

# Survey of Christian Men 2005

Thank you for taking part in this survey aimed at uncovering the attitudes of young Christian men towards pastoral ministry. The survey is particularly targeted at young men considering pastoral ministry, currently in training or those who have been in the job of pastor-teacher for up to 5 years.

The survey has been produced by Generation Next, in association with Affinity and with the support of a number of Christian leaders from both Anglican and Free Church traditions. The purpose of the survey is to discover why there is a lack of young men responding to the need for full time pastor-teachers. Many of the initiatives aimed at addressing this issue have been largely based on anecdotal evidence. The results of this survey will provide some new information and should be an important addition to the current debate.

We want to assure you that your responses will be treated in absolute confidence. When the results have been analysed they will be made publicly available. There is space within the survey to complete an e-mail contact if you would like to receive details of the results.

*Details of how to complete the survey are shown below.*

## **COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE**

*Please read this page carefully before completing the survey*

### **General**

The survey should take around 15 minutes to complete.

Please work through Sections A-G, ticking the most appropriate response(s) from those listed. Section H gives you an opportunity to provide any additional comments you feel may be of value

Please try to answer every question. If you feel unable to do so for any reason, please leave it blank rather than selecting a response that doesn't reflect how you feel.

### **Your Comments**

Please complete Section H. Your comments will provide important additional information, to help us in understanding the view of young Christian men.

Thank you for taking the time and effort to complete this survey.

### **Please send the completed survey to:**

Generation Next  
4 Woodlands Way  
North Baddesley  
Southampton  
SO52 9HE

**The closing date for survey responses is 31/08/2005**

# Section A: Personal Details

In order for us to understand the situation of our respondents we would be grateful if you could complete the following questions about yourself

A1

**Please indicate which area of the UK you live in:**

1. North East
2. North West
3. Midlands
4. Wales
5. Scotland
6. South East
7. South West
8. Non UK

A2

**How old are you?**

1. Less than 21
2. 21 - 25
3. 26 - 30
4. 31 - 35
5. 36 - 40
6. Over 40

A3

**Please indicate your family situation:**

1. Single
2. Married without family
3. Married with family

A4

**What academic qualifications do you hold? Please tick all categories that apply.**

1. None
2. GCSE/O Level (or equivalent)
3. A Level (or equivalent)
4. Degree (or equivalent)
5. Professional Qualification
6. Theological Qualification

**A5****What is your most recent secular career? Please choose the category that best fits.**

- |                      |                          |                        |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Administration    | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Manufacturing      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Agriculture       | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. Marketing          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Catering          | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Media              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Construction      | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17. Public Sector      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Customer Services | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18. Retailing          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Education         | <input type="checkbox"/> | 19. Sales              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Engineering       | <input type="checkbox"/> | 20. Science            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Finance           | <input type="checkbox"/> | 21. Student            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Health            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 22. Telecommunications | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Human Resources  | <input type="checkbox"/> | 23. Transport          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. IT               | <input type="checkbox"/> | 24. Tourism            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Legal            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 25. Unemployed         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. Management       | <input type="checkbox"/> | 26. None               | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**A6****What is your current salary level?**

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Less than £10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. £10,000 - £19,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. £20,000 - £29,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. £30,000 - £49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. £50,000 - £74,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. £75,000 +         | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**A7****Are any of your immediate family in full time Christian work?  
Please tick all of the categories that apply.**

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Parent             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Brother or Sister  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Wife or Girlfriend | <input type="checkbox"/> |

# Section B: Church Details & Christian Service

In order for us to understand the situation of our respondents we would be grateful if you could complete the following questions about yourself

**B1** **What is the average Sunday morning attendance of your church?**

- 1. Less than 25
- 2. 25 - 49
- 3. 50 - 99
- 4. 100 - 149
- 5. 150 - 299
- 6. 300 +

**B2** **What type of church do you attend currently?**

- 1. Anglican
- 2. Independent Evangelical
- 3. Other : please specify

**B3** **How many full and part time paid workers are there in your church?**

- 1. None
- 2. One
- 3. Two
- 4. Three, Four or Five
- 5. Six or more

**B4** **What opportunities for leadership have you had? Please tick all categories that apply.**

1. Administrator <input type="checkbox"/>	7. Evangelist <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Assistant Minister/Curate <input type="checkbox"/>	8. Lay Reader <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Church Warden <input type="checkbox"/>	9. Minister <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Church Council Member <input type="checkbox"/>	10. Small Group Leader <input type="checkbox"/>
5. Deacon <input type="checkbox"/>	11. Youth Leader <input type="checkbox"/>
6. Elder <input type="checkbox"/>	12. Other <input type="checkbox"/>

**B5****What opportunities for bible ministry have you had?**

1. Preaching
2. Small Group Study
3. 1-1 Study
4. Youth Ministry

**B6****How often do you preach on average in one year?**

1. 3 times or less
2. 4 - 6
3. 7 - 12
4. 13 - 20
5. 21 - 50
6. More than 50 times

**B7****What is your current situation with regard to full-time ministry?**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. More than 5 years in the ministry <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Uncertain about ministry, open to the possibility <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Less than 5 years in the ministry <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Have considered but rejected <input type="checkbox"/>                      |
| 3. In training <input type="checkbox"/>                       | 8. Not actively considering <input type="checkbox"/>                          |
| 4. Preparing to enter training <input type="checkbox"/>       |   |
| 5. Seriously considering ministry <input type="checkbox"/>    |   |

**B8****Who has actively encouraged you to consider full-time ministry?  
Please tick all categories that apply.**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Minister <input type="checkbox"/>      | 5. Church member <input type="checkbox"/>                    |
| 2. Family member <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Christian Organisation e.g. 9:38 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Spouse <input type="checkbox"/>        | 7. Nobody <input type="checkbox"/>                           |
| 4. Friend <input type="checkbox"/>        |  |

**B9****How have they done this? Please tick all categories that apply.**

1. Encouraging
2. Praying for you
3. Preaching or Bible study
4. Mentoring, 1-1 Conversation
5. Giving opportunity to test gifts

# Section C: The Role of Minister

Please work through this section, ticking the most appropriate response from those listed.

