

“In these days [Jesus] went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples...” (Luke 6:12-13)

1. Pray for the Search Committee

- ❖ **Pray for patience.** Pray that the group would wait for God's timing.
- ❖ **Pray that your search committee will have the mind of Christ and agree.** Much of the process is subjective. Personal opinions and preferences are involved. Differences can divide. Ask that they would heed Paul's advice for unity, having the humble attitude of Jesus Christ (Philippians 2:1-12).
- ❖ **Pray for wisdom to choose the right person.** Pray that the pastoral search committee will renew their minds in the Bible so that they can have Word-centered wisdom (Romans 12:1-2).
- ❖ **Pray for discipline for your search committee and other church leaders.** The search process will require a great deal of follow-through on the parts of individuals. It will also require that they not digress from the agenda or retrace decisions they have already made. Pray for strength and endurance for this potentially long process. Pray for unity and agreement between your elders and the pastoral search committee.

2. Pray for Your Next Pastor

- ❖ **Pray that God would increase his passion for preaching the Word of God.**
- ❖ **Pray that God would give him a love for your church and the strength to leave his current position** (if the candidate senses that is God's direction).
- ❖ **Pray that God would prepare your future pastor to shepherd your flock effectively** through the trials and blessings he has faced or currently faces.
- ❖ **Pray for your next pastor's family.** Pray that God, who knows each detail about each member of your pastor's family, would give them strength as they consider leaving their current setting and coming to Cornerstone.
- ❖ **Pray for our current Pastors & their families.** Pray for Matt & Laura and Easton & Lily—that they would be blessed with wisdom, strength, and guidance as they shepherd and lead us. Pray that God would protect and bless their marriages and families as they serve us.

3. Pray for the Body of Christ at Cornerstone

- ❖ **Pray for patience.** The search process can go on longer than expected. It is hard for people doing the work of searching. It is also difficult for those in the congregation who must wait without knowing exactly what is going on. Pray that your people would trust the leadership and uphold the search committee during the whole process.
- ❖ **Pray that your people would learn to place a high priority on biblical preaching.** Pray that, above all, the congregation would call a pastor who will proclaim the Word without apology.
- ❖ **Pray that your people would not react to a previous pastor.** Pray that Cornerstone would be accepting of the pastor that God leads us to, and that they would not strictly want a pastor “just like” previous pastors (or the opposite). Pray that personal preferences would not develop bad attitudes among the body.
- ❖ **Pray for healing at Cornerstone.** This past year has been filled with trials and hardship—pray for healing for the members of Cornerstone and to move forward into God's leading with a spirit of love and unity.