



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*:

1. What two or three ideas from the book or webinar do you think would make a difference in your board meetings?
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.



You'll have 6 minutes for this exercise.

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

¹Now 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. ²And 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. ³" "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. ⁴But 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?



You'll have 5 minutes for this exercise.

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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