

Pastor Search Committee Prayer Points

The CFBC Pastor Search Committee (PSC) will represent our church as they seek God's will for our senior church leadership. The PSC has critical roles in transiting from one senior pastor to the next. The search committee will need to be in constant prayer as they embark on their assignment.

The following Prayer Points have been developed by past PSCs, compiled by Pastor Brent Johnson and further Scriptures added by the PSC. The points are organized with Bible Scriptures to allow us to pray 'scripturally'. Hebrews 4:12 says that "God's Word is alive and powerful, sharper than a two-edged sword". When we speak and pray the Scriptures, we are coming into agreement with God. 1John 5:14 says that "...if we ask anything in accordance with His will, He hears us". The Lord promises to answer our prayers when we pray in line with His will. Additionally, praying the Scriptures will increase our spiritual growth as we memorize His word. We actually learn what God says about certain situations, and by praying His Word you will see His results.

Note: Throughout the following document all Biblical quotations are from the English Standard Version (ESV) or the New International Version (NIV) Bibles

Specific Biblical Prayer Points for the PSC Members & Process

- Pray for deep spiritual cleansing and fullness of the Holy Spirit in each PSC member.
Psalm 66:18 - If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;
Psalm 139:23-24 - Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.
Zechariah 4:6 - ... 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty (*to Zerubbabel*).
John 15:5 - I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing;
Ephesians 5:18-21 - Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,..giving thanks always for everything to God the father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ...
- Pray that committee members conduct their roles with supernatural discernment, wisdom and strength.
(As w/ King Solomon, ask God to give the committee the wisdom to know what to do and the courage to follow through)
Psalm 29:11 - The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.
Proverbs 9:10 – Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
- Pray for powerful unity and oneness of spirit within the committee.
Romans 15:5-6 - May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Corinthians 1:10 - I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.
Philippians 2:1-2 - ...complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.
Psalm 116:12-14,19 *Pray for this to be the heartbeat of all:* "What shall I return to the Lord for all his goodness to me? I will lift high the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people...in the courts of the house of the Lord - in your midst, Jerusalem, Praise the Lord". *Oh God, here I am, your servant: set me free for your service.*

4. Pray that the team will have no timetable but God's. They must be determined to find God's perfect will in God's perfect time
Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage...
Psalm 37:7 – Be silent before the Lord and wait expectantly for Him
Ecclesiastes 8:5 - Whoever keeps a command will know no evil thing, and the wise heart will know the proper time and the just way.
Ephesians 5:15-17 - Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

5. Pray for a powerful hedge of protection around the committee and their families. Pray for the prevention of Satan's influence in misleading or rushing the search team selected. One of Satan's guiles is deception.
Matthew 6:13 - And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.
John 16:33 – "...in Me [Christ] you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation, But take heart; I have overcome the world"
Ephesians 5:8-11 – "...Live as children of the light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.
Ephesians 6:13-17 - ...Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then...
1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same suffering are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

6. Pray for God's direction in the team members in balancing the PSC role with their other priorities (family, work and ministry roles).
1 Peter 5:7 - ...casting all your anxieties on him, because He cares for you.
Isaiah 26:12 – Lord, you establish peace for us: all that we have accomplished you have done for us.
Hebrews 12: 1-2 -...Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith...

The following Prayer Topics relate to the Selection Process and how the team conducts, interfaces with the congregation and candidate(s):

7. Pray for God's clear direction in how the team conducts their research and selections. Ask God to bring the right person to the attention of the team and that they hear God unmistakably.
Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.
Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
Matt 10:16 - Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.
Jeremiah 42:3 - Pray that the Lord your God will tell us where we should go and what we should do.

8. Pray the PSC team has God's wisdom in all the questions and information they share with the prospective pastor. Spirit-led thoroughness is essential.
Psalm 143:10 - Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God; Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

Psalm 37:23 – The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way

9. Pray for the team to have supernatural awareness as to the unique characteristics and traits that are most needed for our church.
Proverbs 3:5-6 – Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.
Matthew 16:18 - And Jesus said, ...on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
10. Pray for the future pastor and his family to have absolute certainty in their sense of call to our church. He must know he has God's direction.
Proverbs 2:1-5 - My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.
Isaiah 30:21 - And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.
John 16:13 – When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak and he will declare to you the things that are to come.
11. Pray for God's guidance in how the future pastor is presented to the church. Pray for the church to have a supernatural unity in his call to our church.
1 Corinthians 1:10 - I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.
Acts 2:1 - When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.
Ephesians 4:3-5 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all,
Pray for God's strength and guidance in the pastor's former church.

Pastor Search Committee Members

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