

Pastor Appreciation

“A SERVANT TO ALL”

*“I have made myself a servant to all,
that I might win the more”*
(I Corinthians 9:19 (ESV)).

**Serving through loving, guiding,
teaching, and training**

PASTOR APPRECIATION 2016

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**PASTOR APPRECIATION
“A SERVANT TO ALL”**

INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES

The theme, “A Servant To All” is captivating and impactful. It describes the ministry of a pastor.

A pastor is a servant. He serves:

- The Lord as a called messenger, servant, and representative.
- The local congregation as a shepherd, guide, and teacher.
- The community as a care-giver, counselor, and influencer.

The pastor is a person of impact. He impacts the lives of all age groups and works tirelessly often without deserved recognition. This is why Pastor Appreciation Sunday and activities are so important.

Pastor Appreciation:

- Brings the church together, in unity, love, and thanksgiving.
- Highlights the life of the pastor as a minister, motivator, and spiritual guide.
- Provides an opportunity for the congregation and individual church members to express honor for his vision, unselfish spirit, and total commitment to the growth in Christ of every church member.
- As the theme projects, the pastor is truly “A Servant To All”.

Five Steps In Making Plans for Pastor Appreciation

1. Select a Planning Team.
2. Outline activities to be sponsored.
3. Announce plans to the congregation.
4. Keep promotion active—announcements, telephone calls, webpage, letters, and bulletin board.
5. Maintain a focus on the entire congregation, all ages, to be involved.

Five Pastor Appreciation Sunday Suggestions

1. **Guest speaker.** This can be a special pastoral friend of the pastor or a gifted layperson.
2. **Music.** Special songs loved by the pastor presented by the choir, groups, or individuals.
3. **Expression.** Tributes and declarations by city leaders, pastor's council, youth, and close friends.
4. **Gifts.** Unique gift or gifts presented to the pastor and his family.
5. **Prayer.** Special prayer for the pastor by members of the pastor's council and church leaders.

Six Unique Pastor Appreciation Activities

1. **Honor Banquet.** Feature expressions of love and appreciation.
2. **Appreciation Evening.** Entire church families come together to honor the pastor—skits, readings, expressions, and refreshments.
3. **Congregational Dinner.** The entire church family celebrates the pastor after the Sunday morning service.
4. **Men's Breakfast.** A special event to convey appreciation and support for the pastor.
5. **Women's Tea.** A unique way for the women to honor a male pastor's wife.
6. **Youth Pizza Party.** The young people come together for a happy time with the children of the pastor.

Responsive Readings and Bulletin Inserts

1. **Survey** all of the material offered.
2. **Select** items that blend with your plans.
3. **Secure** space in the church bulletin and news letters.
4. **Support** material can be utilized in all areas of promotion.
5. **Specialize** in *big bang* attention-grabbing promotion.

PASTOR APPRECIATION

RESPONSIVE READINGS

AND

BULLETIN INSERTS

PASTOR APPRECIATION

A SERVANT TO ALL

LEADER: Our pastor is a servant to all in order to reflect the nature of Christ and to fulfill God's mission for our church.

CONGREGATION: We will embrace the call of our pastor to be a servant to all and will stand with and by our pastor in respect and trust.

LEADER: Our pastor guides us in Bible study to understand how to become mature and motivated disciples of Jesus Christ.

CONGREGATION: We will respond to the teaching and servant spirit of our pastor and set an example of how to be a servant to all.

LEADER: Our pastor reflects the nature of being a servant to all through passionate oversight, lifestyle example and outreach involvement.

CONGREGATION: We will surround our pastor with a servant spirit and will stand with, by, and for our pastor in honor, devotion, and dedication.

Together we will impact our community by being servants to all in total devotion with our pastor.

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

MY PLEDGE TO MY PASTOR

Pastor, as my spiritual leader I pledge to:

- **Pray** regularly for you—your faith, ministry, and fulfillment.
- **Partner** with you in the mission of the church—worship, education, and evangelism.
- **Prepare** to be an effective church member—attendance, finance, and involvement.
- **Promote** all aspects of church ministry—children, youth, young adults, and senior citizens.
- **Plan** with church leaders—new outreaching avenues and impact projects.
- **Present** myself as a committed servant—to stand with, support, and honor you, my pastor.

