

## View results

Respondent

3

Anonymous

13:59

Time to complete

### Personal Information

1. Full Name

David Frahm

2. Email Contact

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3. Phone Number

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## 4. Date

1/7/2023



## 5. Are you a member of our Church?

 Yes No

## 6. Describe your previous experiences of serving in the local church

I have previously served as an adult Sunday school teacher for Bayou View Baptist, MS during 2012-2016, and at Grace on the Ashley, SC during 2019-2021. I have also been involved as Awana game leader, a VBS game leader/teacher and deacon for 3 years at Bayou View Baptist Church, MS.

## 7. Who are you discipling and what does that look like?

Yes, I am currently discipling alongside two men within the church. We meet to discuss the Word of the Lord and are considering a book study in January. Lastly, I am involved in a long-distance discipleship group with three men from my prior church in SC. We utilize a group messaging app to stay in touch and prayer for each other.

## 8. Describe the commitments you have put into your life to keep yourself above reproach in the areas of your past sin struggles

I have set forth website blockers and time limits to minimize my time and distractions that are found on social media. My phone is not off-limits to my family or my wife. Lastly, I have deleted several apps and games from my phone that have proved to be massive temptations that me to procrastinate and time waste.

## 9. Are you aware of any relational problems that would hinder your hinder your service as an elder to our church?

No, I am aware of relational problems that would hinder my service as an elder within the church.

## Family Questions

10. If married, can you tell us the condition and quality of your relationship with your wife at the present time?

The condition of my marriage with my wife is sourced on strong and open communication. We speak and converse on topics in the news, about friends and family, and how we can continue to work with one another as we raise and disciple our three children.

11. Is your wife supportive of your involvement at the level of leadership in the church and does she believe you are a good fit for this role? If so, why?

Yes, my wife is supportive and has encouraged me to continue in my development as a husband, father, and servant in the church. We both have strived to maintained consistence in our support of the body of Christ, we believe strongly in acts of serve, and encouraging others in love and good works.

12. Is your wife in submission to your leadership within the home and in spiritual matters?

Yes, my wife and I communicate clearly and openly each other. We also hold each other accountable and take each other to scripture when we are straying away from our commitments and convictions that we have agreed upon. Additionally, we do our best to speak to each other in love and grace, and work to be unified in our decision-making concerning direction for our three children.

13. Describe your relationship to your children. If they are grown do you know of any hesitancies they would have about your serving the church in this capacity?

My relationship with my children is a constant reminder for me to practice on how I am to speak to them in love and grace. I have been improving in my patience and reactions to my teenage daughters and work to continually grow with them as they walk in their faith. My wife provides timely feedback and corrective suggestions when I am missing the mark and identifies my blind spots.

## Theology Questions

14. What is the gospel?

Christ died in our place for the punishment that was due to us for our sin against a holy and righteous God. Believing in the finished work of Christ on the cross and his triumphant over death because he will return to claim His elect. (Acts 16:31)

15. What do you believe to be the purpose of the local church?

The purpose of the local church is to be the representation of the body of Christ to the local community. To encourage the saints in love and good works and the care of the widowed and orphaned. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

16. Based on your understanding of Scriptures, what are the primary roles of an Elder?

The short and sweet answer within the context of biblical terminology, elders shepherd, oversee, lead, and care for the local church. Elders also serve and support the pastor and his family with the ministers of the church. Elders are biblically charged to lead the church, teach, and preach the Word, protect the church from false teachers, exhort and admonish the saints in sound doctrine, visit the sick and pray and judge doctrinal issues (1 Peter 5:1-2; Titus 1: 5-7)

17. Do you have any hesitations about the faith statement of Songtan Central Baptist Church? If so, what are they?

No

18. How would you characterize your knowledge of the scriptures and your familiarity with its teachings?

Familiar, and working to improve my knowledge through daily study. (2 Timothy 4:1-4)

19. Do you believe in the Trinity?

Yes, yes, and yes

20. Do you believe in a six literal day creation?

Yes, and open to conversation about this conviction.

21. Do you believe in the doctrines of grace? Why or why not?

Yes, because God saves sinners by His grace and for His glory. This area contains five major areas of our Christian theology, and carry the following titles: radical depravity, sovereign election, definite atonement, the irresistible call performed by the Holy Spirit, and preserving grace. Which displays the purest expression of the saving grace of God. (Romans 9:22-24)

22. What are some theological issues that you think are especially important for Christians to get right in this time and place?

The doctrines of Christ and his divinity. That he died and arose from the died three days later and now sits at the right had of God. Additionally, a right and correct understanding of the attributes of God. (John 4:10/John 5:36)

23. Who is the Holy Spirit? What role does the Holy Spirit play in the life of a believer?

The Holy Spirit is one of the three persons in the Trinity, and he is a personal being rather than an impersonal force. The Holy Spirit is a communicative, divine person. The Spirit is also the agent of the believer's union with Christ. After Jesus ascended, the Holy Spirit was sent to His people (Pentecost) to empower them to bear witness about Jesus throughout the world, and the spreading of the gospel message to all nations. (1 Peter 1:10-12)

24. What is the doctrine of redemption? How do you reconcile man's responsibility and God's sovereignty in the salvation of a believer?

