

APPLICATION FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE GOSPEL MINISTRY
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY

Please print or type your answers.

I. PERSONAL HISTORY

Name: Blake Price _____ Telephone (863)224-1968 _____

Address: 1016 S Lake Mariam Dr, Winter Haven, FL 33884

Birthdate 8/22/88 _____

Your baptism: Infant? No _____ Other? Yes; Believer's at age 7 _____

By which church? First Baptist Church, Haines City, FL _____

Have you previously been received as a candidate in another presbytery? Explain: No

Marital Status: Engaged _____ Date of marriage: 7/27/13 _____

Name and ages of children or other dependents: None

Your present occupation (If student, give institution and class): RTS Orlando, Class of 2014

Formal Education Record (Since High School):

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Degree</u>
1. The Baptist College of FL	May 07-Dec 10	Ministry	3.73	B.A.
2. RTS Orlando	Aug 11-Present	Bib. Studies	3.10	M.A.
3.				

Employment Record (Last two employers):

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Description of work</u>
1.N. Amer. Mission Board	Jan 11-Dec 11	Church Planting Intern: assisted CPs as needed
2.Church of the Redeemer	Jan 12-Present	Pastoral Intern: assisting staff as needed

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- 1. Why are you seeking candidacy in the Presbyterian Church in America (one must have been member of church for at least 6 months)?** I sense a call to pursue church planting in the Winter Haven, FL area, through Church of the Redeemer.
- 2. Describe ministry activities in which you have been involved which have contributed to your sense of call.** Working in various ministry positions in college, serving as a student missionary in New York state with Southern Baptist church planters, and interning at Church of the Redeemer have all contributed to my sense of call.
- 3. What are the attitudes of your parents (if living) and spouse (if married) toward your decision to make application for candidacy?** My parents are fully supportive. They are providing some financial assistance to help me pursue my degree at RTS. My fiancée is also fully supportive.
- 4. Describe your personal devotional life and other means by which you are seeking to grow as a Christian.** My personal devotional life consists of reading the Bible and praying. I am participating in our church wide Community Bible Reading plan to read through the OT in 3 years and NT in 1 year. In my prayer life, I am beginning to implement a prayer card system to assist in my regular prayer time. Further, I am participating in a discipleship group with my pastor and a discipleship group with the men in my community group. I am also regularly attending services and events at Church of the Redeemer. I give regularly to my church and serve in several capacities on a regular basis.
- 5. In what ways can the presbytery be helpful to you during a period of candidacy, should this application be accepted?** Prayer would be greatly appreciated. Prayer for school and the beginning of my married life with my soon-to-be wife, Emily. Any other forms of assistance would be welcomed and appreciated.

SESSIONAL ENDORSEMENT OF AN APPLICANT FOR THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

Presbyterian Church in America

Southwest Florida Presbytery

BCO 18-2 requires that a presbytery take note of a Session's evaluation when considering the application of a man seeking to come under care of Presbytery. Candidates must have been a member of the recommending church for 6 months. We would appreciate it if your Session would provide the following information to us as soon as possible. You are also being asked as Session to commit to this candidate, to encourage and instruct him during this period of testing.

Applicant's Name: **Blake Price**

1. Please evaluate the applicant's Christian character:

Strengths: **Blake is responsible and a hard worker. He has his own lawn business which he has run since he was in high school. He is mature. He is able to gain the respect of people who are older to him and not just people who are younger than him. Those older than him respond well to his ministry. He is a problem-solver, a strategic thinker. He knows how to formulate a plan and execute it. He is organized. Blake has a great deal of ministry experience. He has interned in Youth ministry in the past and also spent a year as a church planting intern in New York, helping 2 church plants in the early stages of church planting. Blake is articulate and exhibits great pathos in public communication. I expect him to become a very good preacher once he begins to get opportunities to preach.**

