

# Built on the Rock: The Healthy Congregation A Webinar Bible Study



Handout for Lesson 4

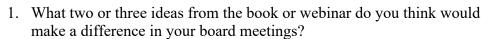
Use this handout to prepare for discussion questions. You'll answer them in the chat box, in small group breakout rooms, or in a poll. This handout also prepares you for looking up a few Bible passages.

#### **Homework Assignment from last Week**

Be prepared to discuss these questions in a small group breakout room:

Briefly introduce yourself (name and location).

Having read chapters 10 & 11 from Built on the Rock:





You'll have 6 minutes for this exercise.

- 2. Lay leaders: Name one or two ways you can provide care for your pastor(s).
- 3. Pastors: Name one or two ways that you appreciate how leaders or members show care for you and your family.

*In your chat box:* 

Share one of the ideas you think would make a difference in your board meetings.

## Conflict over Roles among Jesus' Disciples

Let's take a poll.

How did Jesus address the conflicts among His disciples regarding who was the greatest?

- 1. He taught them family systems theory.
- 2. He presented organizational behavior theories.
- 3. He recommended bylaw changes.
- 4. He addressed issues of the heart.
- 5. He told them to get lost.

## **Conflict in the Early Church**

<sup>1</sup>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup> "Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." (Acts 6:1-4 ESV)

Discuss these questions in your breakout room:

- 1. What was the main priority for the Apostles?
- 2. How were those chosen to serve to be qualified?
- 3. Read Acts 6:7. What was the result for the church?



#### **Board Types**

*Chat box question:* 

What are the dangers of a board micromanaging the staff?

### **Unique Difficulties for Lutheran Congregations**

Chat box question:

Why do you think a corporate model of policy governance (where the pastor is appointed CEO) may not work well for a Lutheran congregation?

#### **Administrative Board Model**

*Chat box question:* 

Give an example of a complaint about the Administrative Board Model (multiple boards & parish planning council)?

### **Homework Assignment for Next Week**

Be prepared to share your answers in your breakout room next week.

- 1. Read chapter 13 from Built on the Rock.
- 2. What two or three ideas from the book would help increase biblical literacy in your congregation?
- 3. After reading Case study on page 244, "Letting Go of Control," reflect on these questions:
  - a. When have I been tempted to push others to meet my expectations?
  - b. When has God shown me how He is working when I least expected it?

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