Series: Father's Day



10 | Genesis 5:21-27

METHUSELAH'S FATHER WALKED WITH GOD

If you have God's heart, you will tell the lost of Jesus.

Outline

1. **BE SURE YOU ARE ON THE RIGHT PATH** (5:21-22)

The Path of Salvation
The Path of Self-Centeredness

2. **BE SURE YOU ARE GOING AT THE RIGHT PACE** (5:21-22)

Your Kids Need Togetherness with God

Your Kids Need Tenderness

Your Kids Need Teaching

Your Kids Need Time

3. **BE SURE YOU ARE GOING TO THE RIGHT PLACE** (5:23-27)

Enoch Prepared for the Right Place Enoch Preached about the Right Place

Call to Worship

I love you, O Lord, my strength.² The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. ³ I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies. —Psalm 18:1-3

Songs

Cornerstone I Surrender All Good and Gracious King Man of Sorrows You're a Good Good Father Series: Father's Day

Introduction

We continue our series in the book of Acts called "Life on Life Discipleship." Our title this morning is: "Methuselah's Father".

A father's walk with God is the greatest gift he can give to his children. I look over our congregation today, and I must say it is a beautiful sight to see so many of you fathers sitting with your children. There is something really wonderful about multi-generational godliness. We see all these fathers with their children here at Living Hope, and it is one of the greatest blessings.

Kids are so funny. I heard about **a young boy** who was sitting with his dad in church, and the offering plate was approaching. He said, "Don't pay for me, dad, I'm under five." Aren't you glad the gospel is free?

I heard about **a little girl** who walked out of the service after it was over and she said to the pastor, "When I grow up, I'm going to give you some money." The pastor said, "Thank you, dear, but why?" She said, "Because my dad says you are the poorest preacher we've ever had."

I don't know if there is a dad in this building today who, in your heart of hearts, you don't want to be **a better dad than you are**. We are understanding, in our society, that it is important for boys and girls to have a mother. But it is also important for them to have a father. This is **no slam on you wonderful single mothers** today who for a variety of circumstances and reasons are trying to provide what is needed for a child as a mother and also supplementing as best you can for a father.

But I think all of us would agree that the normal, natural thing is that every boy and girl should have a mother and also should have a father in the home.

When you read the Bible, you find an amazing truth that we are going to see today. The best thing you can do for your children as a father is to walk closely with God and introduce your children to him. It's God who has to do the work in each child's heart. But we as fathers are called to have that sweet walk with God and to watch our children walk with him.

We see this throughout the Bible. **Abraham** was father of the Hebrew race and also the father of the faith. He walked with God. He was given a son in his old age! We think about **David** who was a great king. He was a man after God's own heart, but he was not a very good father. We look to the New Testament and think about **Joseph** who was the legal father of the Lord Jesus Christ. He also was a righteous man who walked with God. Then, we think also about the **prodigal's father**. What a beautiful scene it was when the prodigal son said, "I will arise and go to my father." It pictures for us the unrelenting love of our heavenly Father. The first impression your children get of God is what they learn from you as a father. So it's vital that we fathers walk closely with God. How do we do that? I think we get some insight from Genesis 5. Most of us know about **Methuselah**, the oldest man in the Bible. But do you know his father, **Enoch**? In Genesis 5 we read about a man named Enoch who walked with God, and one day God suddenly took him. He's one of two people in the Bible that didn't suffer death but was translated directly to heaven. **Enoch** is the first, and the other is **Elijah**.

Enoch walked with God, and the Lord translated him one day to heaven. Wouldn't that be amazing? It's a dress rehearsal for when Jesus comes again. That will happen to all of us if we are alive during the Second coming. What an adventure that must have been for Enoch. Let us read about it in Genesis 5.

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Genesis 5:21-27 When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah. 22 Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³ Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him. **25** When Methuselah had lived 187 years, fathered Lamech. ²⁶ Methuselah lived after he fathered Lamech 782 years and had other sons and daughters. 27 Thus all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died.

