

Job Search Tips

Here are some job search tips that we've found helpful. In our experience, everyone eventually finds a job. It just takes time and effort. In retrospect many have told us that it was a good time for them to think through their ministry aspect and in preparing a support team back home. So be encouraged and use this time well.

Motivation during your job search

Treat your job search as a full-time job.

Although you do not have to search from 9-5 every day, you will only get out of it what you put in. Have a plan. Research companies, go on informational interviews, network, analyze your skills.

Stay healthy. A job search can be stressful. Don't let it affect your physical health. Eat well, exercise and practice relaxation and stress management techniques. Put energy into your spiritual life!.

Create a "to-do" list for the week.

Carolyn Couch, of the Career Services Department of Wake Forest University, "This list could include the networking calls you will make that week, the web sites you will review, the time you will spend at the public library doing research... Once you have completed the items on your list you can relax and be less likely to worry about what you should be doing, knowing that you are working toward your goal on a regular basis."

Form a support network.

Rely on your friends and family to encourage you and provide you with networking contacts. "As long as you fulfill your responsibilities for your career change and don't expect others to do things for you that you should be doing for yourself, there's nothing wrong with seeking support and feedback from others along the way," says Dr. David Helfand, career counselor and author of *Career Change : Everything You Need to Know to Meet New Challenges and Take Control of Your Career* (VGM Career Horizons, 1995).

The Pep Talk

It's inevitable that at some point in this process, you will feel run down and need a good pep talk.

There are always jobs. If your job search method isn't finding them, change it. Remember that rejection does not make you an unworthy worker or a bad person. It just didn't work out for that particular job.

Finally, remember not to give up! There is a good job out there for you--in fact, there are many. Keep your head up, and you'll find them!

"Hundreds of tentmakers are out there working at their jobs who were once in your position!" Ari Rocklin