

VISITING PASTOR SURVEY FOR BARNABAS FACTOR

Then please email it back to barnabasfactor@comcast.net

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

List names and ages of any children coming with you to Tahoe:

Name of Church (or organization) you serve: _____

Number of years in the ministry (total) _____

Number of years at your current assignment _____

Do you draw at least a part-time salary from your ministry? _____

Are you ordained? _____ If yes, name of group (or church) that ordained you?

Stress in the Ministry

We are compiling data on stress in the ministry. Please rank the following items in order of how much stress they cause you in ministry (#1 is the greatest source of stress, etc). Feel free to use the "Other" source, to note any that are not listed. We promise not to reveal your personal information and identify you by name.

_____ Too many work hours per week (estimate total work hours in typical week) _____

_____ Inadequate pay (current annual salary: \$ _____)

_____ Too big of a job description--"just too many things on my plate" (mention major job assignments)

_____ Carnal church members who cause problems

_____ insufficient time in devotional study

_____ inadequate physical exercise

(Survey continued on next page)

____ Stress at home (if checked could you provide more details: Who? What? Why?)

____ Other:

____ Other:

____ Other:

____ Other:

Marriage and the Home

Again, we want to stress that this is confidential information, and we will treat it as such.

If you had to explain it, how has being in the ministry affected your marriage?

(Please have spouse answer the following) How have you found personal significance through your spouse's ministry (or NOT found it), and do you feel that you've been neglected (including recognition, resources for needs, etc)? _____

How has the ministry affected your kids? (Please enlarge your answer in space below)

Discouragement and Keeping Your Dreams Alive

Discouragement seems to accompany many in ministry. What are the situations that bring discouragement to you? Describe an instance in the past six months, when you were discouraged.

How do you try to get beyond discouragement in the ministry? (State what role prayer, colleagues and other friends in the ministry help)

In the space below, talk about how you visualized ministry being when you began, and how it is changed in the present.

We Want to Help in a Specific Way to Strengthen and Encourage You While You Are in Tahoe.

Tom Salter desires to meet with you for one appointment (it can just be the pastor, or pastor and spouse together). We ask you to pick a topic from the list below (see also another document in this packet with additional topics). And it is perfectly acceptable to just meet to share what's on your heart, or to go over some current issue you're dealing with. These appointments typically last from one to three hours, depending on how much there is to talk about. Since Tom lives about 100 miles away, it is just a one-time appointment. All the rest of the time during the week is your own to spend with your family.

____ **Marriage Enrichment**--- All marriages undergo times of stress, and a tune-up may be just what the doctor ordered. Included in this time of counsel and sharing will be the results of the TJTA test (administered ahead of time), which should prove to be revealing. Some enrichment resources will be offered. We believe that even good marriages can get better, and this session will offer encouragement.

____ **Time Management**— With all the demands on pastors these days, many pastors get stretched too thin. They need assistance in tools and strategy to make the most of their time, but also assistance in balancing the demands of both ministry and family.

____ **Spiritual Renewal**—So much of the work in the ministry makes it possible to neglect our own times of renewal with the Lord, while being busy doing religious things! Special attention will be given to enriching your devotional life (especially prayer). This session will offer both resources and counsel to re-ignite your own passion for the Lord.

____ **Unity Building**--- God blesses unity, not just within a congregation, but especially in the larger Body of Christ in a given region. From practical experience, we can help you become a leader in building and nurturing co-operation within the Kingdom in your area.

____ **Heart Issues**—The book "The Sacred Romance" has provided a profound impact with many pastors, who realize that the busyness and stress of ministry has caused them to "lose their first love". This session will help you to get your heart back, and be able to live life to the fullest, fully engaged with your heart leading the way!

_____ **Physical Conditioning**—This is the weak point for many pastors and leaders. This fun session will seek some preliminary information to provide individualized help, to change your exercise and dietary habits, so you can last longer for the Lord.

_____ **Restoring Balance**--- A great and convicting book by Dr. Richard Swenson, “Margin”, will be the basis for discussion. This was the #1 problem area according to H. B. London, when he first came to Focus on the Family.

_____ **Listening to God**--- We all believe that prayer is a “two-way street”, but honestly, most of us do all the talking. Among the books to lead the discussion is Jack Deere’s “Surprised by the Voice of God”. This session will help you deepen your own walk with God.

Other topic of interest--- If none of the above topics (or the other page of additional topics) seem to “scratch where you itch”, then we want to design a custom-made session to help you. Write in your own words what area and describe as many specifics as possible, in the space below.

WHEN YOU COMPLETE THE SURVEY, YOU CAN E-MAIL IT TO THE EMAIL ADDRESS AT THE TOP OF THIS DOCUMENT—OR—YOU CAN PRINT IT OFF, AND MAIL IT TO : Barnabas Factor, 8327 Falcon View Drive, Antelope, CA 95843. Assuming you are booking a week in Tahoe, you will also need to either use PAYPAL on the barnabasfactor.com website, or mail a check for the rental amount to the physical address listed in this paragraph.