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

TOGETHER IN MINISTRY

It is a gift from my heavenly Father to be together in ministry with my pastor. This togetherness will equip and empower me to:

- **Stand by** my pastor in receiving spiritual gifts to fulfill God's design for our church.
- **Stand with** my pastor in leading the congregation to be united in fulfilling God's goals for our church.
- **Stand in** for my pastor at community activities, school events, and social gatherings as a representative of church unity, love, and outreach.
- **Stand against** any feelings or force that would weaken church unity and effectiveness.

I am together in ministry with my pastor.

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PRAYER CARD
Personal Commitment

Prayer for My Pastor

Pastor _____

I will pray for the effectiveness of my pastor—his/her health, home life, sermon preparation, impact programs, and relationships.

Signed _____

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I WILL PRAY FOR MY PASTOR

“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls”
(Hebrews 13:17).

I Will Pray for My Pastor:

- Family life and children
- Personal life and relaxation
- Church life and impact
- Sermon life and revelation
- Leadership life and creativity
- Discipleship life and training
- Community life and influence
- Prayer life and connection

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

MY PASTOR'S FAMILY

The members of my pastor's family are a vital part of his/her ministry. My pastor must practice love, care, training and guidance for them. In response to my pastor's family responsibilities I will:

- **Partner** with my pastor in understanding the needs of his/her family.
- **Pray** for the health and welfare of each family member.
- **Provide** an environment of trust and care for family life privacy.
- **Protect** family members from performance pressure and extra mile expectations.
- **Participate** in events to honor the pastor and his/her family.

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

I AM A PARTNER WITH MY PASTOR

As a partner I will:

Pray daily for my pastor's effectiveness.

Position my self as a visible partner.

Promote the ministries of my church.

Practice patience in developing disciples.

Penetrate barricades to church harmony.

Perform with bold faith to achieve.

Persevere in reaching church growth goals.

Participate in pastor enrichment activities.

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

MY PASTOR

I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding (Jeremiah 3:15).

My pastor is a gift from the Lord. I am thankful for his/her:

- **Faithfulness** in obeying God's call to proclaim and protect His Word.
- **Factfulness** in revealing God's scriptural play of restoration and renewal.
- **Fruitfulness** in providing guidance in living a holy and healthy life.
- **Forwardness** in guiding action steps in servanthood and Bible study.
- **Freshness** in living the abundant life in action and activities.
- **Futureness** in advancing God's promise of the beauty and blessings of heaven.

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

MY PASTOR AND ME

My pastor and me—a God-appointed team to fulfill the mission of our church:

My Pastor . . .

- Sees the God-given possibilities in my life and guides me in a path of achievement.
- Feeds me scriptural food to fortify me to see, show, and share.
- Leads me in paths of righteousness and equips me to be an effective leader.

I Will . . .

- Go with my pastor believing in and achieving God's design for our church.
- Show my love for my pastor through prayer for his ministerial effectiveness.
- Flow with my pastor in worship and the outreach ministry of the church.

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

FIVE WAYS I WILL STAND WITH MY PASTOR

I Will:

1. **Stand with** my pastor in fulfilling the mission of our church.
2. **Stand by** my pastor through loyal participation in worship services.
3. **Stand for** my pastor in stressing stewardship, partnership, and fellowship.
4. **Stand up** for my pastor through recognition events, rewards, and achievements.
5. **Stand against** weak support of my pastor by fostering unity and bold faith.

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

FLOW AND GO WITH MY PASTOR

*I will **flow** with my pastor by:*

- Understanding his/her convictions about Christlikeness and discipleship.
- Embracing his/her style of leadership and establishing relationships.
- Communicating support for his/her vision of reaching the unchurched.

*I will **go** with my pastor by:*

- Accepting accountability in his/her evangelism strategy and actions.
- Sharing his/her creative passion for Jesus Christ with love and authority.
- Blending with my pastor in proclaiming the Good News, and living a victorious life.

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

I WILL TRUST MY PASTOR

I will trust my pastor as being God-appointed and anointed to guide me in developing Christlikeness and in performing life-changing ministry. I will trust my pastor by:

- **Listening** attentively and honestly to my pastor's instructions about spiritual commitments and life-commitments.
- **Learning** from his/her relationship and leadership skills and relating them to my spiritual objectives and life-goals.
- **Looking** at my pastor's life-methods of searching the Scriptures and how he/she applies them to life-commitments and life-goals.
- **Leading** by a positive example like my pastor does and placing a priority on life-commitments, life-goals, life-methods, and life-changing ministry.

