

Theological Questionnaire for Ordination

You may enter your answers on this form or submit them on the electronic form online. If you use this form, please upload it to the Theological Questionnaire section of the Acts Ordination website.

Your answers should be a minimum of 3-4 sentences for each question and longer for the case studies.

Church History:

Explain why the following groups/people are important to church history and the Free Methodist Church.

Early Church/Church Mothers & Fathers:

John Wycliffe:

Martin Luther:

John Wesley:

B.T. Roberts:

Questions and Responses:

Please respond to each of these statements.

Jews, Muslims, & Christians all serve the same God:

If someone is not healed of their sickness, they must lack faith:

Jesus was a good person, and maybe a prophet, but not the Son of God:

God hates gay people:

I don't have to go to church to be a Christian:

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Wesleyan & Free Methodist Doctrine:

What is your view of women in the ordained ministry as pastors?

Please be sure to include scripture references in your answer.

What is your understanding of the "order of salvation"-from before faith through glory of heaven- from a Wesleyan perspective?

What is your view of Entire Sanctification? How have you or would you explain this?

How would you help someone understand the difference between the Wesleyan and Reformed view of salvation?

Ordained Elders are called to go wherever God calls and sends them. What are your thoughts about the possibility of relocating?

If married, what are your spouse's thoughts as well?

Explain the theological and practical significance of the Lord's Supper:

Explain the theological and practical significance of Baptism:

How do you understand the Gifts of the Spirit in life & ministry today:

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Personal Spiritual Questions:

Describe a person you know that you consider to be an outstanding example of Christian life:

Describe a theologian or spiritual leader from church history that has influenced your thought, spiritual life, & leadership:

How would being ordained impact or change your ministry:

Describe your personal devotional life. What have you recently done to keep your relationship with God alive and growing:

Consider your current ministry work; what is working well and what is not:

Consider your current ministry work; what is your plan to improve/grow this ministry:

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Case Studies:

The answers to these case studies should be more substantial than previous answers. A couple of paragraphs will likely be necessary to provide an adequate answer.

Scenario: Your new ministry is going well, and you are grateful to have several new people in your newcomer's class. During a session on the church's understanding of salvation, you ask the group to share their understanding.

Assignment: Write a response that articulates your understanding of the doctrine of salvation; including prevenient grace, justifying grace, regeneration, sanctifying grace, & glorification.

Here are their responses:

Jamal: I was always taught that some people are chosen by God for salvation and some are not. I think they called it election or predestination...I have to admit that it never seemed fair to me, but the people were genuinely loving and Christ-like; and had a strong comfort from knowing they had been chosen by God for salvation.

Madeline: I'm not so sure about the whole idea of salvation. What is it salvation to or from? What I really get when I come to church is encouragement and support to be a good person. It is good to hear stories about the real-life struggles of people in the bible and the example Jesus showing us how to live a good life.

Natasha: For me, salvation was firmly connected to being a part of the church. As a child, I was taught that being a part of the church was an act of faith and trust that would ultimately lead to an eternity with God. It troubles me that so many branches of Christianity seem to only emphasize the individual relationship with a personal Jesus.

Jaden: It seems like all I ever heard about was legalism. It was either a particular set of beliefs to hold, or living a holy life. It was clear: if you fail, you will spend eternity in hell.

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Scenario: Over lunch at a local clergy gathering of many denominations, a passionate discussion about the nature of Scripture happens and reaches an awkward conclusion. *

Assignment: Write a response articulating the incarnational model of Scripture as being both fully divine and fully human; including your thoughts on the sufficiency of scripture to reveal the way of salvation, the danger of over-emphasizing either the divine or human aspects, & how this understanding informs your practice of ministry.

Here is the discussion:

Susan: The truth is that every religious tradition has its own scriptures and sacred texts that they look to for their faith. But all of them are essentially the same. It doesn't matter which sacred texts one follows; what matters is personal interpretation and practices that lead to the common good.

Jim: Really??? Why would anyone ever go to your church, Susan? In our church, we believe in the Holy Bible & that it is comprised of the Old and New Testaments which were dictated by God to humans that precisely recorded them. The Bible is fully inerrant and is the only true scripture. Other religious texts contain no truth and are only an instrument of Satan to deceive people.

Juan: Our church teaches that the scriptures include the Old and New Testaments, but also additional sacred teachings often called the Apocrypha. These are all ways to learn God's truth; but we also believe that God authoritatively guides the church to pass on sacred traditions.