Methuselah is known as the oldest man who ever lived. According to the Bible he lived **969 years**. Before the worldwide flood in Noah's day, there was a canopy over the earth. It had never rained before the flood. The earth's atmosphere was like an hyperbaric oxygen chamber, and people lived a lot longer. There was also a major hit to the gene pool in the flood. But before the flood, people lived much, much longer.

Adam lived 930 years and was alive during the first 237 years of Methuselah's life. It is quite likely they knew each other. Methuselah died in the same year of the worldwide floodyes, that flood.

Methuselah's father, **Enoch**, is more familiar to us. We know that Enoch was a man who walked with God. There something really special in verse 21 for fathers. I want us to notice something. "Enoch lived for 65 years and fathered Methuselah." Then in verse 22 it says, "And Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah."

Had you ever noticed that before? It is specifically said in Scripture that this man Enoch began to walk with God **after he became a father**. You know, of course, that parenthood changes you. From time to time, we see couples who are coming back that we haven't seen in a long time. Maybe they were brought up in our high school ministry and all of a sudden, they are married. Children come along and here they are. They say, "We haven't been in church like we should, but we have a baby now and we decided to come back to church." God bless you wonderful moms and dads for doing that. It changes things when you become a parent.

I remember when our first child was born. Katie is sitting over here somewhere. I remember how excited and thrilled I was to become a father. I was going to be the world's greatest father. When it came time to bring our precious little Katie home, we came home from the hospital. Jill and I wrapped that tiny little thing in little baby blanket. I didn't know what to do with her! I'm glad Jill did.

We took her home. We put her in the little bassinette. I was going to be a great dad. Things were going quite well until about 2 o'clock in the morning and Katie began to cry. I said, "Jill, your baby is crying. You have to do something about it." Isn't it funny at 2 o'clock in the morning Katie belonged to Jill! I love you dedicated mothers. But fatherhood changes a man. There is just something about it.

It's interesting to watch parents when that first one comes along. Katie seemed so fragile. You don't breathe on the little one. It might crack. Oh, you wouldn't dare put our firstborn in the nursery. They would never take care of our precious little one. Then about the time the fourth one comes along we go to the nursery and say, Catch!

But fatherhood changes you. What man of us, when children have come along and we have become fathers, have not prayed a prayer something like this. "Oh, God, make me the father I ought to be. Oh, God make me the man for my sons and daughters I ought to be."

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It seems to have been this kind of circumstances that caused Enoch to begin to walk with God. I want to give some quick suggestions to the fathers in this congregation this morning which I hope will help you to be the dad that in your heart you want to be, based on the life of this man Enoch.

Key thought: Our only hope as fathers for our children is that we would walk closely with God and bring our kids into our walk with God.

The first thing I want to say to all of your fathers is this.

1. BE SURE YOU ARE ON THE RIGHT PATH (5:21-22)

The Bible says after he became a father, that "Enoch walked with God."

THE PATH OF SALVATION

Genesis 5:21-22 | When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah. ²² Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters.

That means that Enoch got on the right path. It was a difficult day when Enoch came along. It was a society very much like our society. In fact, God began warning Enoch about the judgement that was coming in the flood. When little Methuselah was born, something radical happened to this man Enoch. First, Enoch got a warning from God.

One of Enoch's prophecies is found in the meaning of Methuselah's name: "When he dies, it shall come." 1

Enoch knew the world was temporary. God had told him a flood was coming. The world as he knew it was going to be wiped away. And then right around that time, he fathers Methuselah.

Enoch didn't always walk with God. There was a time when he was like everybody else, but he got a warning from God, and it seems he had a sudden conversion. It happened about the time of the birth of his baby boy, for the Bible says he "Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years" (Gen 5:22). The Bible says he began to walk with God. That means he got on the right path. That means Enoch was a believer in the true God. Enoch opened up his heart and his life and received the Lord.