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

MY CHURCH

Christ said, “I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18 ESV). My church is a place of security and safety. In my church I find:

- **Protection from Evil.** Satan has to stop at the entrance to my church; he cannot enter. I’m protected! Inside my church I have calmness, guidance, and protection.
- **Peace and Security.** Worship brings me into the presence of my heavenly Father where I find complete peace—peace of mind, heart, and directions for my life.
- **Pastor to Lead.** I am thankful for the leadership of my pastor. He leads me by his example, through exhortation, and scriptural encouragement.
- **People to Fellowship.** My church family provides enriching fellowship. Through fellowship I am strengthened spiritually, motivated socially, and activated mentally.

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PERSONAL PLEDGE OF PARTNERSHIP WITH MY PASTOR

Understanding God's plan of ministering with my pastor, I will:

- ❖ Stand by my pastor as a loyal partner in scriptural ministry.
- ❖ Stand with my pastor in developing discipleship objectives.
- ❖ Stand for my pastor by creating harmony in mission.
- ❖ Stand up for my pastor as an ambassador for church health.
- ❖ Stand against forces that weaken unity with my pastor.
- ❖ Stand out in loyalty to my pastor through obedient dependability.

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THE MINISTRY OF MY PASTOR

A Shepherd—“And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding” (Jeremiah 3:15).

Worthy of Double Honor—“Let the elders (pastors) who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching” (1 Timothy 5:17).

Ready in Season and Out of Season—“Preach the Word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching” (2 Timothy 4:2).

Keeping Watch Over My Soul—“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over our souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you” (Hebrews 13:17).

Admonishes Me—“We ask you . . . to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love and because of their work” (1 Thessalonians 5:12).

Proclaims the Gospel—“In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel” (1 Corinthians 9:14).

Speaks the Word of God to me—“Remember you leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith” (Hebrews 13:7).

Shares Good Things—“One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches” (Galatians 6:6).

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PASTOR APPRECIATION
THE INFLUENCE OF MY PASTOR

Guides me in righteousness

Leads me in worship

Teaches me biblical truths

Equips me for warfare

Protects me in relationships

Directs me in ministry

Joins me in fellowship

Inspires me in oversight

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

MY DUTY TO MY PASTOR

I will ...

Honor my pastor's calling

Follow my pastor's leadership

Embrace my pastor's teaching

Support my pastor's projects

Respect my pastor's family

Share my pastor's vision

Promote my pastor's ministry

Cherish my pastor's guidance

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PASTOR APPRECIATION

HOW TO PRAY A HEDGE AROUND YOUR PASTOR

You can help build a hedge of security and success around your pastor. The basis of the process is prayer; to pray for him/her specifically every day. However, it also includes accountability, assisting him/her, and answering the call to serve. Five principles in the plan are set forth utilizing the letters in the word HEDGE.

H—Hold up your pastor's hands like Aaron and Hur.

E—Embrace your pastor's God-given dreams for the church.

D—Develop an attitude of partnership with your pastor.

G—Go the second mile in ministry with your pastor.

E—Enjoy the adventures of the Christian journey with your pastor.

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STAND UP FOR MY PASTOR

A Prayer of Personal Commitment

Give me vision, courage, and fortitude, O Lord, to stand up for, stand with, and stand beside my pastor.

Let me stand up for my pastor's holy calling, to lead the congregation in following You in a life of purity and purpose.

Let me stand up for Your plan of joining my pastor as a partner, a coworker, in fulfilling the mission of our church.

Let me stand up for my pastor in daily prayer that Your Spirit would guide his/her heart, anoint his/her mind, and equip his/her hands for life-changing, kingdom-building, and God-honoring ministry.

Let me stand up for my pastor in the community as a visionary leader, in the church as a caring shepherd, among friends as a civic-minded servant.

Let me stand up for my pastor in the process of developing disciples, in stewardship-steadfastness, and in loving loyalty to the total influence of the church.

Let me stand up for my pastor and honor You that our church will be jubilant in worship, consistent in outreach, and growing in our relationship with you.

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