

2. The pastor must lead. It is futile to expect more of his laymen than he expects of himself.
3. The laymen must come to realize that the pastor loves them for themselves, and sometimes, in spite of themselves, and not for what he can get out of them.
4. The people must be convinced that the church and its ministry is the pastor's primary concern: that he is not using them to further his own prestige or build his own reputation.
5. A church will cooperate with a pastor when they become convinced he will not desert them if the going gets difficult.
6. Laymen will love the pastor who dares to love them enough to deal honestly, tenderly, and privately, face to face, (not by phone) with their spiritual needs: to become vulnerable with them because of that love. Love is always vulnerable. You can't deal deeply with people's needs and not risk being hurt. Are you willing to let a sword go through your own heart also?

Final Words:

Dear Bill,

The next page was supposed to start here, but it didn't.

I don't know where I got the written copy of my sermon. I had the whole thing on a C.D.

It was so good to hear your voice today. I love you as my own son.

Forrest