Have you done that? Have you been saved? The greatest thing you could ever give to that son or daughter is to give them a dad who knows the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Are you on the road that leads to heaven? Where are you leading your sons and your daughters? Are you on the right path? Are you born again? Do you know it?

Scott and Me. When I was a kid, I'd go on walks with my big brother who was six foot, six inches. He is fourteen years old me. On our walks I would try and keep up. I'd have to take two big leaps to keep up with his one stride. Every step he would take I would try to stretch my little legs and take the same steps as my brother. I was following my brother. How about you dad, where are you leading your children? Have you chosen to walk with God like Enoch?

¹ J. Phillips, *Exploring Genesis*, Ge 5:6–32.

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The father is the spiritual key in the family. If there is a fire in his heart, then often the rest of the family follows. If there is coldness in his heart, the rest of the family suffers.

Every dad can be a great father if you will humbly follow the heavenly Father. Don't stand there with your arms crossed when they fail. All our children will make their own mistakes. You keep your arms open, just like our heavenly Father. Let Jesus Christ be the center of your life. Make sure you are on the right path. Make sure Jesus is the center of your life.

THE PATH OF SELF-CENTEREDNESS

Some men make other things the center of their lives. Our wives and children are not most important thing. Jesus gave us priorities in his Sermon on the Mount.

Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. —Matthew 6:33

If Christ is leading your life, then not just your heart, but your whole life is in his hands. Put Christ first, and he will provide the rest. Some men make their **work** the center of their life. Work is important but it is not the main thing. Sports has become the center in the lives of others.

I heard about a guy that when football season was starting, he went over to the television, looked at his wife and said, "Do you have anything to say before the seasons starts?" Of course, all of us guys can identify with that. Sports can be fine. But don't let your work, don't let sports, don't let other things be the center of your life. Let Jesus be the center of your life if you want to be the kind of father you need to be and the kind of wife that you need to be and the kind of mom you need to be. In Philippians 1, verse 21, the apostle Paul said,

For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. —Philippians 1:21

Be honest about it. What would you say right there? For me to live is... What would it be to you? If you put anything there instead of Jesus Christ, you cannot say to die is gain. You have something other than Jesus at the center of your life. That's idolatry. Put Jesus in the center of your life. Enoch got on the right path. We certainly have cause to believe that Methuselah also got on the right path. We certainly have cause to believe that Methuselah was able to lead his sons and daughters to know the Lord. You have a responsibility to those little ones.

Have you ever thought about it, when you bring a baby into this world, you have brought a piece of eternity into this world? You had everything to do with their being here and you will have a great deal to do with where they go after they leave here. Your children have heart problems. Every one of you boys and girls has heart problems. The Bible says that all of those precious boys and girls are born with a sinful nature. Where did they get that sinful nature? They got it from you. All of us are born with that fallen sinful nature. All of us need to repent of our sins and receive Christ into our hearts and lives. Oh, dad, what a privilege it would be to lead that boy or girl to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.

In just a few minutes I'm going to invite many dads to come forward to receive Jesus as your Savior. Did you know that there was never a time that Methuselah did know that his father was walking with God? You say, preacher, you don't know the things I've done. You don't know how awful I've lived. No. I don't. But I know this. I know if you will receive Jesus

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Christ as your Savior those little boys and girls can never know a time that their dad was not a Christian. Never know a time that their dad did not walk with God on the right path.

That's the first word I have for all of you dads. Be sure you are on the right path. That means you also need to do something else.

2. BE SURE YOU ARE GOING AT THE RIGHT PACE (5:21-22)

Then it says Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah.

Genesis 5:21-22a | When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah. ²² Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years...

YOUR KIDS NEED TOGETHERNESS WITH GOD

When Methuselah was born, Enoch was struck by his need to walk with God. He knew in order to lead his boy, he had to have a Leader himself. What did it mean that Enoch walked with God. Hebrews tells us that Enoch lived a life that pleased God by faith.

By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. —*Hebrews 11:5*

Enoch was at a pace that his son Methuselah could follow after. Jesus said we should be giving the Gospel to our kids, and one of the best ways is to walk with God yourself.

