

Prayer Guide

Executive Director Search Team

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

This guide will be simple and to the point, allowing us to pray together over a small passage. Each day God will take Arkansas Baptists through our own worship experience. We suggest this system for your quiet time. Begin with the following:

- Adoration – (3-5 Minutes) Praising and worshipping God by giving honor for who He is: Father, Lord, Savior, Healer, Provider, Comforter, etc. Ps. 95:8
- Confession – Ask God to search your heart and bring to mind any sin in your life. Whatever comes to mind, confess it and repent of it. I John 1:9
- Thanksgiving – (3-5 Minutes) Thank God for what He has done in your life, family & church. Ps 100:4
- Supplication – Pray for the things God brings to mind related to the Search Team. Use the Lord's Prayer outline found in Matt. 6:9-15

Day 1 Cleansing *"If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear;" Ps. 66:18*
Pray for deep spiritual cleansing and fullness of the Holy Spirit in each Search Team member.

Day 2 Alignment *"I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me." John 17:20-21*
Pray that each member of the Search Team will be in the same mind as the Father.

Day 3 Unity *"Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven." Matt. 18:19*
Pray for powerful unity and oneness in spirit with the Search Team.

Day 4 Direction *"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts." Isa. 55:8-9*
Pray for God's clear direction in how resumes are collected, examined, and interviews conducted. Ask God to bring the right person to the attention of the Search Team.

Day 5 Discernment *"For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God." 1 Cor. 2:10-11*

Pray that the team will seek God's ways in dealing with each candidate with total dependency upon the Spirit of God, Who sees all and knows all. Spirit-led thoroughness is essential.

Day 6 Wisdom *“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” Jas. 1:5*

Pray for the Search Team to have God’s wisdom in all the questions and information they share with the prospective Executive Director.

Day 7 Appraisal *“But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. For who has known the mind of the Lord, that He will instruct Him? Be we have the mind of Christ.” I Cor. 15-16*

Pray for wisdom and discernment for the unique characteristics and traits most needed for the Executive Director of the ABSC.

Day 8 Walk *“... be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise.” Eph. 5:15*

Pray that God will reveal to the team members each day how to adjust their spiritual walk to God’s walk. We tend to slip into worldly thinking.

Day 9 Timing – *“...making most of your time, because the days are evil.” Eph 5:16*

Pray that you and your team will not run ahead of God nor behind him in choosing the right Executive Director. Well-meaning believers will try to influence you, so be wise to determine God’s perfect timing.

Day 10 Strength *“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.” Eph 6:10*

Pray for each person on the team to be totally dependent upon the Lord and His strength because the hours and days that they will spend in this search will be beyond personal ability.

Day 11 Schemes *“Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.” Eph 6:11*

Pray that each member of the Search Team will put on the full armor of God daily because they will need not only discernment of the enemy’s strategy and schemes, but also how to combat them.

Day 12 Protection *“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything to stand firm.” Eph. 6:12-13*

Pray always from a standpoint of victory in Jesus Christ and ask God to bring to memory, in the midst of spiritual warfare, that it is not people one struggles against, but the evil spiritual forces that influence them.

Day 13 Armor *“Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins. With truth and having put on the breast plate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.” Eph. 6:14-17.*

Pray with spiritual insight through the armor of God daily and ask God to give wisdom in how to use this armor skillfully.

Day 14 Communication *"...with all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view..." Eph. 6:18a*

Pray that prayer will be the greatest tool that this Executive Director Search Team uses. Ask God to carve out times where the team can give themselves only to prayer and that anytime there are issues in discussions that the team stop and communicate with the God of Truth.

Day 15 Guidance *"Where there is no guidance the people fall, but in the abundance of counselors there is victory" Prov. 11:14*

Pray that the team will not fear getting counsel from similar teams formed from other Conventions.

Day 16 Humility *"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for our own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Phil. 2:3-4*

Pray until you humble yourself, until you have no will of your own, and then pray that the Search Team members will do the same.

Day 17 Ask *"Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondservant, and being made in the likeness of men. Phil. 2:5-7*

Pray that the team will seek God's will above their own desires for the Executive Director. Ask God for His man that will be the best for Arkansas Baptists.

Day 18 Seek *"You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. Jer. 29:13*

Ask the Lord to give each member of the Search Team a seeking heart; a heart that searches for a relationship with God on a level that has not been attained before.

Day 19 Thirst *"O God, You are my God' I shall seek You earnestly; My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water." Ps. 63:1*

Ask God to give the team a thirst for God similar to a person thirsting for life-giving water in the midst of the Sahara Desert.

Day 20 Revival *"From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. Mal. 3:7a*

Ask God to show the team a man who has experienced personal revival and is capable to lead Arkansas Baptists to a revival of the church and open the door for a state, even national Spiritual Awakening."

Day 21 How *"But you say, 'How shall we return?'" Mal. 3:7b*

Thank God for preparing a special man that has been groomed by the Holy Spirit to fill the ABSC Executive Director position.

Day 22 Preparation *“Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Eph. 4:1-3*

Review before the Lord today, the calling that He has placed upon this wonderful search team to bring to Arkansas Baptists the man that will lead us to one of the most exciting times in our history – preparation for revival and a new day of ministry!”

Day 23 Readiness *“...but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence...” 1 Pet. 3:15*

Pray for the team to give ready answers to those who will question them and give personal opinions. Ask for wisdom to respond with wisdom, confidentiality, gentleness, and reverence.

Day 24 Called *“Paul, a bondservant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God...” Rom. 1:1*

Pray that God would call the future Executive Director through God’s Word, confirmed by the Holy Spirit in Prayer, arranging the circumstances in His life to agree with God, and that the body of believers surrounding Him would see and confirm that call. Pray for the Search Team to sense the same solid call upon this man’s life.

Day 25 Acceptable *“Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” Rom. 12:1-2*

Agree with God to call out the family of the new Executive Director to see this call to serve Arkansas as good, acceptable, and perfect.

Day 26 Trust *“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.” Heb. 13:17*

Thank the Lord for the trust that Arkansas Baptists have placed in the Search Team. Ask God to continue to keep that trust intact throughout this process.

Day 27 Patience *“For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints. And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, and so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.” Heb. 6:10-12*

Ask the Lord to continue giving the Search Time the desire and patience to continue as their work is not in vain. Thank Him for the road you are traveling as a Search Team because the process is just as important as the result.

Day 28 Fasting *“While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’” Acts 13:2*
Pray and ask God to lead Arkansas Baptists personally to times of secret fasting and prayer through this process. Also ask God to show the team times when they will fast and pray together, as God will show them things in the Spirit that may only come through this devotion.

Day 29 Transition *“And He said to His disciples, ‘For this reason I say to you do not worry about your life, as to what you will eat; nor for your body, as to what you will put on.’” Lk. 12:22*
Ask God to give the Search Team and the Executive Board wisdom to know God’s mind in the areas of transition to the new Executive Director. Also pray for the Executive Director to have wisdom, ability, and smooth transition into this new position. Pray that God would protect the Director’s heart as he leaves his current ministry, relief of stress, meeting new people, possible transition of children and their school, etc.

Day 30 Thankfulness *“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” Col. 3:15-16*
Pray with a thankful heart that God will bring the Search Team, the Executive Board, and the candidate to perfect oneness and unity in the calling of the new Executive Director.