

Church Identity Issues

Issues the Pastor Search Committee needs answered before beginning the search process

1. How does your church deal with the issue of divorced persons? Are they allowed to teach Sunday School, discipleship, mission groups, lead choirs and serve on the church staff? Can they be elected deacon? Could your pastor be divorced?
2. How does your church deal with the issue of women in church ministry? Are they allowed to teach groups where men are present? Can they teach mixed teenage groups? Are women allowed to lead in worship services, pray, give testimonies and serve on church staff? Does your church have women deacons?
3. Has your church defined itself theologically and denominationally and determined a vision for your future or are you waiting for the next pastor? Is your church ok with a pastoral leadership style that is strong on Pastoral Authority and weak on committee lead structures?
4. Would your church allow members to designate their mission gifts to mission causes other than SBC, (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship or other groups)? Which Cooperative Missions Giving plan does your church give through, Plan A, B, C, or D?
5. Has your church defined whether it embraces the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message statements or the 2000?