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To the elders, deacons and saints at your local expression of the Body of Christ;

Grace and Peace to you, as you seek the next Pastor/Shepherd that God the Father will provide for your expression of His Body in the days ahead. Thank you for considering me as possibly being that man. As you consider your candidates I would ask you to consider two things: what should that man look like, and why am I qualified to serve in that role.

First, I would urge you to look beyond the qualifications you typically find on a resume. You are looking for a shepherd, not an accountant or a CEO. You are seeking the man who is a true man of God and whose heart beats with the heart of His Shepherd for the people to whom he is called. Whenever I reflect on this kind of godly leadership, I am drawn back to chapel sermon I heard in seminary and I would encourage you to listen. It can be found at: <http://tinyurl.com/ybdneasc>¹

Secondly, why am I qualified for leading and serving your expression of our Lord's Body?

- I have the heart of a shepherd for located ministry, a heart for caring for and mentoring God's people.
- I seek to totally trust in my God and to be faithful through all circumstances.
- I am transparent about my own need for a Savior to atone for my sins. I trust God to cover my sins with the blood of Jesus and am sensitive to the struggles and sins that others face.
- I have been a pastor/elder since 2009 (6 years), 4 years as a bi-vocational pastor. Being bi-vocational means I have had many of the same expectations as full-time pastor but having to seek outside employment to support my ministry habit.
- And least of my qualifications, I have completed my master's degree in Theology.

I have numerous other qualities listed on my resume and other documents which you can find on this page. However, I believe the most important qualities for the man you seek is his heart for the Lord and His people. Without this, all other qualifications are meaningless.

May our God bless you, and may He give you the unity and wisdom that you need to discern the man he has called to His church in your location for the days ahead.

In our Lord's service,

Bill Emmerling

¹ Lowery, Robert, "God Approved Leadership, Isaiah 3," Seminary Chapel Sermon. Lincoln Christian University. Fall 1989.

P.S. Please see <http://bemmerling.findusfaithful.net/> for my resume and other documents; Recorded media samples of my teaching (MP3 and links to video). Unfortunately, I do not have current teaching as the church where I am serving lacks the capability to record sermons.

