

## View results

Respondent

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Anonymous

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### Personal Information

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#### 4. Date

11/12/2022



5. Are you a member of our Church?

Yes

No

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

I have served in numerous churches in several different countries. I have often been involved in leading worship. I have also taught Sunday school, worked with the youth, led VBS, led small groups, and participated in various service activities through the church.

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

Through my position at ICS I informally disciple students on a daily basis, but I also have a small group that meets biweekly for the purpose of mentorship and discussion of the lessons learned in chapel. I am also currently leading a small group for several of our church attendees that meets biweekly out in the Pyeongtaek area.

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

I am committed to regular reading of God's word, meeting with fellow brothers for accountability, and confessing any sins to my wife

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

No

## Family Questions

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

I have been married for 17 years, and my wife and I have grown in our understanding of each other's strengths and weaknesses and work very well together as a team. We are both committed to following Christ and leading our family in a Christ-like manner, and to serving in the church. We are at a very strong and steady point in our relationship right now.

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 she is. She recognizes the gifts of leadership and teaching that I have, and recognizes that I would be a good fit for where the church is going and what it needs at this point.

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

Yes she is.

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

I have a wonderful relationship with each of my four sons. They all know how much I love them because I tell them all the time. We have regular prayer time and Bible reading time together, and we discuss God's word and who God is very frequently. I also model humility for them, because whenever I lose my temper with them or react to them too harshly, I ask their forgiveness and tell them I love them.

## Theology Questions

14. What is the gospel?

That we were created by God to enjoy the world and our relationship with him, but because of sin that relationship has been broken and we have been severed from God. We can never do "enough" to amend that relationship, so God sent Jesus, his son, to earth to live the life we couldn't live and die the death that we deserve. Then God raised Jesus from the dead and brought him back to heaven, conquering sin and death and making a way for us to have our relationship with God restored if we believe that Jesus truly is God in the form of man and ask him for forgiveness for our sins and submit our lives to his authority.

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

The purpose of the local church is to teach the believers more deeply about God's word so that they may know him better and be prepared to evangelize and make disciples, to reach out to the community with the Gospel and show the love of Christ by serving, and to gather together regularly to worship God together and encourage one another in their faith.

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

To share in the responsibility of shepherding the church through the teaching of God's word, prayer, and leading in decision-making

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?

I have a strong understanding of God's word and a familiarity with it that stems from having grown up in the church and being active in reading God's word and teaching it to others.

19. Do you believe in the Trinity?

Yes, I believe that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit are one God and yet three separate "entities"

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

There is a lot of scientific evidence that claims the earth is 4 billion years old based on radiometric dating and mathematical calculations, which people associate with irrefutable "facts." However, that viewpoint comes with certain assumptions (evolution, magical existence of life) that, as a believer in God's word, I would say are untrue and not supported by data. I believe that God created the earth in 6 days, if not literal 24 hour periods then 6 specific periods and not over the course of 4 billion years.

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

Yes, I believe that we are saved through grace and not by works. If anyone could be "good enough," then there would be no need for Christ's death on the cross. Also, if anyone could be "good enough," then someone would have already been good enough and we would be looking to them and holding them up as examples. The Bible shows clearly the truth of the human heart, that it is depraved and self-seeking, and that only through the redemptive work of Christ can the heart be turned back to God, to give him glory.

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

First and foremost is that Jesus is the only way to heaven. There are a lot of new religions and "modernized" churches that don't preach Jesus as the only way to salvation. It is especially important for all Christians to know that regardless of race, sexual orientation, gender, or any other factor, all of us are sinners and under the wrath of God, and it is only through faith in Jesus Christ and submission to him that we are saved. That means not that we pray for forgiveness and then go on and live our lives however we want, but that we submit our entire selves to him, that our first and foremost identity is not our race/gender/orientation/political affiliation, but our first and foremost identity is follower of Christ. Another issue that is important is that the church is called to action, to make disciples and to serve. This is not to say that our salvation is based on our works, but our works are evidence of a true and genuine faith in who God says he is. If Christians would get these two things right, I think a lot of secondary issues would be resolved.

