

# THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PASTORAL SERVICES AND CHURCH MEMBERS' WORSHIP ACTIVENESS IN CANAAN SDA CHURCH

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## Abstract

*The purpose of this quantitative study is to determine whether there is a link between pastoral ministry and church members' worship participation in Canaan Airmadidi Seventh-day Adventist Church. Using the convenience sampling method, a questionnaire was distributed to 100 baptist members of the Canaan Airmadidi Seventh-day Adventist church. This research demonstrates that the pastor devotes a significant amount of time to ministering to the people of this church. Furthermore, the congregation's participation in worship is very high. It means that the church members are always involved in church services. Likewise, there is a positive and significant correlation between the pastoral ministry and the activeness of the church members in the worship program in the Canaan Airmadidi Seventh-day Adventist Church.*

**Keywords:** church members' activeness, pastoral ministry, worship

## Introduction

The pastoral ministry is vital to the church members. A faithful servant of God (pastor) is prepared to sacrifice for others with no strings attached.<sup>1</sup> A pastor's role as a minister of the gospel is to serve the people as an example so that God's people can also serve others.<sup>2</sup> Pastors have an obligation to determine the congregation's spiritual life in various forms of visiting the people. The problem occurs when a pastor does not come to see a

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<sup>1</sup>Pardede, S. R. (2012). *Sikap Seorang Pelayan*. Diunduh dari: <http://bejanaindah.blogspot.co.id/2012/04/hamba-atau-tuan-sikap-seorang-pelayan.html>

<sup>2</sup>Price, C, *Saran-Saran Praktis Untuk Pelayanan Yang Berhasil*  
Jakarta: Immanuel, 1993

member, he may not attend worship, but when the pastor does come to visit him, he will attend worship. As a result, the researcher wants to see if the pastor's ministry has anything to do with the congregation's worship activity by looking at some of the situations that arise during congregational worship.

Another issue is the congregation's participation in worship. Members now believe that it is not an issue if they do not attend worship events or arrive late to worship gatherings.<sup>3</sup> When people come to worship in the congregation, we can see both young and old people; some may not attend the sabbath school program and only come to hear the sermon. Similarly, several members of the congregation did not attend service on the mid-week prayer requests. It can be noticed that the congregation's level of participation in worship has reduced. This indicates that there are issues with members who believe it is not a problem if they do not attend worship programs and arrive late for each worship activity, indicating that further investigation is required.

The purpose of this study is to obtain information about the level of pastoral ministry and the level of the congregation's activeness in worship and to see if there is a relationship or not.  $H_0$  = There is no significant relationship between pastoral ministry and church members' activeness in worship. The following limitations apply to this study, which focuses solely on the relationship between the pastoral ministry and the congregation's worship activeness:

The scope of ministerial work is restricted to the sphere of travel, the preaching of the gospel by the church pastor to members of his congregation, and data gathered through questionnaires based on respondents' impressions. The data on congregational participation at worship services are confined to self-administered surveys.

The benefit of this research is to provide information or input to pastors so that they can understand the significance of the ministry that God has entrusted to them to shepherd church members, as well as for churches to understand the importance of boosting their willingness to participate in every worship event.

This research was conducted at Canaan Seventh-day Adventist Church, Airmadidi, North Minahasa, and held on 7-9 September 2020 involving 100 baptist members. The researcher employed a questionnaire adapted from the Pardosi questionnaire to collect data on the relationship between pastoral ministry and church member activeness in worship. The pastoral ministry questionnaire contains ten question items, and the church member activeness questionnaire contains ten question items.

### Methodology

The goal of this quantitative study using description-correlation is to determine how the level of pastoral ministry and the congregation's activeness in worship are related. This research is descriptive in nature, where the level of ministerial service, as well as the level of activeness of the congregation in worship, are determined using the average value.

