

Preparation for Conversation:



- - **Elevator Pitch:** Prepare a clear, concise, and compelling 1-minute pitch about RPI and its mission.
- - **Engage with Questions:** Use thought-provoking questions to guide the conversation:
 - *“What do you think it’s like for a pastor in rural Uganda who lacks the financial resources or access to education, yet is expected to lead their community?”*
 - *“Did you know many pastors in rural Uganda don’t have formal biblical training?”*
Conversation: “Many of the pastors we work with have not graduated from high school because they couldn’t afford an education, yet they lead full congregations in their churches. Without proper training, it’s difficult for them to teach sound doctrine, guide their congregations effectively, or combat false teachings. This leaves them vulnerable to exploitation, which can harm both the pastor and their community.”
 - *“Why do you think our pastors are susceptible to exploitation?”*
Answer: “Without the right education and financial support, rural pastors can be vulnerable to exploitation. They may not have the knowledge or resources to stand firm against manipulative practices. This is why RPI’s Sustainability Program is so vital. We don’t just equip pastors with theological training, but also provide practical skills, such as agriculture and vocational training. These skills help pastors support their families and communities, protecting them from exploitation and strengthening their ministry.”
- - **Personal Connection:** Be prepared to share why you’re passionate about the cause and any personal experiences or stories related to the sponsorship program.
- - **Testimonials/Success Stories:** Share powerful testimonials or success stories that highlight how the pastors’ work is transforming their communities.
- - **Interactive Element:** Have a pastor profile card available for the potential sponsor to explore, allowing them to choose a pastor to sponsor or learn more about their story.
 - - **Sponsorship Commitment:** Explain how sponsorship works and let them know that if they sign up today, they will receive a sponsorship packet in the mail within a few weeks, including the opportunity to write to their pastor. Encourage them to sign up.

NEED TO KNOW:

- - Be prepared to explain the monthly giving levels: The levels are \$30, \$60, \$90, \$120, or \$150, representing shares of the total cost to support the pastor’s education, training, meals, lodging, and community impact.
- - A pastor may have several sponsors, but if a sponsor chooses the \$150 level, they will be the pastor’s exclusive sponsor.
- - Sponsorship continues month to month until the pastor completes their training in the vocational sustainability program or is no longer active in the program.
- - When either of these things happens, the sponsor will be matched with a new active pastor in need of sponsorship.
- - If a sponsor needs to end their sponsorship, they can do so at any time through their sponsorship portal, which will be initiated at the time of sign-up.
- - **Newsletter Sign-up:** Encourage them to sign up for the RPI newsletter to stay informed about the impact of their support. The newsletter shares inspiring stories, updates on sponsored pastors, and opportunities to stay involved. When collecting email addresses, ensure handwriting is legible to prevent missed connections.