

Good morning Bright Hope,

Finally I am sending out this email which I told you would be coming. It has taken way too long to send this out and I have no excuse. Prayer is vital in this process and the search team has made this of the utmost importance in our meetings and daily lives.

How you can be in prayer for the team:

1. Patience- to wait on God and not to feel the pressure of just filling the position.
2. Unity- that we would have the mind of Christ and have his priorities and requirements above our preferences
3. Humble- realize that this task is far beyond what we are capable of doing on our own and God is the one who will fill the position
4. Discipline- that we set achievable deadlines and stick to them, stay on task

Praying for next pastor:

1. God would increase his passion for preaching the Word of God
2. Love for Bright Hope and strength to leave his current position
3. Overwhelming sense of Gods direction
4. God would be preparing this man to be Bright Hope's Pastor.
5. For his family: Strength to each member of his family to leave their friends, family and the comfort of what they know.
6. His wife: That she would be supportive of his decision and would be sensitive to the Spirit's leading.

Prayer for Bright Hope:

1. Patience: Be patient waiting on God to bring the right man, patience waiting on the search team to do the work that is necessary.
2. That questions and comments would be directed to those who have the answer or can get the answer.

3. Place a high priority on Biblical preaching not focus on personality or programs
4. Not to compare incoming pastor to pastor Paul but be accepting of the man God is going to bring.
5. Understanding the search team is made up of imperfect men and will more than likely make mistakes through this process and may not always be able to answer the questions being asked.

Prayer for Pastor Paul and Susi:

- 1: That they would feel the love and appreciation we have for them.
2. They would find encouragement looking back on their time at Bright Hope
3. They would be fulfilled and satisfied with where God is taking them
4. They can be encouraged with seeing family members come to Christ
5. That they can find rest when needed
6. That the joy of the Lord is always evident

We pray because we know God listens and we know he answers. We pray because his plans are better than ours. We pray because we can. We pray because we love. We pray because we are weak. We pray because we don't have the answer. We pray to worship and praise our King.

Jesus prayed all night before he chose the 12 and he was and still is The Great I Am. Do we need to do the same??? I would think so and all the more knowing he is perfect and we are not.

Thank you for being part of this church and joining in prayer through this process.

Sam Burgard