Please try to answer every question. If you feel unable to do so for any reason, please leave it blank rather than selecting a response that doesn't reflect how you feel.

		Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Tend to Disagree	Disagree
C1	It is a privilege to serve God as a minister.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C2	The role of minister is no more or less important than any other role in a church.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C3	Churches expect ministers to be multi-talented.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C4	It is generally easier to be a minister than work in a secular environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C5	Being a minister is a lonely job.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C6	A minister is respected by members of their congregation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C7	Ministers face an undue amount of criticism.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C8	There is little emphasis on excellence in the pastoral ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C9	Being involved in gospel work is the best job a man could have.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C10	The status of the minister was/is lower than my secular job.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C11	The workload of a minister is about right compared to other secular jobs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C12	I find the prospect of having to deal with complex pastoral problems daunting.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Section D: Gifts and Calling

Please work through this section, ticking the most appropriate response from those listed.

Please try to answer every question. If you feel unable to do so for any reason, please leave it blank rather than selecting a response that doesn't reflect how you feel.

		Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Tend to Disagree	Disagree
D1	I feel a sense of calling is necessary in order to enter full-time ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D2	I am confused over what constitutes a 'call' to full-time christian work.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D3	Christian leaders have recognised my gifting.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D4	I have felt a 'special' call to full-time ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D5	I have felt a sense of call, but this has not been recognised by others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D6	I am uncertain whether God has gifted me for full-time ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D7	I am not sure if I have the right character for full-time ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D8	I get a buzz out of teaching the bible to others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D9	I would like to spend more time in bible ministry than I do.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D10	I am/was frustrated that my secular career is/was not directly benefiting God's kingdom.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D11	My wife shares my commitment to ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D12	My family would be/have been adversely affected by my entering full-time ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Section E: Training and Nurture

Please work through this section, ticking the most appropriate response from those listed.

Please try to answer every question. If you feel unable to do so for any reason, please leave it blank rather than selecting a response that doesn't reflect how you feel.

		Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Tend to Disagree	Disagree
E1	My church is committed to seeking out and training young men.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E2	A christian leader is discipling or mentoring me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E3	I have enough preaching opportunities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E4	I receive regular feedback on my preaching.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E5	I have been given enough opportunities to test leadership gifts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E6	There is enough information about what training is available.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E7	There is conflicting advice about what training is appropriate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E8	Attending theological college on a full-time basis is important prior to entering full-time ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E9	Finding sufficient funding for any training is/ was not a major issue for me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E10	I am/was not concerned about finding a ministerial position at the end of training.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E11	There is a clear process for finding a church at the end of training.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Section F: Pay and Benefits

Please work through this section, ticking the most appropriate response from those listed.

Please try to answer every question. If you feel unable to do so for any reason, please leave it blank rather than selecting a response that doesn't reflect how you feel.

		Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Tend to Disagree	Disagree
F1	I think there is more satisfaction in full-time christian work than in a secular career.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F2	Financial considerations are/were a major issue for me entering full-time ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F3	I believe ministers get a fair wage for the job they do.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F4	Entering full-time ministry would/did see a large reduction in my standard of living.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F5	Seeing people grow and serving God is the main reward for the minister.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F6	I am confident that the church in general sets appropriate financial terms for their workers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F7	I am willing to make financial sacrifices to be in full time christian work.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F8	I believe churches expect ministers to sacrifice too much.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F9	I know of gifted young men who cannot financially afford to go into the ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F10	Ministers should have the opportunity for further study and training.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Section G: The Church and Church Leaders

Please work through this section, ticking the most appropriate response from those listed.

Please try to answer every question. If you feel unable to do so for any reason, please leave it blank rather than selecting a response that doesn't reflect how you feel.

		Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Tend to Disagree	Disagree
G1	Being entrusted with the care of God's people is a privilege.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G2	I believe most churches would be receptive to changes I would make.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G3	I am willing to suffer for the gospel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G4	I am selective about the type of situations where I would be willing to minister.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G5	Many church members are difficult to deal with.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G6	I relish the challenge of moving a church on to greater maturity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G7	Leaders in my church view the nurture of young men as a high priority.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G8	I believe there is a reluctance to give young men preaching opportunities in case they fail.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G9	Churches are willing to send their best young men to serve elsewhere.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G10	I believe leaders in my church view younger men as a threat.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G11	There are enough apprentice/assistant positions where young men can learn and develop.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G12	I have seen great role models of ministers that inspired me to think about the role for myself.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Section H: Your Comments

You can use the box below to provide any further information you feel would be of interest. In particular, in your opinion what is the main reason for the lack of young men entering full-time ministry at the present time.

*Thank you for taking the time and effort to complete this survey.*

If you would like to receive details of the survey results, please include an e-mail address in the box below.

### **Please send the completed survey to:**

Generation Next  
4 Woodlands Way  
North Baddesley  
Southampton  
SO52 9HE

**The closing date for survey responses is 31/08/2005**