

Pastoral Care Resource Tool 2

Personal Reflection – Standing, Stature and Future of Ministry

Overview

It is healthy for all pastors throughout their ministry to be involved in active reflection of themselves and their ministry roles.

Such reflection can be useful in updating or renewing a pastoral profile, or in redefining your current role description.

Pastors who desire to actively reflect on their current ministry position can use this guide to assist in objective self-reflection and/or reflection and assessment of their ministry.

Trigger Points

The need for objective personal reflection can be triggered by:

- A desire to assess current state of ministry and call
- Self questioning concerning their capacity or call to continue in their current role
- A loss of energy and focus in current role
- A call to move to a new ministry
- An indication of a major faith crisis
- A string of short ministries or repeated poor leaves
- Family and personal stage of life
- A substantial period of ill health of self/spouse/child

Suggested questions for active self-reflection

- What do you find energising in your current role?
- What are you finding draining in your current role?
- What are some of the things that are encouraging you to explore the possibility of changing your current ministry?
 - difficult circumstances
 - a genuine call from God
 - family or personal life stages
- What strategies do you have that you feel will assist with longevity in your ministry?
- What strategies do you have in place to keep you refreshed:
 - personally?
 - spiritually?
 - theologically?
 - in your passion/drive for ministry?
- How are your spouse and family supportive of your current ministry?
- What things do I (and my family) value in this church?
- What things do I (and my family) find difficult?