If you walk with God that means you are going at the right pace. Enoch pleased God in all he did. It was such a special relationship that God translated him to heaven. Enoch **heard from God** from his word and Spirit. He walked at the pace God was going. The Bible says:

Can two walk together except they be agreed? —Amos 3:3

Enoch lived a life that pleased the Lord! He heard from God. He walked with God. Like Elisha, Enoch was a man of like passions as all of us. He wasn't special. But he pleased God through faith. It's the same way that we can please God. God speaks to us and leads us. Can I ask you a question? Is God leading you?

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. —Psalm 23:3

What a privilege fathers that you are not alone! The Father in heaven loves you. It's such a massive job to be a father. You don't have to be intimidated by it. You go to the heavenly Father. He'll hear your heart. You work hard. You want to do right. Your Father in heaven will sustain you. Walk with him. If you don't know him, you'll lead your dear children in the wrong direction.

I want to give you some practical things as to how you can walk with God and bring your kids into that walk of worship.

YOUR KIDS NEED TENDERNESS

Be gentle. There is a **command to be gentle to your children** in Ephesians 6. You have to guide them with gentleness.

Message: Methuselah's Father (Enoch) Series: Father's Day

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. —*Ephesians 6:4*

Nurture your kids. When you see the word discipline, think "disciple" or "learner." Bring them up as learners. There is a nurture to this Godward education. Your children need to learn God's presence. Jesus reflects the Father. He's what all fathers should be like. What was Jesus like? Matthew tells us.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. —*Matthew 11:29*

Be tender hearted with your dear children. You can yell at an intruder or someone who's going to hurt your family, but don't yell at your kids. Instruct them in meekness and in lowliness. Treat them as human beings. They are not your tools. They are not extensions of you. They are unique people, made in the image of God.

One way you can be tender with your children is to pray for them. Christian fathers can and do share in Christ's priestly work by praying for their children. We see this priestly work in the way Job ministered before the Lord for his family.

There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. ⁴ His sons used to go and hold a feast in the house of each one on his day, and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. ⁵ And when the days of the feast had run their course, Job would send and consecrate them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my children have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did continually. —Job 1:1, 4–5

YOUR KIDS NEED TEACHING

We are called to teach our kids. You have a teaching responsibility as a father.

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. —*Ephesians 6:4*

There is more to being a father than just contributing to their DNA. You have a responsibility to lead those dear children to know Christ personally. It is the father's responsibility, if possible, to teach in the home.

Be Intentional

Not only does Ephesians say not to provoke, but as we said, the fathers are to disciple their children. When we hear "discipline," we think "correction." That's not what the word means. It literally means to disciple them. To educate them in word and practice. Teach them the word but teach them to walk in the word and practice the word. Don't be a hearer but a practice of the word. We are also to bring instruction or admonition. That means to walk alongside your child and encourage them as well as warn them.

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Be Evangelistic

Your children are not likely going to hear the Gospel outside of your home. You've got to teach them who Jesus is. Don't just drop them off at church and leave them. Work with them to sit in the church services and hear the preaching of the word. Teach them at home. When children sin, that's the best time to tell them about the grace of Jesus. When there is disobedience, do your kids only know that you are angry? Don't make their sin about you. Don't have a "how dare you" attitude. You are a sinner. Eat some humble pie. Give your children grace. They surely will need correction but be gentle. Be humble. They need to see the love of the heavenly Father through you. Teach them what the hymn writer William Cowper knew. He wrote: "There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins. And sinners plunged beneath that flood; lose all their guilty stains."

Be Worshipful

We need to invite our children into the worship of God. Enoch walked with God, and I believe Methuselah was right there with him. We should be able to say to our children the words of Psalm 34. Come experience God for yourself!

