

What does FLCOGM invest in Covenant Churches?

A consultation as practiced by Florida Church of God Ministries is an in depth process outlined in other documents (Consultation Process Overview). A covenant outlines a three year process to see a church become outward focused and healthy. The Kingdom impact that has resulted from these consultations has been shown in other documents (2008 FLCOGM Church Statistics). However, often churches ask is what do they gain? Or what is invested in the church from Florida Church of God Ministries? The costs of the consultation, covenant, and coaching are different for every church because every church is different. However, now after four years of fulfilling covenants that have implemented the recommendations of many churches we can speak in general terms.

The cost of a consultation to a church is zero dollars. However, the cost to FLCOGM varies from \$12,000-\$18,000 per consultation. This includes all of the labor and expenses required to bring the consultation team together before the consultation to work on the self-study, the actual consultation weekend and associated activities, then writing the covenant and all of the meetings with the church, leadership and pastor throughout this process. Florida Church of God Ministries absorbs this cost.

The recommendations for each church are different and the covenant determines who is paying for each part of these essential steps in turning a church outward. Though each covenant is different, Florida Church of God Ministries often invests an additional \$25,000 to \$35,000 in a church's ministry and staff over three years. This frequently includes coaching, ministry plans underwriting outreach activities and salaries, assessments of the staff and organization, training of staff, board members and leaders as well as conferences.

Some of the typical costs are \$5,000 per year for a coach, \$1,000 for each staff assessment, \$3,000 for organizational assessments, \$1,500 for training conferences and so forth. The covenant identifies what portion of expenses will be paid for by FLCOGM and what portion the church pays for. Often the covenant will ask for the church to take a line of credit to pay for to pay for some of the overall expenses of becoming outward focused. There is sacrifice on everyone's part.

To protect the investment of Florida Church of God Ministries, churches are simply asked to safety deed their property for the Church of God. The covenant also identifies their support of the state ministry level at a 5%.