

Questions to ask session:

1. How many elders and deacons? Rotation or Permanent? Open to rotation?  
How would that work?
2. How many elders teach and pray?
3. Do elders and deacons attend Sun. night and Wed. night? Are they faithful to attend their monthly meetings?
4. How often are joint officer meetings held? Congregational meetings?
5. What is the procedure for officer elections? Does the Session review names? Officer Training in the Past?
6. Do elders attend Presbytery meetings regularly? Do elders ever serve on Presbytery committees?
7. Describe the working relationship between elders and deacons.
8. Do you hold to a 2 office, 3 office, or 2.5 office view?
9. What is the ethos of the Presbytery?
10. What are the activities for Wednesday night? What is the attendance?
11. Describe the typical Sunday Night Service... Are there also children/youth activities at night?
12. How does the Nursery operate? Volunteer or Paid? Is there a nursery for Wednesday nights and Sunday nights?
13. How many young people – nursery, preschool, primary, MS, HS?
14. What kind of activities are there for them?
15. Are there opportunities for fellowship within the congregation?
16. Do the people have a sense of community that goes beyond the “walls of the church?”
17. Are there any small group Bible studies.
18. How does the music ministry operate? Are you committed to hymns and Psalms only? Who picks out congregational singing?
19. I wear a robe and would like to continue – is this acceptable to your congregation?
20. Do elders assist in the service?
21. How does the church office/secretary operate? Has the pastor ever had a study at the church?

22. What kind of computer and office equipment are available for use? (I really need a laptop!) DSL.
23. Is there a standing newsletter?
24. What would you say are <<church name>> 3 biggest strengths? 3 biggest areas for growth?
25. Special Services? Missions Conference? Women's and Men's Ministries?
26. What is standard in terms of vacation/study leave time for pastors?
27. How committed is the Session to hiring an assistant/associate pastor?  
What would his profile look like?
28. Any discipline issues pending? Any over the last few years?
29. Procedure for pruning the rolls!
30. How many church staff members? To whom do they report? Is this part of the pastor's responsibility?
31. Are there opportunities for the church to grow numerically? Have you added many new members/families lately? What kinds of outreach/ evangelism are you involved in?
32. What are your expectations for the pastor? What activities are most important?
33. What kind of presence in the community should the pastor have? Are there some strategic areas where it might be wise for our family to live?
34. Who handles the church's finances?
35. What percentage of the budget goes for benevolences?
36. How long have you been holding two services? How would you evaluate their effectiveness?
37. Have you considered expanding the current building or constructing a new sanctuary? What are the costs?
38. When is the last time that you have gone through a major capital campaign (building, renovation, etc.).
39. What role do you see for your preacher's wife? His family?
40. What are the expectations for visitation (elderly, shut-in sick only, entire church family)? Do the officers participate in visitation?
41. What are the normal church "office hours?"

42. How often are there extra meetings during the week?
43. What areas are in the most immediate need of pastoral leadership at Draper's Valley?
44. In your mind, what would a "good pastor" do during the week? How would he spend his time?
45. How do the people of your congregation educate their children? Would they way that we are planning (whatever that may be) to educate our children affect our effectiveness in ministry?
46. Can you give me a ballpark figure on a salary, overall financial package?  
Would there be enough to purchase a home other than a manse?
47. How can I be in prayer for you over the next few weeks?