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! ¹¹ Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. —*Psalm 34:8*, 11

The Bible says that we who trust in Christ are a royal priesthood, authorized and anointed to perform priestly service in God's spiritual temple (1 Pet 2:5, 9). Dad, you are a priest in God's spiritual temple. As a priest you are to point them to the true priest, Jesus Christ. He is our High Priest. They need to see his goodness as you worship him. Bring them into your worship of him. Kneel down with them and grasp their hand when you pray. Don't just pray rote requests but praise the Lord. They need to hear your prayers of thanksgiving and joy.

YOUR KIDS NEED TIME

How important it is to spend time with your children. Paul tells us:

Make the best use of the time, because the days are evil.—Ephesians 5:16

That's a one of the biggest difficulties with most of you men sitting here. I read some time ago that the average man spends less than five minutes a day with his children. That's not enough time. Remember you are the gatekeeper of your home. I learned a powerful lesson about time a long time ago.

If you say yes to something, you are saying no to something else.

Don't say no to your kids when it comes to spending time with them. I know that you dear dads are tired. You are physically tired. You are mentally tired. You are emotionally tired. Some of you men get up early and go to the job. You are under tremendous pressure. You have to work early and late hours. But let me encourage you, men, to make time to spend with your sons and daughters. Remember this:

² William Cowper. There is a Fountain Filled with Blood (Olney Hymnal, Olney, England, 1772).

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No one ever got to the end of their life and said, "I wish I had spent more time at work, and less time with my kids."

Enoch walked with God. His little boy Methuselah motivated him to walk with God. I'm sure he wanted little Methuselah to know the tender love of the heavenly Father. What a privilege we have to walk with God and our kids, side by side.

Enoch got on the right path—he was a well saved man. Dad, be sure you are on the right path, on that **path** of Christ's righteousness. Enoch walked with God. That means he went at the right **pace**. Men, go at the right pace.

3. BE SURE YOU ARE GOING TO THE RIGHT PLACE (5:23-27)

Of course, one day, Enoch is walking with God, and suddenly, he's in the presence of God. It's like a dress rehearsal for the second coming of Christ.

ENOCH PREPARED FOR THE RIGHT PLACE

Genesis 5:23-24 | Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

Enoch went to heaven without dying. He went right into glory, and he never died. But his son, Methuselah died, according to this passage of Scripture.

God gave Enoch's obituary. Enoch walked with God and he was not. God took him. Methuselah lived 969 years and he died. Methuselah died just before the flood came. With Methuselah gone, there were only eight righteous people on the earth left. Imagine the persecution Methuselah must have endured. The day grew darker and darker. The clouds came in. And Methuselah died just before the flood. Where did he go? He went to the same place his daddy went. Can you just imagine that reunion in heaven. Methuselah might have witnessed that glorious homegoing to glory. His father was suddenly taken to heaven. Maybe it was like Elijah in a chariot of fire. We really don't know.

A little boy came home one Sunday morning and as some dads do, dad had stayed home to watch the game. The little boy came home, and he was kind of playing around his dad's knees and trying to get his dad's attention. Dad was watching the game. After a while the little fellow just jumped up in his dad's lap. Dad held him and hugged him a little bit.

Then the little boy looked at his dad and said, "Dad, guess what the Sunday school teacher asked me this morning."

He didn't even take his eyes off the game. "What did the teacher ask this morning?"

The little boy said, "The teacher asked when we died where did we want to go?"

That got the dad's attention. He looked down at the boy and said, "Son, what did you tell them?"

The little guy crawled up a little closer and cupped his hands around his daddy's face and whispered in his ear, "I told my teacher when I die I want to go where my daddy goes."

Dad, where is your eternal destination? Are you ready to meet God? How can your children be ready if you're not ready?

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ENOCH PREACHED ABOUT THE RIGHT PLACE

Methuselah lived a long time, but I'm sure he never forgot his father's walk with God and his father's preaching. We have Enoch's preaching recorded in the book of Jude. Enoch's favorite subject was the second coming of Christ.

It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, 15 to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him. —Jude 14-15

Who do you think was the first person that met Methuselah when he went through the gates of glory? I have a feeling that it was Enoch. Enoch, by walking with God, had led his son to the right place.

