



# Ethical Self-Examination for Clergy

By Rev. Wayne Richards

## **TOWARD GOD**

Do I have the witness of the Spirit that I am a child of God?

Are there any unfruitful habits that God has been gently exposing in my life?

Do I give a full and daily effort to the study of the Bible and to prayer?

Is there any way that I could be taking greater advantage of the means of grace such as worship, the ministry of the body of Christ and the scriptures?

## **TOWARD MY CALLING**

Do I consistently take God's word, apply it to my own life, and share it faithfully with others?

On a scale of 1 to 10 how would I rate my daily striving for excellence in all that I do?

Is there reason to believe that any of my personal or professional relationships are improper?

In what ways am I consistently "loving God with all my heart" and "loving my neighbor as myself"?

Have I been willing to compromise occasionally in the area of doing what is ethically right?

## **TOWARD MY CHURCH**

Is the quality and quantity of spiritual care and instruction in God's word that I give in my ministry adequate for sustained spiritual growth?

Am I faithfully following and communicating on a regular basis the vision that God has given to me for His church?

Am I seeking and using opportunities to personally lead people to a relationship with Jesus Christ?

Is my personal integrity at a level that invites respect and trust from people in my church? My community? My family?

## **TOWARD MY FAMILY**

What percentage of quality and quantity time do the members of my family receive from me during the week?

Is my home a "dumping ground" for my frustrations with other people?

What am I doing to show love to my children and to develop a Godly relationship with them?

What am I doing to deepen and enrich my love relationship with my mate?

## **TOWARD OTHER MINISTERS**

Do I ever see other people in the vocational ministry as competitors?

What comments have I been willing to make about those who preceded and those who followed me in my ministry?

What is my attitude toward those who are appointed in ministry over me?

What have I really learned from other ministers with more experience than I have?

## **TOWARD MY DENOMINATION**

Have I proactively found ways to affirm and support the ministries and the mission of the Wesleyan Church?

Have I found myself speaking negatively about my denomination?

Is the authority of the church over my ministry something I easily accept?

In what ways have I actively shown my commitment to my district?

## **TOWARD MY COMMUNITY**

What have I done or said that reflects the fact that I have "adopted" this community as my own?

What organizations and activities am I personally involved in that demonstrate the love of Christ and open doors for the gospel?

In what ways am I being an ambassador for Jesus in my local community?

Am I taking a responsible biblical position in political and social issues of significance?