

Assemblies of God (AG) Polity Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

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- 1. What does the Assemblies of God emphasize regarding gender in ministry roles?**
 - A. Only men are eligible for leadership**
 - B. Women are ineligible for any ministerial roles**
 - C. Women can serve in all ministry capacities if qualified**
 - D. Women can only serve in supportive roles**
- 2. What must accompany all resolutions presented to the Resolutions Committee?**
 - A. A list of supporters**
 - B. A letter from the district council**
 - C. The signature of the author or sponsor**
 - D. A majority vote from the congregation**
- 3. What does the Assemblies of God believe about the Second Coming of Christ?**
 - A. It will happen obscurely and quietly**
 - B. It is imminent and will be a literal return**
 - C. Only a metaphorical concept**
 - D. It is not an important doctrine**
- 4. In Assemblies of God context, what does the term “missionary” refer to?**
 - A. An individual who leads local church services**
 - B. A person responsible for church finances**
 - C. An individual sent to spread the Gospel in un-reached areas**
 - D. A leader who organizes church activities**
- 5. What is the main purpose of church discipline in the Assemblies of God?**
 - A. To punish members for misconduct**
 - B. To ensure church members learn proper behavior**
 - C. To honor God and maintain the purity of the ministry**
 - D. To create a culture of fear among church members**

- 6. What is discouraged regarding ministerial conduct towards pastors?**
- A. Collaboration on church projects**
 - B. Interfering with their work or communication**
 - C. Offering advice to church leaders**
 - D. Expressing personal opinions to the congregation**
- 7. What role do local church boards play in Assemblies of God governance?**
- A. They have no influence on church decisions**
 - B. Assist in the administration and spiritual oversight of the local church**
 - C. Only provide financial support**
 - D. Act as a social committee**
- 8. In what year was the Assemblies of God established?**
- A. 1905**
 - B. 1914**
 - C. 1920**
 - D. 1935**
- 9. What is the Assemblies of God's belief regarding spiritual gifts?**
- A. They have ceased to exist**
 - B. They are only for church leaders**
 - C. They believe in the continuation of spiritual gifts for the church today**
 - D. They are limited to the Old Testament**
- 10. Which revival is associated with William J. Seymour?**
- A. The Topeka Revival**
 - B. The Azusa Street Revival**
 - C. The Brownsville Revival**
 - D. The Asbury Revival**

Answers

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1. C
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. C
6. B
7. B
8. B
9. C
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What does the Assemblies of God emphasize regarding gender in ministry roles?

- A. Only men are eligible for leadership**
- B. Women are ineligible for any ministerial roles**
- C. Women can serve in all ministry capacities if qualified**
- D. Women can only serve in supportive roles**

The Assemblies of God emphasizes inclusivity in ministry roles, stating that women can serve in all ministry capacities if they are qualified. This reflects the denomination's belief in the gifting and calling of individuals, irrespective of gender. The Assemblies of God holds that both men and women are equally created in the image of God and are equally called to serve in ministry roles. This perspective is rooted in scriptural support that shows God's use of women throughout the Bible, such as Deborah and Priscilla, and the New Testament recognition of women in significant ministry roles. This approach allows for a diverse and empowered ministry environment, where gifts and abilities, rather than gender, determine the qualifications for leadership and service. The commitment to involving women in all aspects of ministry helps promote a more holistic and representative church body, which is aligned with the values of mutual respect and collaboration in the body of Christ.

2. What must accompany all resolutions presented to the Resolutions Committee?

- A. A list of supporters**
- B. A letter from the district council**
- C. The signature of the author or sponsor**
- D. A majority vote from the congregation**

The correct answer highlights that all resolutions presented to the Resolutions Committee must be accompanied by the signature of the author or sponsor. This requirement serves several purposes within the Assemblies of God polity. Firstly, it establishes accountability by ensuring that there is a specific individual or group responsible for advocating for the resolution, which helps maintain integrity in the decision-making process. Secondly, having an identifiable sponsor allows the committee and the broader organization to engage directly with the author if there are questions or discussions regarding the resolution, ensuring clear communication. In the context of church governance and procedures, the signature signifies formal support and intent behind the resolution, indicating that it has genuine backing rather than being an arbitrary or anonymous proposal. This practice ensures that resolutions are taken seriously, reinforcing the orderly approach that characterizes the Assemblies of God polity. It distinguishes well-supported ideas from those that may not have undergone adequate reflection or consensus within the community.