The doctrine of redemption refers totally to the work of Christ on our behalf, where he purchases and ransoms us, which came at the price of his own life. He then secured our deliverance from the bondage and condemnation of sin. He was the propitiation for our sin. (Philippians 2:5-11) When the gospel message goes out in power and strength the non-believer exhibits free-will in the acceptance or rejection of the word of the Lord and will be held accountable for that choice. The gospel message will either stir repentance or rejection, as Jesus said, "my sheep know hear my voice, and I know them." (John 10:25-30)

25. What is baptism? Who is it for? What does it do, mean, or symbolize? What is your view on infant baptism?

Baptism is an ordinance of the Lord for those who have repented and come to faith in Christ. They behold His death and resurrection, by being immersed in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is a sign of belonging to the new people of God, the true Israel, and a representation of burial and cleansing, signifying death to the old life of unbelief, and purification from the pollution of sin. As for infant baptism, I do not believe it necessary, not salvific. (Romans 6:3-4)

26. What role in leadership do you believe women should have within the church? In what context should they teach? Are there any restrictions?

From the very beginning of the new church that we see in Acts, women fulfilled a vital role in the Christian church but not one of leadership. The apostles were all men; the chief missionary activity was done by men; the writing of the New Testament was the work of men; and leadership in the churches was entrusted to men. In Paul's letters, he urged that men to be the leaders in the church and that women were not to teach or exercise authority over men. Therefore, although women are spiritual equals with men and the ministry of women is essential to the body of Christ, women are excluded from leadership over men in the church. (1 Timothy 2:12)

## 27. Why do trials occur? What is the purpose of suffering?

Trails and suffering are a necessary part of the Christian walk. Because trails and sufferings remove the focus that is on ourselves and shifts our eyes onto the author and finisher of our faith, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 1: 3-4)

## 28. What is church Membership?

When an individual is saved, they become a member of the body of Christ. They are now united to Christ and the other members of the universal church! They are now qualified to become a member of a local church, which is the expression of universal church. Additionally, when someone becomes a member of a church, they submit themselves to the care and the authority of the biblically qualified elders that God has placed in that local church. (1 Corinthians 12:13)

## 29. What is biblical community? Should a church require it, and if so, why?

Biblical community is designed by God because He does not want us to live as isolated individuals. When He brings us nearer to Him, He also brings us nearer to one another. The church should value and encourage its members on the importance of belonging to the church, because of the wonderful witness of the fellowship and community that is demonstrated. Members should be aware and sensitive to the prolonged absence of fellow church members and seek them out to encourage their return to the body of membership.

## 30. What is biblical accountability? Are there any areas that are off-limits within an accountability relationship? Why or why not?

The Bible plainly emphasizes that real accountability is based on a clear standard: God's Word! The first, most straightforward part of accountability is giving an account to each other. Plenty of relationships do not have this component. It is not accountability if there is no account. Therefore, there are no off-limit areas within an accountability relationship.

31. What is church discipline? How would you support it biblically? How should it be used within the body?

Church discipline is the process of correcting sin in the life of the congregation and its members. The purpose of church discipline is the spiritual restoration of fallen members and the consequent strengthening of the church and glorifying of the Lord. When a sinning believer is rebuked and he turns from his sin and is forgiven, he is won back to fellowship with the body and with its head, Jesus Christ. Matthew 18:15-17; Jesus sets forth the four-step process of church discipline: (1) confront the believer about their sin alone; (2) if the believer does not turn from their sin, take some witnesses; (3) next the church is notified; and (4) treat the believer as an outsider should they refuse to repent and turn from their sinful path.

32. What is the will of God? How can a believer discern God's will in the day to day matters of life?

Defining the will of God is important for us as Christians because it unveils who He is as the eternal, all-powerful, all-knowing God. Studying God's word will help believers discern God's will in the day-to-day matters of life. (Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 5:16-18)

## Practical Questions

33. Do you understand the difference between biblical convictions and personal preferences?

Yes. The key to knowing the difference between a conviction and a preference is based on the reasoning that led to the choice. If the reasoning is based on the influence of the Holy Spirit based on the truth of God's Word, it is a conviction. If it is based on a personal choice without the truth of God's Word, it is a preference. Confusing the two can have severe consequences.

34. How do you tend to respond when disagreements or conflicts arise?

I seek first to understand than to be understood.



35. How should a Christian think about politics? What is the framework a believer should use to decide who to support politically?