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<sup>3</sup>Elia Gultom, *Elia Moderen*. Bandung: Indonesia Publising House, 2009

### **Pastoral Ministry in the Shepherding**

Shepherding is one of a pastor's responsibilities. According to Murtiningsih who collected data from the Indonesian Christian Church members, there are several types of pastoral care. Pastoral care is divided into two types: general and special. General pastoral care is directed at all members of the congregation, including those who are experiencing serious problems as well as those who are not experiencing problems but nonetheless want guidance and care. Meanwhile, pastoral care is targeted at members of the congregation who act in a way that contradicts God's Word and GKI's teachings. The congregation will stay in the general pastorate if their activities do not contradict God's Word or GKI's beliefs.<sup>4</sup>

The quality of pastoral care is demonstrated to all members of the congregation, both those who are experiencing problems and those who are not, and they all receive the pastor's instruction and attention.<sup>5</sup> Ellen White claims that "after a pastor has conveyed the god's word from the pulpit, his ministry has only just begun." It was time to begin on the lights. He should go to people's houses, talk to them, and pray with them fervently and humbly."<sup>6</sup>

### **Pastoral Services in Word Preaching**

One of a pastor's responsibilities is to preach the gospel. Preaching is the act of a human being proclaiming the good news to others. Preaching is the act of conveying God's word. It is not human teachings and customs, charming fairy tales or thrilling stories to excite imagination and awaken emotions,<sup>7</sup> That is why Christ's vocation is to "preach the word." Furthermore, preaching the Word is the art of communicating divine truth via human personality. A Word preacher is essentially a communicator. He receives information from God and efficiently delivers it to men. All worship meetings and congregational gatherings are to worship God for His creative work and for His saving blessing to grasp His word, His teachings, and His purposes so that we might be friends in faith and love with one another. To understand how to testify of one's faith in Christ's atoning sacrifice on the cross and to fulfil the gospel requirement of making disciples all over the globe (Matt. 28:19, 20)<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>Enung Murtiningsih, *Peran Pendeta Dalam Pengembalaan Umum Di Jemaat Gki Klasis Yogyakarta*, 2009, Taken from <http://sinta.ukdw.ac.id>

<sup>5</sup>Leonard Hutabarat, *Hubungan pengembalaan dengan pelayanan*, 2010, Taken from: <http://hubungan-pengembalaan-dengan-pelayanan.blogspot.co.id/>

<sup>6</sup>Ellen White, *Pelayanan Injil*. Bandung: Indonesia Publising House, 1995, 25.

<sup>7</sup>Ginger, Evans, Learning, *Violence, and the Social Structure of Value*, 2006. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-8676.2006.tb00038.x>

<sup>8</sup>*Peraturan Jemaat*, Bandung: Indonesia Publising House, 2005), 151.

A sermon is a skill of presenting good news in a way that is well-organized, imaginative, and relevant. The message should center on God, as revealed in Christ Jesus. The kingdom of God and discipleship and fruitful living (character of Christ). That is, when the preacher presents the Word of God, the sermon should be focused on God and set a positive example, like what Christ did.<sup>9</sup>

### **Pastoral Service in the Field of Evangelism**

Jesus Christ established the ministry of His church on earth before rising to heaven. "Go ye then and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost; teach them to obey all I have commanded you," He said to His disciples (Matt. 28: 19,20). Luke repeats this command in Acts 1: 8: "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth." As a result, it can be argued that the church's mission on this planet is to make all countries followers of Jesus and teach them to follow in His footsteps.<sup>10</sup>

A pastor serves as a motivator to do good in the name of Jesus. God desires Christians to help one another.<sup>11</sup> The Lord Jesus in John 13:14-15 said, so if I wash your feet, I who am your Lord and Teacher, then you also ought to wash one another's feet; for I have set an example to you, that you also should do as I have done to you. Every Christian has a responsibility to serve others. As a result, refusing to serve is an example of Christ's disobedience.

### **The Relationship Between Pastoral Service and Church Members Activeness in Worship**

The pastor's role is to shepherd the church faithfully with his heart, mind, and soul. The pastors recognize the gifts, duties, and obligations of his ministry. The pastor is even referred to as "The Lord of the House of God" (Titus 1:7), implying that he oversees and promotes the organization of God's congregation.<sup>12</sup>

A servant of God who is called to shepherd the church members is responsible not only to God and to the church he is shepherding, but also to thousands of unsaved souls

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<sup>9</sup>Yotam, T. Kusnandar, *Khotbah adalah seni berkomunikasi*. Vol. 50, 18, 2017.

