

Pastoral Succession: An Engaging Talk with Pastor Rodney Carter, Jr.

### **Description:**

In this episode of *Ministry Pivot*, Rev. Russ and Pastor Rodney Carter, Jr. delve into the intricacies of pastoral transitions, particularly focusing on the transition at Greater Mount Calvary. They emphasize the importance of honoring the legacy of the previous pastor, serving the congregation with love and empathy, embracing one's unique leadership style, and preparing for transition effectively. The conversation provides valuable insights for pastors and church leaders navigating transitions in ministry. Tune in to *Ministry Pivot* for more enriching discussions on embracing opportunities for growth and transformation in ministry!

### **Takeaways**:

* Honor the Legacy: Recognize and champion the legacy of the previous pastor, acknowledging their contributions publicly and privately.
* Serve with Love: Prioritize serving and loving the congregation with genuine care and empathy during times of transition.
* Embrace Uniqueness: Embrace your unique gifts and leadership style while also respecting the distinctiveness of the previous pastor.
* Prepare for Transition: Prepare for transition by seeking guidance from mentors, setting strategic plans, and viewing retirement as a new phase of ministry.

### **Other Key Points Suggested by Rev. Russell St. Bernard**

* Build Trust: Build trust with the congregation by bringing stability and continuity while avoiding the pressure to innovate immediately.
* Give Space for Grieving: Allow the congregation space to grieve the transition, understanding that resistance to change may stem from a form of grieving.
* Celebrate the Transition: Celebrate the transition publicly and privately, acknowledging the contributions of both the legacy pastor and the successor.

### **Resources**

* Connect with Pastor Rodney Carter, Jr.
  + <https://www.instagram.com/iamrodneylcarterjr/?hl=en>
  + Link Tree: <http://linktr.ee/IAmRodneyLCarterJr>
* 5 Minute Pivot and Other Podcast by Rev. Russell St.Bernard <https://ministrypivot.com/conversations/>
* Articles from Rev. Russell St. Bernard: <https://ministrypivot.com/articles/>

### **Final Takeaway:**

* Serve as a Role Model: Lead by example and demonstrate servant leadership, embodying the values of humility, love, and empathy.
* Seek Mentors: Seek guidance from experienced mentors and counselors who can provide support and wisdom throughout the transition process.
* Prioritize People: Prioritize the needs of the congregation above personal agendas, investing time and effort in building relationships and fostering unity within the church community.

**Discussion Questions: (discuss with your team or reflect on your own?)**

* Reflecting on Legacy: How can we honor the legacy of previous leaders in our own ministry contexts, while also embracing new opportunities for growth and innovation?
* Navigating Change: How do we balance the need for stability and continuity with the desire for innovation and adaptation during times of transition in our church or organization?
* Servant Leadership: In what ways can we cultivate a culture of servant leadership within our team or congregation, prioritizing the needs and well-being of others above our own?

# Podcast Resources

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