

Study Guide

Building Blocks of the Church

Chapter 6 – Payment of full-time workers

Questions for Discussion

1. What are the differences between paid and non-paid workers? (Are paid workers more senior than bi-vocational or self-supporting workers)

2. How was Paul supported?
 - a. Did he fully support himself all the time?
 - b. Was he fully supported by the church(s) all the time?
 - c. What does this teach us?

3. Discuss the parallels between the following statements:
 - a. The Bible teaches that sheep should obey their shepherds but does not tell shepherds to take authority over the sheep.
 - b. The Bible teaches that churches have a responsibility to provide for the workers but tells workers to not look to the churches but to the Lord for their support.
 - c. The Bible teaches that “ministers” should have the attitude of servants to the church but this does not allow people to abuse full-time workers as their servants.

4. Re-order the following list in order to reflect the priorities for the use of money in the New Testament. (Biggest part of the budget to the smallest part). Also allocate approximate percentages (of the total) to each area.
 - a. Expenses related to the building (Mortgage, rent, utilities, insurance etc.)
 - b. Media (Internet, TV, Books, CD’s etc.)
 - c. Payment of workers
 - d. Advertising
 - e. Charity (helping the poor with food, clothes and accommodation)
 - f. Other

5. Now re-order the list and allocate percentages to reflect the “typical” modern church in your city.

6. If there are differences between your order for 4 and 5 above and are these differences legitimate?

7. Can a worker be paid too much?

8. What would be a fair wage (in dollars) for a full-time worker in your church.

9. Do leaders have needs other than financial?
 - a. Name them
 - b. How can your church help to meet those needs

10. If your church has full-time worker(s) does anyone ever sit down with them from time-to-time to ask them about their financial well-fare and if they have any needs (financially or otherwise)?

Additional resources

Articles:

1. Infinite supply
2. Money, Microphones and Manipulation

MP3s

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