

How to Be a Great Church Board Member

Serving on a church board is a sacred responsibility. Your role is not just organizational—it's spiritual. You help guide the church faithfully and honor God through prayerful, united decision-making.

1. Be a Person of Prayer

Prayer is the most important work you'll do as a board member. Pray regularly for your pastor, fellow members, and the ministry of your church. Pray before each meeting, asking for wisdom, humility, and unity. Keep praying afterward for discernment as decisions are lived out.

■ *"They devoted themselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." — Acts 6:4*

2. Come Prepared

A well-run meeting depends on well-prepared members. Read the agenda, previous minutes, and reports before arriving. Reflect on the discussion items so you can contribute thoughtfully. Arrive on time, Bible in hand, and ready to participate with a servant's heart. Being prepared honors everyone's time and helps the board make decisions efficiently.

3. Stay Focused and Christlike

Disagreement is normal; disunity is not. Keep discussions centered on the church's mission and God's Word. Listen well, speak graciously, and avoid dominating conversation. Show humility, patience, and respect even when you see things differently. Be brief and to the point—your clarity helps everyone.

■ *"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." — Philippians 2:4*

4. Support Decisions and Follow Through

Once the board reaches a decision, support it—whether or not it was your preference. Carry out any assigned tasks promptly and communicate progress. Encourage others and keep confidences shared in the meeting. Be dependable between meetings—follow up, follow through, and be faithful.

5. Keep the Big Picture in View

Remember why the board exists: to help the church glorify God and stay on mission. Value order and accountability, but keep people at the heart of every decision. Approach each meeting as ministry, not maintenance. Aim to make every conversation one that builds up the body of Christ.

■ *"Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." — 1 Corinthians 10:31*

A Great Board Member...

Prays consistently
Prepares diligently
Participates graciously
Follows through faithfully
Pursues unity and glorifies God

ADVENT CHRISTIAN
GENERAL CONFERENCE

Adapted from "Running Better Board Meetings" by Mike Alix, ACGC leadership development director