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

The Holy Spirit is God in the form of spirit, who came to earth after Jesus went back into heaven. The Holy Spirit lives inside believers and is the evidence of a redeemed soul. The Holy Spirit imparts spiritual giftings, bears fruit (Gal. 5:22), grants understanding of God's word, convicts us of our sins, and intercedes on our behalf through prayer.

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 is that Jesus paid the price for our sin, which is death, and that because he led a sinless life and was perfect before God, his death paid the price of all sin, not just for certain people or for a certain time, but for all people and for all time. Man is incapable of coming to God on his own, but only by being drawn to God by God's will and purpose. When a man hears God's word he will either reject it or be drawn to it and receive it with joy and humility. God has done the work of redemption so that he gets the full glory. It is up to man, when he is confronted with God's word, to recognize that God is sovereign, to say "Yes, I need your salvation and I submit to your Lordship," and to give God the glory in all things.

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

Baptism is the submersion of a believer into water (descending into death with Christ) and being brought out again (being raised to life with Christ). It is a profession of faith of the believer and symbolizes joining in Christ's death and resurrection, as well as joining with all the believers who have gone before in a common faith in Jesus Christ. It is not a means of salvation, but a profession of faith that one has been saved through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. My view on infant baptism is that it isn't founded in scripture and is more akin to having a baby dedicated. I was baptized as an infant and grew up witnessing infant baptism, so baptism didn't have a significant meaning for me. However, after attending SCBC and learning more about what baptism is and why it is significant, I chose to get baptized as an adult as a profession of my faith in Jesus and my union with the body of believers.

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

I believe women can and should be involved in serving in the church. They have a responsibility to teach younger women (Titus 2), and can also teach the children about God's word. I think they should also be listened to regarding decisions about the direction of the church, the spiritual temperature of the church, and the specific needs of the church. I think leadership over the church (elders, pastors) has been given by God to the men, not as a way to hold power over others, but as our responsibility to shepherd and guide the church the way God shepherds and guides us.

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

Trials occur because the world is broken from sin. All of creation is groaning and anxious for the day when Jesus will return and make everything whole again. God allows us to suffer so that: 1. We can experience his love and comfort. God is the God of comfort, but we would never know that if we never suffered. 2. To reveal to us our sin and draw us to him. 3. To give us opportunities to be Christ to our suffering neighbors and reveal to them Christ's love and saving grace.

28. What is church Membership?

Church membership means committing yourself to be an active and contributing member of the local church. A member contributes by regularly attending, by committing to tithe to the church, by submitting to the church authority, and by serving in the church.

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

Biblical community is being in fellowship with other believers and having fellowship time centered around reading God's word, encouraging one another in the faith, and worshiping and serving the Lord together. The church should require it because our fallen nature naturally inclines us to take the easiest path, not the best path. We need an authority to hold us accountable and remind us that this is necessary because it is what is best.

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

Biblical accountability means checking in with fellow believers to make sure they are staying faithful to the Lord and not allowing sin to creep into their lives. I think different people will have different levels of accountability, but between a spouse or close friend of the same gender I don't think there are any off-limits areas, because those would be the areas where sin would most likely creep in.

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

Church discipline is when the church takes action due to someone persistently behaving in a sinful manner, or behaving in a way that is detrimental to the body of Christ, or committing an egregious sin. This could look like a fellow believer addressing the person individually, then with another believer, then before the elders if the person in sin refuses to repent (Matthew 18). There are several occasions in the New Testament where Paul demonstrates church discipline, such as when he commands the church to expel an immoral brother (1 Cor. 5), or states that he has given people over to Satan so they may learn not to oppose God (1 Tim. 1). He also uses less drastic measures, such as when he beseeches Syntyche and Euodia to stop their quarreling. Official church discipline should be used after attempts have been made to reconcile with the sinful party and hold them accountable for their sin. It should be done with much prayer and for the purpose of restoration.