3. What does the Assemblies of God believe about the Second Coming of Christ?

- A. It will happen obscurely and quietly**
- B. It is imminent and will be a literal return**
- C. Only a metaphorical concept**
- D. It is not an important doctrine**

The Assemblies of God holds a strong belief in the imminent and literal return of Jesus Christ, which is a foundational component of their doctrinal teachings. This belief signifies that Christ's return could occur at any moment, and it emphasizes the importance of being prepared and living a life that reflects Christian values in anticipation of this event. The concept of Christ's return is not just a future hope but is also seen as a pivotal moment in Christian eschatology, where believers anticipate the fulfillment of God's promises regarding redemption and restoration. The Assemblies of God teaches that this return will be visible and powerful, as opposed to a subtle or metaphorical event. This expectation fosters a sense of urgency in the Christian life, encouraging adherence to faith and the mission of spreading the gospel. The emphasis on a literal return also affirms the importance of Scripture, particularly passages in the New Testament that detail the promised return of Christ. In this context, the belief in the Second Coming serves to inspire and motivate believers toward a faithful and active engagement with their faith, making it a vital aspect of Assemblies of God doctrine.

4. In Assemblies of God context, what does the term "missionary" refer to?

- A. An individual who leads local church services**
- B. A person responsible for church finances**
- C. An individual sent to spread the Gospel in un-reached areas**
- D. A leader who organizes church activities**

In the Assemblies of God context, the term "missionary" specifically refers to an individual sent to spread the Gospel in unreached areas. This role is integral to the mission of the church, which emphasizes evangelism and outreach both locally and globally. Missionaries are often tasked with establishing new congregations, providing spiritual guidance, and addressing practical needs in communities that have not yet been exposed to the Christian message. This understanding of a missionary aligns with the Assemblies of God's commitment to fulfilling the Great Commission, which calls Christians to go and make disciples of all nations. Missionaries often undergo specific training and support from their churches to equip them for this vital work, demonstrating the collaborative effort of the church in advancing its mission. In contrast, the other roles mentioned—leading local church services, handling church finances, and organizing church activities—do not carry the same focus on outreach and spreading the Gospel to unreached people groups, thereby differentiating the missionary's purpose within the church's overall mission.

5. What is the main purpose of church discipline in the Assemblies of God?

- A. To punish members for misconduct**
- B. To ensure church members learn proper behavior**
- C. To honor God and maintain the purity of the ministry**
- D. To create a culture of fear among church members**

The main purpose of church discipline in the Assemblies of God is to honor God and maintain the purity of the ministry. This understanding stems from the biblical teaching that discipline is a corrective measure intended for spiritual restoration rather than mere punishment. The emphasis is on the holiness and health of the church community, where discipline functions to uphold God's standards, protect the integrity of the ministry, and encourage members to live in accordance with their faith. Discipline is viewed as a loving act intended to restore individuals who may have strayed or engaged in behaviors that undermine the church's witness and relationship with God. This process fosters an environment where members are encouraged to grow spiritually, reinforcing a commitment to biblical truth and communal accountability. By prioritizing the purity of the ministry, the church can effectively carry out its mission and reflect God's character to the wider community.

6. What is discouraged regarding ministerial conduct towards pastors?

- A. Collaboration on church projects**
- B. Interfering with their work or communication**
- C. Offering advice to church leaders**
- D. Expressing personal opinions to the congregation**

Interfering with a pastor's work or communication is considered inappropriate in the context of ministerial conduct toward pastors. This principle is founded on the belief that each pastor is called to lead their congregation and is responsible for their specific duties and decisions. When ministers, whether fellow pastors or church leaders, interfere, it can undermine the authority and effectiveness of the pastor's ministry. Pastors should have the autonomy to communicate and lead without undue influence or interruption from others. Maintaining healthy boundaries and respect for each pastor's role is vital in promoting a collaborative yet respectful church environment. By encouraging a policy of non-interference, it fosters trust and allows pastors the space to carry out their responsibilities effectively. The other options entail behaviors that may be seen as supportive or collaborative, which do not conflict with the healthy functioning of ministerial relationships within the church.