Weaknesses: **Blake struggles to gain the respect and trust of his peers. He is such an over-achiever and so proficient at everything he does that he can come off as condescending and arrogant. Blake's idolatry is being the "good boy." This causes him to guard his reputation, which, in turn, can lead to gossip or blame shifting or lying to protect his good name. He can, at times, appear overconfident (though I'm not sure that is true of him).**

Other Comments:

2. Please list the activities of ministry in which the applicant has participated and which the Session has observed, with a brief evaluation of each: **Blake teaches in Children's worship. He is actually a classroom coordinator. He is conscientious in his preparation and his leadership of the classroom. Blake has helped lead the liturgy in our worship services. He is articulate and thoughtful- beyond his years. He is ready to begin preaching and teaching regularly.**

3. Does the Session recommend this man as promising usefulness for the ordained ministry? **Yes, we would recommend Blake Price to the Candidates Committee. We expect God to use him greatly in the coming years.**

4. Would this recommendation be with any qualifications? Please explain. **We would have no qualifications for our recommendation. In fact, we would strongly recommend Blake to the committee. Blake is in the middle of a 2-year internship with our church in which he meets with me for personal spiritual direction and also participates in a discipleship group with our other interns.**

5. We commit to assist, challenge, encourage this candidate throughout the time he is under care of the presbytery.

We, the session of Church of the Redeemer, certify that the above named applicant has been a member of this church since November 2011 and we recommend him as an applicant for candidacy for the Gospel Ministry.

Moderator BGSBWA
Date 3/25/13

Please return this form to:

Rev. J. Steven Light
350 S Hyde Park Ave
Tampa, FL 33606

or

email to steven.light@gmail.com

REFERENCE ON AN APPLICANT FOR THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

The Presbyterian Church in America

Southwest Florida Presbytery

Dear Friend:

Blake Price is applying to become a candidate for the ordained ministry in the Presbytery of Southwest Florida of the Presbyterian Church in America. Our committee has the responsibility of supporting and guiding those who sense that God is calling them to the ministry. We need your help in our consideration of the above mentioned person's application for candidacy. Please answer as fully as you can, based on your knowledge of this person. Use additional sheets, if necessary. Be assured that your comments will be kept in strict confidence. We thank you for your assistance.

1. Describe the applicant's character: Blake is a energetic fun person to be around. He is a man of integrity and a hard worker. Blake is very diligent and always makes sure the job is done right.
2. Describe the applicant's Christian commitment: Blake is truly committed to being a follower of Christ. He understands that he is apart of The Bigger Story. Although he is not perfect he understands how important a repentant heart is.
3. Describe the applicant's discipline and perseverance: Discipline and perseverance is two ways Blake lives his life. Its part of his personality and I have seen God use it for his glory but also expose to Blake when Blake is using it for his own glory. Like I said earlier Blake has a gift with being a hard worker and it is shown through his disciplines and perseverance.
4. Describe your observation of the applicant in high stress situations. Blake is a "fixer". which can be a good thing or a bad thing. Sometimes high stress situations does not call for fixing but just listening. I have seen the Holy Spirit work in this area of Blake and continue to see balance.

5. Describe the applicant’s capacity to relate to people. Blake is highly relational and loves being around people. He is a genuinely nice guy and easy to love. Loves to serve.
6. Describe the applicant’s level of maturity. I have known Blake since he was in 8th grade and he has always been very mature for his age.
7. Describe those areas in the applicant’s character which he needs to address. Blake is a hard worker and is a perfectionist. There are a lot of good things that can come out of those characteristics but there are some struggles too. Under good leadership and mentorship I believe that God is building a balance in those areas but like all of us, he still has work to do!
8. Describe the applicant’s major strengths. Hard work, determination, making sure things get done and that they are done right. Truly has a servants heart.

Signature of Reference _____

Print Name ___Steve Straub_____

Date 4/8/2013_____

Please return this form to:

Rev. J. Steven Light
350 S Hyde Park Ave
Tampa, FL 33606

or

email to steven.light@gmail.com

