



**Recruitment & Retention:**  
*"How to Win and Keep Souls for Christ."*  
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## A Self Analysis: Questions that must be addressed...

- What does it mean to be AME?
- What is our purpose as a body of believers?
- Who is equipped to do the work of ministry?
- What do we expect of others?
- What should we demand of ourselves?

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## What does it mean to be AME?

- **African** means that the church was organized by people of African descent and heritage. It does not mean that the church was founded in Africa or that it is for people of African descent only. It does mean that those Americans who founded it were of African descent, and we proudly recognize this fact.

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## Methodist

- **Methodist** refers to the church's membership in the family of Methodist churches. Richard Allen, the founder and first active bishop, felt that the form and format of Methodism would best suit the needs of the African community.

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## Episcopal

- **Episcopal** refers to the form of government under which the church operates. The Episcopal form of government means that the chief executive and administrative officers of our denomination are our bishops. Their authority is given them by the General Conference, elected representatives of the entire denomination. Their responsibilities are to oversee the spiritual and temporal affairs of the church, including presiding over annual conferences, making pastoral appointments, ordaining deacons and elders, organizing missions, and generally promoting the interest of the denomination.

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## What is our purpose as a body of believers?

- **Church** refers to the "Christian Church," which is a community of people who believe in God and who have accepted Jesus Christ as the guiding example of their lives. We also believe in the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit, who enables the believer to become a true and effective servant of God. Jesus Christ is the spiritual head of the Christian Church. Primary Example...
- The Apostle's Creed: (AKA) The Affirmation of Faith or The Nicene Creed

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### Who is equipped to do the work of ministry?

- Everyone in the body of Christ has their purpose.
- Scripture Reference: (1st Corinthians 12: 26-31)
- Ultimately it is the responsibility of all believers to witness for the cause of Christ!!!

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### What do we expect of others?

- Others – (Non-believers, visitors, "professional visitors", regular members and "CME's")
- Every person that we encounter has their own story! Don't be judgmental!!!

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### What do we DEMAND of ourselves?

- There is Power in the Perception that we Perpetuate in our Godly Presentation to others!!!
- Are we living lives that will truly please God? Or are we relishing the false realities of an elaborate smoke screen?

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### Recruitment and Retention is a 4 step process...

- Step One: Recruitment
- Step Two: Relationship
- Step Three: Retention
- Step Four: Recognition

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### 1) Recruitment:

- Scripture Ref. Matthew 6:33
- **"Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."** (-NASB)
- Can others see the Lord's face through you?

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### 2) Relationship:

- Scripture reference: Matthew 22:37-40
- Verse 39: **"You shall love thy neighbor as thyself."** (-NASB)
- Promote a spirit of Inclusion through intergenerational involvement and communication.

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### 3) Retention:

- Scripture Reference: Isaiah 6:15-16
- "So the common man will be humbled and the man of importance abased, the eyes of the proud will also be abased. But the Lord of Hosts will be exalted in judgment, and the holy God will show Himself holy in righteousness." (-NASB)
- The component bodies within our church should be used as a vehicle to tap into the talents and gifts of our members.

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### 4) Recognition:

- Scripture Reference: John 1:12
- *"But as many received him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name."* (-NASB)
- Never let traditionalism take precedence over the direction over God's provision.
- Man's Religious Denomination vs. God's Spiritual Determination

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### The Top Ten List for Recruitment and Retention

- Know who you are as an AME. You can't show what you don't know.
- Remember that Christ is the CENTER of our Church.
- Everyone in the body of Christ has their purpose.
- The power of perception perpetuates of Godly presentation.
- We must meet people at the point of their need.
- The FACE of your church and the HEART of its members must speak the same language!!!
- Tap into the talents and gifts of your members.
- There is no place for entitlement in doing God's work.
- Never let traditionalism take precedence over God's provision.
- Always be sure to watch "The Late Show with David Letterman!"  
© (Have a sense of humor. Others need to know of God's goodness through your smile!)

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