

MANAGER'S DESK FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2019

WELCOME TO THE MANAGER'S DESK, I'M MIKE CORNELL.

I AM REMINDED THAT OCTOBER IS Pastor Appreciation Month. Originally called Clergy Appreciation Month, it was established in 1992 by a group of pastors and church leaders to honor those who serve in ministry. They grounded the celebration in Paul's words to Timothy: "The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching" (1 Tim. 5:17). And chances are, your pastor is thinking about it this month.

Pastors who serve with proper motives feel like they can't say anything about Pastor Appreciation Month—especially to those in their own churches. Doing so would seem grossly self-serving. Can you imagine your pastor stepping up to the pulpit on Sunday and saying, "Good morning, church. Before I begin my sermon, I want to remind you this month is Pastor Appreciation Month. And, if you're wondering, I'd love some gift cards to Starbucks"? Of course not.

You don't have to throw a big party, invest a great deal of time, or take up a collection to send your pastor on a two-week Caribbean vacation (although I am sure no pastor would complain if you did). Instead, it's the little things that matter. Whatever you do—a sincere Facebook shout out, a two-minute word of affirmation during the Sunday announcements, a heart-felt email, a handwritten note, or an arm around your pastor in the hallway between services—know it carries more weight than you may realize.

Everyone needs a little encouragement now and then. That includes your pastor.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING ME FOR THE MANAGER'S DESK, I'M MIKE CORNELL.