

QUESTIONS A SEARCH COMMITTEE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ANSWER

1. *How would you describe your church?*
2. *Why was the church started?*
3. *What is this church's purpose? What is the church's unique role in this community?*
4. *How would you describe the atmosphere of:*
 - *worship services?*
 - *small group Bible studies (Sunday School, etc.)?*
 - *deacon meetings?*
 - *business meetings?*
 - *special events?*
5. *What is the church's position regarding:*
 - *the denomination & the Cooperative Program?*
 - *the community*
 - *doctrinal/moral matters (e.g. divorce, etc.)?*
 - *tithing (or fund-raising by other methods)?*
 - *the association (support & participation)?*
 - *Other (_____)?*
6. *What is the church's concept regarding growth? Does the church have a plan for growth? What is the single biggest obstacle to growth in the church?*
7. *What efforts have been made in the recent past in visitation and outreach?*
8. *When did your last new members join?*
9. *How open is the church to new ideas, concepts, and programs?*
10. *What strong ministry does the church have? What new ministry initiatives has the church launched in the last five years?*
11. *Is there any conflict in the church now?*
12. *How are decisions made in the church? (Note to the prospective pastor: Observe this, too!)*
13. *How active are the deacons (in visitation, etc.), and how do they perceive their role (support/ministry/authority/etc.)? To what extent do they support the pastoral leadership? Do they tithe?*
14. *What are the things that unite this church?*
15. *Where does the church want to go? What are the essential things you believe you need to be doing to get there? What is the greatest need?*
16. *Has the interim period been redemptive and healing?*
17. *Will I have complete freedom to preach the Word of God without restrictions?*
18. *What administrative responsibilities will I have? What administrative authority will I have?*

19. *What will be my responsibilities and authority in regard to worship services, and outside speakers/musicians coming to the church?*
20. *What are you looking for in a Pastor? Why?*
21. *What were the strengths and weaknesses of your previous pastor? Why did the last pastor leave?*
22. *What are your expectations of my family?*
23. **Others:**