

Induction Service – (date)
(Pastors name, Church name)
(City, Province)

An Induction Service is intended to honour Pastors, to review the uniqueness of their calling as outlined in Scripture, and to have both the Pastor and the Congregation make mutual commitments before God and each other.

Pastor (name) has responded to your church's invitation to be your Pastor. You have mutually agreed that this is God's will. At an earlier date, the Associated Gospel Churches affirmed Pastor (name) as being doctrinally sound, morally and ethically upright, and a person called to the Christian Ministry. The AGC is here at your invitation to partner with you in this service. Pastor (full name) please come and join me for a time of recommitment and dedication

The Bible speaks to both the Pastor and the church about our mutual responsibility. Let's hear the Word of God on a number of ministry topics.

1. Let's listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the Pastor's devotion to prayer:

I urge, then first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, Who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.
(I Timothy 2:1-4, NIV)

It is the privilege of the Pastor to give himself to fervent and faithful prayer, both alone in private, and in public ministry.

(Pastor's first name), will you give yourself to the ministry of prayer?

(The candidate responds_____.)

2. Let's listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the Pastor's devotion to the Bible:

All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

(II Timothy 3:16-17; 2:15, NIV)

It is the privilege of the Pastor to give himself to the daily reading and diligent study of God's Word, the Bible, and to minister the Word effectively.

(Pastor's first name), will you give yourself to the ministry of the Word?

(The candidate responds_____.)

3. Let's listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the Pastor's devotion to the gospel:

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.

Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

(Matthew 28:19-20; I Corinthians 15:1-4, NIV)

It is the privilege of the Pastor to give himself to sharing the message of the gospel according to his unique spiritual gifts, abilities, and opportunities.

(Pastor's first name), will you give yourself to the ministry of the gospel?

(The candidate responds_____.)

4. Let's listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the Pastor's devotion to the ordinances:

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood: do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."
(Matthew 28:18-19; I Corinthians 11:23-25, NIV)

It is the privilege of the Pastor to give attention to the two ordinances of the church which Jesus commanded and which the Bible prescribes and so to administer the ordinances of Believer's Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

(Pastor's first name), will you give yourself to the ministry of the ordinances? (The candidate responds_____.)

5. Let's listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the Pastor's devotion to unity:

Make every effort to live in peace with all men. Make every effort to keep unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. Live in peace with each other. (Hebrews 12:14a; Ephesians 4:3; I Thessalonians 5:13b, NIV)

It is the privilege of the Pastor to maintain true harmony, love and peace among all believers, especially among those he serves and serves with.

(Pastor's first name), will you give yourself to the ministry of unity?

(The candidate responds_____.)

Are you prepared to write your signature in whole-hearted support of and submission to the Articles of Faith and Doctrine, as set forth in the By-Laws of the AGC, and to affirm your ethical and moral lifestyle in keeping with the Word of God?

(The candidate responds_____.)

(The candidate will then publicly sign his name to the Articles of Faith and Doctrine in the presence of the congregation and the AGC officials.)

***The Congregation is asked to stand and respond accordingly**

The presiding official shall then turn to the congregation and speak.

6. Let's listen to God's Word as it relates to the congregation and its care of God's servant, your Pastor:

In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. (I Corinthians 9:14, NIV)

Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. (I Thessalonians 5:12-13, NIV)

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.

(Ephesians 6:18-19, NIV)

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

(Hebrews 13:17, NIV)

It is the privilege of this congregation to submit to the direction and ministry given by godly leadership. Will you pray for your Pastor, respect, love and support him? If so, answer by saying, "We will".

The presiding official then asks the Pastor to kneel on the platform and for the congregation to remain standing for a moment of silent prayer.

* **The Dedicatory Prayer (Laying-on of hands by Elders of Church and other Pastors present)**

* **The Presiding Official will say:**

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, on behalf of the Associated Gospel Churches, and upon the request of this congregation, I declare you to be duly inducted into the ministries of (Church name).

"May the Lord preserve your going out and your coming in from this time forth and even for evermore."

(The newly inducted minister will stand and the congregation will be seated.)