7. What role do local church boards play in Assemblies of God governance?

A. They have no influence on church decisions

B. Assist in the administration and spiritual oversight of the local church

C. Only provide financial support

D. Act as a social committee

Local church boards in the Assemblies of God play a crucial role by assisting in both the administration and spiritual oversight of the local church. Their responsibilities typically include providing guidance in decision-making processes, overseeing the functioning of church programs, and ensuring that the church operates in alignment with its mission and values. The board members, often seen as leaders of the congregation, work collaboratively with the pastor and other church staff to create a healthy church environment that fosters spiritual growth, community engagement, and effective worship. They may handle both practical matters, such as budgeting and facility management, as well as spiritual concerns, like promoting prayer, evangelism, and discipleship. This supportive leadership structure ensures that the local church is not only managed efficiently but also nurtured spiritually, reflecting the dual nature of church governance in the Assemblies of God tradition. In contrast, the other options reflect roles that do not adequately represent the comprehensive responsibilities and influence local church boards truly have within the church governance framework.

8. In what year was the Assemblies of God established?

A. 1905

B. 1914

C. 1920

D. 1935

The Assemblies of God was established in 1914. This is significant because it marked a pivotal moment in the Pentecostal movement, as various groups and leaders came together to form a unified organization dedicated to promoting the Pentecostal faith and principles. The founding convention took place in Hot Springs, Arkansas, where delegates from different regions convened to discuss doctrinal unity and cooperative missions. This establishment allowed for the growth and spread of the Assemblies of God denomination, ultimately leading to its development as one of the largest Pentecostal denominations in the world. The year 1914 is often celebrated by the church as the beginning of its global mission and outreach efforts.

9. What is the Assemblies of God's belief regarding spiritual gifts?

- A. They have ceased to exist**
- B. They are only for church leaders**
- C. They believe in the continuation of spiritual gifts for the church today**
- D. They are limited to the Old Testament**

The Assemblies of God firmly believes in the continuation of spiritual gifts for the church today, which is a foundational aspect of their doctrine. This perspective is based on the understanding that the Holy Spirit continues to empower believers with various gifts for ministry and service, as outlined in the New Testament, particularly in passages such as 1 Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4. This belief emphasizes that spiritual gifts are not just historical phenomena but are active in the life of the church today, equipping members for missions, evangelism, and building up the body of Christ. The Assemblies of God encourage all believers to seek and use these gifts, fostering an environment where the Holy Spirit can work through individuals to achieve God's purposes within the church and the world. The other viewpoints do not align with the Assemblies of God's teaching, which is why they are not considered correct. The idea that spiritual gifts have ceased to exist contradicts their emphasis on the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit. Similarly, limiting spiritual gifts to only church leaders or restricting them to the Old Testament overlooks the New Testament's clear teaching on the involvement of all believers in the practice and manifestation of these gifts in contemporary church life.

10. Which revival is associated with William J. Seymour?

- A. The Topeka Revival**
- B. The Azusa Street Revival**
- C. The Brownsville Revival**
- D. The Asbury Revival**

William J. Seymour is closely associated with the Azusa Street Revival, which took place in Los Angeles, California, from 1906 to 1915. This revival is a significant event in the history of Pentecostalism and is often regarded as the catalyst for the global Pentecostal movement. Seymour, an African American preacher, led the services at the Azusa Street Mission, where people from various backgrounds experienced profound spiritual manifestations such as speaking in tongues, healing, and other gifts of the Holy Spirit. The revival attracted countless participants and had a profound impact on the spread of Pentecostal beliefs and practices across the United States and beyond. Understanding the Azusa Street Revival is also crucial when studying other revivals, such as the Topeka Revival, which occurred earlier and was notable for its role in the early Pentecostal movement. However, it was the Azusa Street Revival that became the hallmark of the movement, making its association with Seymour particularly significant in the development of Pentecostal theology and community life. This revival continues to be a foundational reference point for scholars and practitioners involved in the Pentecostal tradition today.