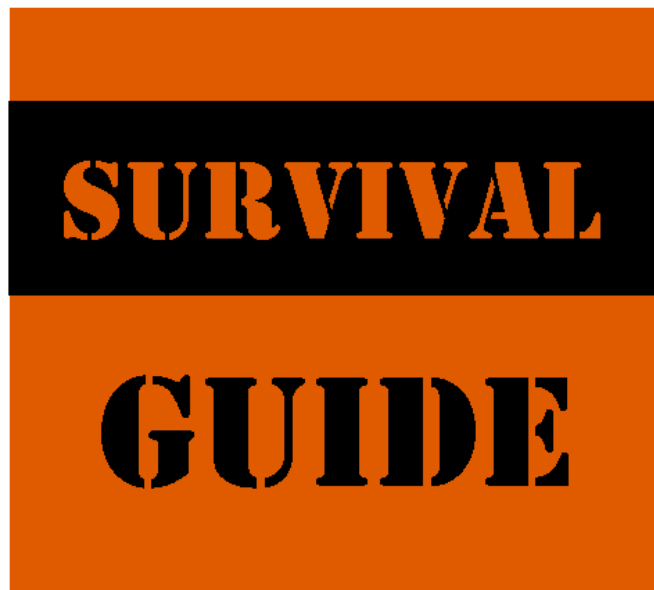


A SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR EX-PASTORS



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Introduction

The following guide was put together by five different people, most of whom are ex-pastors.

"It is difficult to get a man to understand something, when his salary depends on his not understanding it." ~ Upton Sinclair

So you've left the professional clergy. Or you're thinking about leaving . . . but there's one problem that looms large over your head.

What are you going to do to provide for your family?

You're having a less-than-easy time embracing the idea of getting a "regular" job and forfeiting that faithful clergy salary that comes in like clockwork. And the larger the church you have, the more difficult it will be to part with it.

Let's be honest. With the issue of money at stake, it's rather tempting to conjure up reasons justifying your clergy position. It's not dissimilar to the Ephesian silversmiths who opposed Paul's message because it endangered their craft (Acts 19:27).

But deep within your heart, you know that you can't keep playing the religious game and ignoring that pink elephant that follows you to and from the church building each week.

Perhaps it's time to put all those sermons you've delivered on "following Jesus at all cost" and "trusting God" into practice.

Make no mistake about it. Your dilemma is real. But following the Lord *all the way* often comes at a price, doesn't it?

The good news is that you are not alone.

An estimated 2,000 pastors *per month* in the USA take the plunge and leave the clergy system. They are giving up their paid clerical professions to follow their conscience and be at peace with themselves and with their God.

In the event that you don't understand that sentence, you can read Chapter 5 and 6 of [Pagan Christianity](#) by George Barna and Frank Viola (Tyndale, 2008) as it will fully explain it.

Realistic Options

What follows is a list of real jobs that real ex-pastors have landed.

All of these jobs were filled by people in the clergy who appeared to possess no employable skills except for preaching, performing marriages, and conducting funerals!

Here they are:

- **Professional blogger and/or author.** If you have a writing gift, with the right training, you can do this. (We recommend [the SCRIBE online training](#) which will teach you how to write a book, promote it, and how to start a successful blog and monetize it.)
- **Automobile dealership sales.** This career is quite lucrative, and most pastors have inborn skills for this. Many car dealerships are looking for salesmen who are likable, articulate, and honest.
- **Book editor.** Many Christian publishing houses are looking for editors, particularly those who have some background in theology.
- **Service-based business.** Dog watching is a service that's always in demand. Lawn care. House and/or office cleaning. Painting homes, interior, exterior, and/or artistic.
- **Helping senior citizens find housing.** This is always a need.
- **Teaching.** If you have a master's degree, you can qualify for a college or seminary position.
- **Real estate agent.** A number of ex-pastors have become real estate agents with minimal effort. Anyone can take the required test and qualify.
- **Mortgage agent.** Some who are good at math have become mortgage agents.
- **Flooring.** Installing sheet vinyl goods.

- **Creating an Internet Business.** Many have created web-based businesses where they sell a product online through a web site and a second-hand distributor. You can be trained how to do this.

Note that all of the above jobs require work, time, and energy.

But they are all feasible occupations suitable for most ex-pastors.

Yet there's more . . .

A Unique Opportunity

The following is a unique opportunity for ex-pastors.

Imagine if you could go to school again and learn an employable skill or trade.

This would cost you thousands of dollars, a lot of time (years!), and there would be no guarantee of being hired when you graduated with your new degree.

Now . . . what if we told you that you can take a course from the comfort of your own home. The course wouldn't cost you thousands of dollars, and when you finished, you'd be equipped to start earning money right away.

You wouldn't have to wait to be hired. Instead, you'd know how to start earning income on your own time.

Sound like a pipe-dream?

Well, it's not.

You see, most pastors are talented communicators and highly-gifted writers.

With the right training, you can be shown how to earn income immediately by leveraging your writing talents.

How?

[The SCRIBE online training](#) is an intensive training course that explains how to earn income through your writing passion, step-by-step.

And you can take it in the comfort of your own home, without ever having to get in your car or step on a plane.

This course has changed the lives of many people, including ex-pastors. And that's not hype.

[Click here to get the SCRIBE training.](#) Once you buy it, you have it for life and take it at your own pace.

Additional Resources

[ExPastors.org](#) – recommended books and a private Facebook page for ex-pastors.

[Searching Together](#) – the incredible ministry of Jon Zens, who is a former pastor.

[Beyond Evangelical](#) – the ministry of Frank Viola, on the deeper Christian life and the gospel of the kingdom.

[Organic Church](#) – resources for organic church life.

[The Radical Resurgence](#) – resources for the radical reformation.