

Building Construction

When it comes to putting up buildings, there are so many opportunities to make mistakes. In the years we have spent at Faith Baptist Church, we have made quite a few of those mistakes.

Probably the most important thing that you could do, as the pastor, when it comes to building a building is find somebody qualified to oversee the project. Even if you have a turn key, building project, and a contract signed with a licensed contractor, somebody in your church, who knows that type of construction, should be walking the property checking everything that is done from day to day. Just because the builder does the work, and the city or county inspector passes it, does not mean it will be done right or to the standard as you, the "owner" want it to be.

We have had endless stories of work done that we had to go back and redo ourselves. We have called "Christian contractors" and told them of the problems with the work that they did last month or year, only to have them explain that the work was done by a subcontractor and we should take it up with them.

Having someone oversee the project, who has authority from the pastor or the deacons, to tell the contractor to "stop," "start," "do this," or "don't do this" is vital to the sanity of the pastor and the good stewardship of the church finances.

Perhaps, you would want one person to oversee the concrete work and another who knows the structural engineering of things. There might be someone in your church or someone you could borrow from a local engineering company who knows drainage. There are so many different areas where mistakes can be made, and they end up in the preacher's lap and most of us preachers are not nearly as well versed in construction as we are in the Scriptures.

This is the need for someone who is wise in specific areas; this is also important in the area of financing the construction project. Whether you go to a bank or raise money job by job, have someone who is good with money keep an eye on the cash flow, the billing, and all the details.

Solomon with all of his wisdom had hundreds of people overseeing thousands of workers. The brilliance of Solomon was shown in his ability and willingness to locate experts and freely trust those men with leadership in their given area of expertise. The pastor need not do it all, know it all, or solve all the problems, but if he is so foolish as to act as though he is the know it all, then he is bound to catch a whole lot of things down the road that are difficult with which to deal.

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