

Carolina Baptist Association- Call to Prayer

As a follow up to the "[CBA Response to the Guidepost Solutions Report](#)" statement that we released yesterday, I wanted to follow up with an important action step that we can take together- prayer. God is the only answer to the issues we are facing. We must seek God together, humbling ourselves before Him, asking that He help and heal those who are victims and survivors. We also need wisdom as we make decisions and move into the future with honesty, transparency, and courage.

James 4:8-10 instructs: ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

I join with several other Associational Leaders in this call to prayer. "Since the SBC will meet in Anaheim on June 14-15, we call the churches of our associations to a focused season of prayer between now and then. Please use the prayer prompts and Scripture below to help us pray well together."

Pray:

- That we will take time to lament, to grieve, to be sorrowful, to hurt together before the Lord because of the abuse, neglect, and sin that has taken place. (James 4:8-10)
- That we as Southern Baptists will hear with grieving hearts the contents of the report and humble ourselves before the Lord. (Daniel 9:3-5)
- That each of us would be committed to pursuing holiness and purity; living and serving in a way that honors God and blesses others. (1 Peter 1:13-25)
- That those who have been victims of sexual abuse will know that they are cared for and that we will listen and help in every way possible. (Psalm 34:22)
- That those who have victimized others will repent of their sin and accept the consequences of this behavior. (Psalm 51:1-4)
- That churches will turn from indifference to attentiveness, from defensiveness to caring, from protecting ourselves to protecting those who are hurting. (1 Peter 4:7-9)
- That our churches will be safe, helping places for those in need. (Galatians 5:13)
- That our churches will be actively working to make sure the women, children, all we serve are protected from any who would cause abuse or harm. (Galatians 6:2)
- That the messengers attending the SBC meeting in Anaheim will be prayerfully preparing for this important time together; humbled and ready to follow Jesus together. (1 Peter 5:6-7)
- For protection from the attacks of the enemy as we walk and serve through these days. (1 Peter 5:8-11)
- For a renewed readiness to live out the Great Commandment, loving our Lord and loving our neighbors in a selfless manner. (Matthew 22:37-40)

Thank you for joining together in prayer through the coming days. We are working to make sure our churches are equipped to deal with the situations we face in a God-honoring way.

Grace & Peace,
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