<sup>10</sup>Milton, Pardosi, *Pengaruh Kualitas Kepemimpinan Dan Kerohanian Seorang Pendeta Dalam Meningkatkan Kualitas Kerohanian, Pelayanan Dan Jumlah Baptisan Di GMAHK Kota Palembang, Jurnal Kanonia*. 5, (1), 2013, 54-62.

<sup>11</sup>John Berhitu, *Peran Gembala Jemaat, Jurnal Jaffray*, Vol. 12, No. 2, Oktober 2014, 275.

<sup>12</sup>Ho Lukas, Senduk, *Pedoman Pelayanan pendeta* (Jakarta: Yayasan Bethel, 2008), 4.

because the responsibility of a servant of God is to serve the congregation as a servant, equipping members to serve one another, groups, and individuals, and to represent the congregation for the church and the world.<sup>13</sup> The pastor's task and function in the church is a critical obligation that must be considered by the church. As a special full-time pastor, the pastor can play an active role in the church, and he is not only a minister of God's word, but he also sets an example for the congregation.

### Pastoral Service Level

It was found that the level of pastoral service at the Canaan Seventh-day Adventist is good service with  $M = 3.73$ . (See Table 1). This data demonstrates that the pastor relates to the members of the church, that he visits their homes, he offers faith encouragement, he motivates people to participate in every worship service, he cares about the church members, and he knows where they stay.

Table 1.  
*Pastoral Service Level.*

	N	Min	Max	Mean	Std. Deviation	Keterangan
Pastoral service	100	1.30	5.00	3.73	.95	High

### Church Member Activeness Level

According to the findings of this study, the average value of church members' activeness in worship is  $M = 3.61$ , which is considered good. This demonstrates that members of the congregation are involved in worship activities such as mid-week worship services, Sabbath school services, sermons, Adventist youth worship, and the church member study God's word on a regular and scheduled basis, as well as participate in soul winning. This is shown in (see Table 2)

Table 2.  
*Church Member Activeness Level*

	N	Min	Max	Mean	Std. Deviation	Keterangan
Church member activeness	100	.00	5.00	3.61	.95	High

### The Relationship between Pastoral Services and Church Member Activeness in Worship of the Canaan Seventh-day Adventist Church

There is a significant relationship between pastoral service and church activity in the Canaan Airmadidi Seventh-day Adventist Church worship, with  $p = .000$  (see Table 3). this

<sup>13</sup>Samuel Tandiassa, *Kepemimpinan Gereja Lokal* (Yogyakarta: Moriel, 2010), 67-68.

indicates that the p-value is smaller than the alpha value = .05. Thus, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant relationship between the pastoral ministry and the activeness of the church member in worship is rejected.

Table 3.

*The Relationship between Pastoral Services and Church Member Activeness in Worship of the Canaan Seventh-day Adventist Church*

Pastoral Ministry	Pearson Correlation	1	.501**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	100	100
Church member's activeness	Pearson Correlation	.501**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	100	100

### Conclusion

Based on the results obtained from the pastoral ministry and the activeness of the congregation in worship is the pastor is quite familiar with the church members, the pastor teaches God's word, he also helps the congregation when they have problems, provides faith-strengthening to the congregation, and mingles with people.

The average value of the congregation's activity in worship was  $M = 3.61$ , which was considered a good score. It means that church members mostly arrive on time for worship services, the church members study God's word on a regular and scheduled basis, pay attention to the pastor's God-given teachings and participate in soul-winning activities.

From this study, it can be concluded that the ministry of the pastor at the Canaan Seventh-day Adventist Church has been going well. As a result, pastors should continue to maintain the congregation's ministry, evangelize, and visit members in their homes. Church members should continue attending worship services and supporting each pastor's program.

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