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

The will of God is that we would know him, glorify him, and show his love to our neighbors. We can know God's will by knowing God better. Just as you know what your spouse would like and how they would react to things because you know them intimately, we can know what God likes and how he would react to things by knowing him better, by knowing his nature and his values and the way he has acted in the past. This comes from studying the word, from spending time in prayer, from serving the Lord, and from fellowshiping with other believers.

## Practical Questions

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

Yes. Biblical conviction is what the Bible says is true and is irrefutable (Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life). Personal preference is not found in the Bible, but is just how I prefer to do things (hymns vs contemporary music).

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

I become very calm and logical when things begin to get heated. I try to discern what is the root of the problem, and I seek for reconciliation rather than being "right." I am not afraid to have conflict and disagreement, but I do not actively seek it out.

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

A Christian should consider who they think is best for the position, but ultimately recognize that God is the only one who saves, and whether a particular candidate is elected or not, God is still sovereign.

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

Being pro-life means recognizing the sanctity of all life, both born and unborn, and treasuring all life as valuable. I think this question is too deep to give proper answer through writing, but I would counsel them to consider how God has a plan for all lives and loves all of his creation, especially children, and I would help them identify supports for them to meet whatever need it is that they think they cannot fulfill.

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

I listen to what the person has to say calmly and later reflect on what is accurate about their feedback. I also ask others to confirm the criticisms to see if it truly is something I need to amend. If things do not go my way, I try to adjust my perspective to see where God may be leading me instead. I do feel dismayed and discouraged at times, but I trust in God's sovereignty and remind myself that "not my will, but yours, be done."



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 and my closest friends. Usually when they tell me the difficult truth, I already know it deep down and I acknowledge and accept it and make the necessary changes, and apologize if that is needed.

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

I rise under pressure. At ICS, I am generally the go to person in the event of an emergency or sudden change that has a big impact on a lot of people. I generally know what to do and am able to come up with a plan and communicate to everyone clearly and effectively.

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

Tithing is biblical, it is a way of showing thankfulness to God for his provision, as well as faith that he will continue to provide for our needs. Everyone should give with a joyful heart, and should give according to their conscience.

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

The greatest need in our local church today is to understand the importance of the word of God as TRUTH and to value it above everything else. There is so much (mis)information that we are exposed to every day that it is imperative we daily submerge ourselves in God's unchanging truth. This will prevent us from being led astray, it will draw us nearer to God, and it will inspire us to live for his glory and keep our eyes set on eternity.

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

We make decisions together and hold each other accountable in leadership. We take on the responsibility of leading the church together, though we each may have different roles in leadership. When making a decision, we each have a voice and should contribute to the discussion of each decision. While we may not always be unanimous in our decisions, a consensus means a general agreement, so as long as there aren't serious moral or theological concerns with a decision, the team may make a decision where not everyone fully agrees, but where the majority agree.

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

I want to serve the body of believers and help them draw closer to God. I have been given certain skills such as teaching and leading, and I want to use my abilities in a way that glorifies God. I also believe that I meet the requirements and fit the role of an elder.

## Personal Questions

44. How did you become a Christian?

I grew up in the church so I was always familiar with God and his word and what was taught about sin and salvation. In 6th grade, I made the conscious decision that I truly did believe in God and wanted to give my life to him.

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

Right now I am learning to wait and trust in his timing, and while waiting to love his word and meditate on it. An area that I recognize as needing improvement is my prayer time. I need to be actively praying more often for others and for my own growth in my relationship with Jesus.

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

Through regular reading of God's word, through mentoring and discipling my students, and meeting with other believers to discuss God's word.

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

I am currently following a plan to read through the Bible chronologically in one year, and I am studying Psalm 119 with my small group.

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

As mentioned before, I need to practice patience and wait for God's timing rather than taking things into my own hands, and I need to spend more time in prayer, specifically for my students who do not know Christ, for my school, and for the church.

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

I don't know. I am very authentic and open and say what I think, so if you don't know already what you don't like about me, then I don't know if there is anything else.

50. What sins do you struggle with most?

I generally think I know better than most people and that I deserve recognition for the things I can do.