



# DO IT... RIGHT!

*WEDDINGS, FUNERALS, COMMUNION,  
ALTAR CALLS & OFFERINGS*

# Weddings

Purchase Nelson's Minister's Manual (\$15 Amazon)

Don't mess up!

Proper Attire and Grooming

Punctuality

Premarital Counseling

Formal Wedding Ceremony

- Seating
- Processional
- Call to Worship
- Invocation
- Charge
- Giving of the Bride
- Declaration of Intent
- Scripture Reading
- Homily
- Vows
- Ring Ceremony
- Lighting of Unity Candle
- Declaration
- Pronouncement
- Prayer
- Kiss
- Presentation
- Recessional
- SIGN THE LICENSE

# Funerals

For the preacher, the funeral begins at the moment of death

Constant Communication with the family

Listen attentively

Walk the family through the process. Advise on irrational decisions

Proper Hymns and Songs

Prepare for Processional

Proper Scriptures

- Psalm 23
- Psalm 39:4-13
- John 14:1-6
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

# Funerals

Dress Conservatively

Don't be late, meet family (in certain cases)

Always remember people are grieving. Humor is healing but assure its not offensive

Do what you are asked to do and be prepared to do it

Sermon should range no more than 20-25mins

Don't try to locate the end of people

# Funerals- The Prayer of Comfort

Sunset and evening star, And one clear call for me! And may there be no moaning of the bar, When I put out to sea,

Kind Father in Jesus name. You are God and besides you there is no other. You are sovereign and have all rights to make decisions. Therefore, we submit to your will and your way.

You are a comforting Father and will catch every teardrop in the hollow of your hand. You are omnipresent and everlasting. You promised to never leave us nor forsake us

So today God we submit to your will. We now ask that you send strength, wisdom, courage, peace to the hearts of this family and those touch by the life of. Help them to remember the lessons, life and legacy and to continue to push forward on the memorial stones left behind.

We know that death is the healing of the righteous

-but it still hurts

We know that you snatch the power of death and now death is nothing but sleep

-but it still hurts

We know that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord

-but it still hurts

We know that we have not seen the last of Mother Pettaway for if we live right we will see her in the morning

-but it still hurts

But today God through the pain and hurt, because we KNOW your Word, we make a decision to praise your name in the midst of the hurt. We praise your name because weeping may endure but joy cometh in the morning. Thank you in Jesus name...Amen

# The Committal

- For as much as it has pleased Almighty in His wise Providence to take out of this world the soul of our deceased brother/sister. We therefore commit his/her body to the ground. **Earth to earth ashes to ashes and dust to dust** in sure and certain hope of resurrection unto eternal life, Through our Lord Jesus Christ: at who's coming in glorious majesty to judge the world. The earth and the sea shall give up their dead, The corruptible bodies of those who sleep in Him shall be changed and made liked into His own glorious body: according to the mighty working whereby He is able to subdue all things unto Himself
- I heard a voice from heaven saying write blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea , saith the spirit, for they rest from their labors and their works do follow them. -Rev. 14:13
- Let Us Pray (Lord Have Mercy, Christ Have Mercy, Lord Have Mercy or Short Prayer of Comfort)

# Holy Communion

- Apostle's Creed

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

# Holy Communion

This is sacred time

Create a system of distribution that is not complicated but easily understood by the unchurched.

## Order of Communion

- Hymn
- The Apostle's Creed or An Understanding of Communion
- Communion Scripture (1 Corinthians 11:23-32)
- Distribution of Sacraments (watch your verbiage)
- Partaking of the Lord's Supper
- Hymn



# Partaking the Lord's Supper

“This is the bread which came down from heaven: not as the fathers ate and died; he that eateth this bread shall live forever” (John 6:58). The minister then lifts the bread to his mouth and eats it and the congregation follows.

“In the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, ‘This cup is the new testament in my blood: This do you as oft as ye drink it in remembrance of me.’ For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord’s death till he come.”

# Altar Call

Know what you will say before it is time to say it. (Practice this for every part of the service)

**Always give an altar call.** Do not assume everyone in the room is saved. In every service there needs to be an opportunity to make a decision for Christ. Reinhard Bonnke tells a story of how he was at a lunch meeting with two hundred pastors. God prompted him to give an altar call. He was worried the pastors might be offended if he gave an altar call, but obediently, he gave them an opportunity to get saved. Eight waiters who were clearing the tables came forward and gave their lives to Jesus. Take your time? Rushing an altar call is a sign of disbelief

**Start with the end in mind.** The altar call should not be an afterthought haphazardly tagged unto the end of a sermon, instead, it should be the destination the entire sermon is pointing toward. The evangelistic sermon should prepare people to respond to the altar call from the first words uttered. The preacher should prepare his altar calls carefully and prepare people to respond.

# Altar Call

- **Tell your audience where you are going.**
- **Give clear explanations.** Remember that what is familiar to you has never been heard by your audience. I heard an inexperienced evangelist give an altar call. He said, “If you have never said that prayer before, raise your hand.” None of the unsaved people knew what prayer he was talking about. The people looked around confused. No one responded. The preacher knew he was talking about the prayer of salvation, but none of his unsaved audience knew what he was talking about because he never explained what a prayer of salvation was. **If you use religious terminology during your altar call, make sure you have explained what the term means in the body of your message.** For example, if you ask people if they want to be born-again, you must carefully explain the Biblical definition of being “born-again.”

# Offering

- **Don't Apologize**

- Take the offering as usual, but specifically address visitors in a way that helps them feel less obligated to give. It's important that you have a conviction that comes through to the audience. Say something like ...

“Good morning, everyone and welcome to church! This is the part of the service where we receive our tithes and offerings (insert your wording). If you are visiting with us today, we don't want you to feel pressured to give; you are our guest and we're so happy you're here with us today. This is the time in our service where members faithfully and biblically give to support the church's mission and vision.”

# Offering

- **Use the Bible**

It sounds obvious, but using the Bible during the giving moment will not only encourage members, but will also show visitors that the Bible is your bottom line and that your church lives and breathes according to God's Word.

- **Provide Options for Giving**

- Keep in mind that although your offering is primarily focused on members and regular attendees, you will have guests visiting who want to give for a variety of reasons.
- It's important that you make it simple for people to give when their hearts are moved so be sure you remind everyone that they can give when the plate comes around or directly from their smartphones through

# Offering

- **Say Thank You**

This is a great opportunity with a packed house to say thank you to all of your members for their continued sacrificial giving. Make a point to acknowledge member contributions, even mention some things you as a church were able to achieve as a result of their generosity. Your members will appreciate it and your visitors will get the message that you value generosity.

- You cannot be mean to people and guilt them into giving their money
- You cannot lack confidence in your offering appeal
- You cannot motivate people to give what you don't