Jesus is coming again. Are you ready? Enoch was ready. Enoch was one of two people to never experience death. The other was Elijah in the chariot of fire.

Enoch got to experience what we may experience, if Jesus comes back in our lifetime. The Bible says there's coming a day when every eyes sees Jesus!

For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words. -2 Thessalonians 4:16-18

Fathers, be encouraged. Enoch was a man just like you. He didn't have the wisdom to raise his boy Methuselah and the rest of his kids. So he sought God. He walked with God. You can too. Get your wisdom from God. That's where true wisdom comes from.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. —*Proverbs 9:10*

Conclusion

Let me encourage you and tell you about Enoch and how he was translated miraculously to heaven without dying. Saints, he went to heaven without dying. He didn't go through the grave. And nobody knew what happened to him. The Bible said he "was not found" (Heb 11:5) That means they looked for him. They couldn't explain it. The truth we all need to be ready to be translated to heaven. Christ could come at any moment. Aren't you ready?

Well, happy Father's Day! We can't be better fathers by looking to ourselves. Our children will follow a dad who truly loves God and invites them into a sweet walk with God.

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Q and A with Associate Pastoral Candidate Jose Salgado

Introduction

As we begin, I want to welcome all of you and our candidate for the position of the Hispanic Pastor this morning. [OPEN IN PRAYER]

Initial Questions

- 1. Please tell us a brief account of your testimony of salvation and how God saved you.
- 2. Do you feel that God has called you to the ministry? If so please let us know why.
- 3. Also, do you feel that you are called specifically to Living Hope to this position of the Hispanic Pastor? Why and how do you know that?
- 4. It has been observed that significant growth and impact on a congregational level often occurs after a minister has faithfully served several years. It is our desire to hire an associate that will serve on a more long-term basis. If everything works out, how long could you envision serving the Lord at Living Hope?
- 5. Are you in full agreement with our Doctrinal statement, our church covenant, and our constitution, and do you believe yourself to meet the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3?
- 6. Are you ordained? If not, would you be willing to go through the process of ordination at Living Hope?
- 7. Tell us about your theological education strengths / weaknesses of the program.
- 8. Does your wife support you becoming a Pastor at Living Hope Bible Church?
- 9. Do you feel you are ready for the many challenges and hardships in ministry?
- 10. What has been your involvement/experience in evangelism? Would you have a desire to be trained and mentored in evangelism so that you could from time to time lead an evangelistic team from the church?
- 11. What are a few of your passions, goals, etc., in regards to ministry as a Pastor at Living Hope?

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- 12. What is your philosophy of ministry and worship are you conservative in your music and worship? What are the elements of good worship congregational songs?
- 13. What will your duties be if you are approved to be the Hispanic Pastor?
- 14. Who are your favorite Christian writers, commentators, theologians, etc.? Why?
- 15. Describe your leadership style. What have been some weaknesses? Strengths?

Congregation Questions

- 16. How would you minister to a practicing homosexual attending the church?
- 17. What are your views regarding inter racial marriage and would you perform a wedding ceremony between such couples?
- 18. What are your views regarding the role of women serving in the church?

Ecclesiology

- 19. What is your position on the Lord's Supper?
- 20. Describe your routine in preparing sermons. How much time each week is dedicated to sermon preparation? How does it compare to the about of time spent in other pastoral duties?
- 21. What attracts you to Living Hope Bible Church?
- 22. How does this ministry position fit within your career plan? How long would you anticipate staying at this church?

Personal

- 23. Describe your personal plan for your devotional life. How often do you read through the entire Bible? Would you describe yourself as a Word-saturated minister of the Gospel?
- 24. How do you cope with stress and disappointments in life and ministry?
- 25. Are there any topics you feel uncomfortable preaching about?
- 26. Some people believe a church can become too big; others feel that a church should become as large as possible. What are your views on this?
- 27. What are your plans if you don't get the position of being a Pastor at Living Hope?