life of a believer?
60. What should be a Christian's attitude and practice with regard to giving money (is tithing required for New Testament believers)?
61. How do you keep yourself free from the love of money?
62. How will you preserve your integrity?
63. How will you pursue humility?
64. What does it mean to "live with your [wife] in an understanding way" (1 Pet. 3:7)?
65. What are your personal habits with regard to planning? What biblical principles undergird and shape planning?
66. How will you impart your vision for this church?
67. How do you steward your time your daily calendar, tasks, rhythms, and year?

68. What will your priorities be when leading church meetings, whether a meeting of a board, committee, task force, or the whole congregation?
69. What will you do to control your tongue?
70. How will you deal with emotional or behavioral issues as you pursue transparent godliness?
71. How will you maintain healthy friendships?
72. How will you rebuke or admonish people?
73. How will you nurture your children for Christ?
74. How would you articulate a robust Christian worldview?