

QUESTIONS FOR THE ADOM INTERVIEWS

1. When some "young buck" asks why do we need associations today, what do you tell them?
2. As you reflect upon your life, what has God done through life experiences to bring you to this position--ADOM here.
3. We have been stressing the importance of being a "Mission Strategist" in the training of ADOMs. What does this term mean to you? How do you play it out?
4. How has the role of ADOM changed in the past decade, or so?
5. How do you imagine that the role will be played out at the beginning of the next century?
6. One hears a lot about the nation becoming more diverse. How are you and the churches of your association dealing with this change?
7. Being an ADOM can be stressful. How do you get some distance from the demands of that role?
8. Suggest some of the training events, skill development activities and books that have contributed significantly to the effectiveness of your work.
9. Some times pastors make mistakes. When redemption is possible, how might you proceed?
10. How do you pass from your Fiddle to your Violin churches with authenticity?
11. Some folk are just plain cussed. How have you dealt with them?
12. Sometimes churches get into terrible fixes. What techniques have proven effective for you in dealing with them?
13. We hear some ADOMs talking about being needs-driven rather than program-driven. What does this expression mean to you?
14. What steps have you taken to help your association be a full partner with state convention and national convention in the world missions enterprise?
15. How does your spouse and family fit into your life and work?
16. What are the greatest pressures and threats to your understanding of how to be a good Christian coming from the activities of your work? How have you dealt with these temptations?
17. What benefits have come to your association from partnerships with other associations across the nation and from missions efforts in other nations?
18. If someone were to give the association \$100,000 to use as you and the board see fit, what would you propose? What if it were \$1,000,000?
19. There seems to be a great deal of interest in training lay persons to be on mission locally.

What do you think of this? What has the association been doing to support this?

20. We have been talking a lot recently about reaching people groups? What groups that are in need of being reached have you identified within the bounds of your association?

21. Are there any limits to what an association might undertake, how large it might become, or issues that it might address?

22. What do you see as the primary bonds that keep the churches of your association in association with one another?

23. When it comes time for you to retire, and your successor asks you for three "words of wisdom", what will each expression be?

24. How do you relate effectively to the mega church, innovative church and/or other mavericks in your association?

25. Do you see associations being of increased importance in the life of churches in years to come?

26. How much money does it take to do an adequate ministry as an association—minimum—today? Is your association at this level? What might be done to get to that level?

27. What are you expected to be skilled at? Are you?

28. What are the 5 or 6 most important things that your association is doing—
*for the churches
*for the people in the area
*for the Kingdom of God?

29. How is an association different from a church, a convention, a business, or a synod?

30. Will your association have a person in your position ten years from now?

Spend some time thinking about these and related, and even not so related, questions about the future of associations, associational missionaries, and the Baptist movement for the next decade. Thanks. Looking forward to a good, stretching time with you fellows.

GEF