

THE 31 NEEDS OF THE CHURCH WORKER

FAMILY NEEDS ASSESSMENT, 2015-2016

Individual Issues/Concerns

- 1—Connecting with the people around me
- 2—Managing my finances/money
- 3—Growing in my relationship with God & spiritual disciplines
- 4—Managing the hurriedness of life
- 5—Help in guarding my heart (and that of my family) regarding my (our) time and choice with the internet, television/movies, or other forms of media.
- 6—Finding opportunities to serve/help others
- 7—Facing struggles in my marriage and/or recovering from divorce
- 8—Adjusting to changes in myself, my roles/responsibilities, and the seasons of life
- 9—Adjusting to changes in my (our) employment, health, and lifestyle
- 10—Pursuing healthy lifestyle habits (eating, sleeping, exercise, etc.)
- 11—Knowing better how to share my faith with others
- 12—Dealing with current or past drug/alcohol abuse
- 13—Dealing with current or past sexual/physical/emotional abuse
- 14—Adjusting to living alone (after graduation, divorce, being widowed, etc.)

Marriage/Relationship Issues/Concerns

- 15—Dealing with sexual temptations prior to marriage
- 16—Dating and preparing to form a new family through marriage
- 17—Understanding biblical roles and responsibilities for a husband and wife
- 18—Understanding your spouse's personality, desires, needs, and/or expectations
- 19—Developing and maintaining good marital communication
- 20—Developing and maintaining mutually fulfilling sexual intimacy in marriage.
- 21—Rekindling and renewing the "zing" in marriage (fun, laughter and friendship)
- 22— Building a marriage bond, based on real intimacy and trust, which will withstand life's storms.
- 23—Relating to family of origin and in-laws
- 24—Living in an interfaith and/or spiritually mismatched marriage

Parenting Issues/Concerns

- 25—Living in an interfaith and/or spiritually mismatched marriage
- 26—Releasing and moving a child toward adult independence and/or relating to adult children
- 27—Developing and improving family communication
- 28—Disciplining a child
- 29—Helping a child succeed in school
- 30—Helping a child grow spiritually (developing a child's character, identity, and morality) beginning at home
- 31—Helping a child develop a godly view of human sexuality and family

Church Worker Core Needs Survey, 2016

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The Kansas District conducted regional events in early 2016. These events were held in local parishes in a concerted effort to reach as many active church workers and their spouses as possible. A survey was conducted at each event, with 300 of the 400 potential ordained and commissioned workers in Kansas participating.

There was tremendous value in participating in this survey. The data from the survey suggests three primary areas of need to address:

- **Worker Care** – there is a need to implement strategies to strengthen congregational care for church workers and their households;
- **Financial resources** – there is a need to bolster congregational resources to address personal church worker household finances; and
- **Spiritual health** – there is a need to offer local congregations strategies in their ongoing support of the spiritual wellbeing of their church workers and households.

The Church Worker Care Committee of the District will work to address knowledge, attitude, and skill components for these priorities. Church workers are not a monolithic group; they are quite segmented. Future interventions will take all of this into account.