Jesus said, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." We as believers have a loyalty balanced between two spheres. Obviously, our loyalty to God is a higher loyalty, but we dare not shirk our responsibility to "Caesar" or the government that is over us. Here are some ideas that can help us as we think about the tension between the two kingdoms. We must keep in mind that no one party is entirely good or entirely bad. The fact is that we live in a fallen world, and thus we will always be led by sinners at all levels of government. Of course, we should vote, even if our choices are limited. We must also be clear about what government can and cannot do. Of course, we should work toward good government, good laws, and good judges. But we cannot be naive in thinking that government can rescue us from the abyss of moral and spiritual failure. We must pray that the best news this nation hears does not come from Washington, but from the lips and lives of followers of Jesus Christ!

36. What does it mean to be pro-life? How would you counsel a couple or individual who was considering an abortion?

Pro-life can be defined as simple seeing that life matters. Christians should value all life because all human life is created in the image of God. We can help a couple or an individual that is considering an abortion with a few straightforward considerations. Help with emotional support, watch out for judgmental attitudes, speak the truth, seek out help through resources, and be patient and loving.

37. How do you respond to criticism? What do you do if things do not go your way?

I respond to criticism from alright to healthy reception. I do my best not to take it personally and reflect on what led to the error and learn from it based on the feedback that received. When things do not go my way, I move on and work to find the source of my faulty reasoning.

38. Who do you have in your life that tells you the truth even when it is difficult to hear? How do you respond to them?

My wife, she is straightforward in correcting me when I error, but she does it in love and grace. Depending on the situation when I am confronted with the truth, I do not always receive it well because it strikes at my sin of pride.

39. How do you tend to handle stress or pressure? Give an example.

I can handle stress rather well and work to find a solution to lower the stress levels as quickly as I can. As for pressure, I do not usually fold or crumble, but can sometimes become inoperable depending on the situation.

40. What is a biblical view of monetary giving? Is tithing biblical? What is different between giving in the Old and New Testament?

Biblical monetary giving is a form of worship a believer partakes through the return of money, time, resources, talents, and or gifts for glory of God and furthering of His kingdom. Tithing is biblical and should be a part of a Christian's discipline to the church, fellow believers, and the community. The difference between OT and NT is that the Israelites were given a specific set of guidelines to follow, thus demonstrating their faith that God would be providing for them as he had promised and followed a 10% minimum. With the new covenant under the NT, believers are asked to give with what they can afford and out of the abundance of the heart and demonstrates gratitude to the giver of life and all things.

41. What do you see as the greatest need in our local church today?

To preach Christ crucified and uphold exegetical preaching supported by scripture.

42. As applied to an Elder Team, what is your understanding of "plurality of leadership" and "consensus in decision making"?

These terms drive home the point that the body of elders and the pastor are to be united, deliberate with their decision making and apply scripture to their executive processes. To me, this means removing any bias, negativity, and work to seek out biblically consistent, and accurate assessments together.

43. Why do you desire to serve the church as an elder?

My desire is to be a servant to the body of Christ by providing support to Pastor Steve and congregation all to the Glory of God..

## Personal Questions

44. How did you become a Christian?

As a young child, as the age of 7 years old, I began to realize the weight of my sin and need for a Savior. In the back set on my parents Toyota Corella, I started to attempt to ask God for the forgiveness of my sin. My dad realizing what I was attempting to do stepped in and helped lead me in a biblical confession of my sins and faithfully accepting the redeeming grace and mercy that washed over me. I was baptized a few months later, after my parents and the pastor walked me through the understanding of what it meant to be a believer and what my commitment to Christ was a demonstration of belief.

45. How would you describe your relationship with Jesus now?

Close, active, and full of the Holy Spirit. I am constantly working on my sanctification, as I still struggle with sin and temptations, yet saved and sanctified by grace.

46. How do you regularly pursue holiness and communion with God?

I block out and 45 minutes to an hour each morning to work through my Bible study, meditation on scripture, and prayer before I start my day in the world. Planning to work through the 1689 confession and the apostle's creed.

47. What is your current personal plan to be growing in Christ (Bible reading, scripture memorization, prayer, etc.)?

I am currently studying the book of Hebrews, using the John MacArthur Study Bible. Reading a Psalm and Proverb, using our church's prayer request list, and Voice of the Martyrs missionary prayer list.

48. In other words, what are some personal convictions in your life?

My personal convictions are to hold scripture in its correct context and that the Word of God is efficient, effective, and active to address all our dilemmas, problems, and hopelessness we experience daily. I also hold to the sanctity of human life as high as our creator does.

49. What are some things we might not like about you if we knew them (theological views, personal weaknesses)?

I had a cage stage in my life, which occurred in the early 2010's. I dealt crassly with new believers that were young or immature in the faith, in my reflections of my terrible behavior, I sought out those individuals and apologized to those I could contact. I also have not completely ironed out my escapology, which can affect my interruptions of scripture differently than fellow believers, thus causing possible divisions.

50. What sins do you struggle with most?

The sins I struggle with the most would be procrastination and allowing myself to become frustrated to the point that I can become sinfully angry.