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Objective

I'm seeking to serve a body of believers who demonstrate a deep love for the unbelieving community, and enjoy innovative and organic expressions of faith. Key words for the kind of church I'm looking for would be faithfulness, authenticity, and love.

Vision / Direction

The Train: Some believers view their church like a train. Their goal is to get as many people on the train because the train is headed to heaven. Their primary goal is to get as many people as possible and to retain those they get. They measure success by counting the number of seats that are filled. Unfortunately the experience of sitting on the train pales in comparison to the experiences waiting at the destination; so many people find themselves bored on the train. They speak of things that they do not experience as they live a life categorically different than the reason they first boarded the train.

The Rain: I think of the church like rain. Rain exists as an essential part of the life of the world. It falls to the Earth to serve it and nourish it. Without rain plants would die—life would fail. Believers who view church through this model measure success by the healthy life of the world around them. In order for rain to continue its cycle, after it falls, it must be gathered and evaporate up to the heavens. Believers gather and participate in a mysterious process called worship. Once we have gathered and gone through this invisible process, we are driven by the wind (pneuma) to the places where God has appointed us to fall. So we return again to nourish those around us.

Education

Th.M., Media Arts in Ministry, Dallas Theological Seminary

B.A., Speech Communication, San Jose State University

Certificate of Bible Knowledge, Okanagan Bible College

Ministry Gifts and Distinctives

- Exhorter and **Pastor / Teacher**. I preach the word using a lot of cultural connections.
- Metaphorical thinker: I'm very visual. I like to communicate through metaphor and imagery.
- Passion for churches in transition: I have thrived in churches amidst conflict, where faithfulness and innovation play key roles in healing and spiritual transformation.
- Problem solver who thinks about the big picture but is also committed to making slow methodical changes through long term relationships in key leaders.
- Free thinker: I am outside the box. My ideas are often very different than the rest of my team. God made my mind this way. I often connect the dots in a very different pattern than others. This is the gift that most people affirm for why I must remain in Christian ministry.
- Mentor to hurting people. The greatest fulfillment I've found is interpersonal growth within long term relationships; and it is also the toughest. I believe the role of leadership is modeling and mentoring this; and I have a passion for the long research and patient love that bears witness to this fruit.

Employment

Pastor to College / Young Adult, Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks, CA

2004 - 2008

- Responsible to oversee youth ministry (hands on in high school) until December 2007

Junior High Pastor, Northwest Bible Church, Dallas, TX

1999 - 2004

Also worked as Elementary age Pastor and Director of IT

- My last year was spent as Youth Pastor (hands on in high school)

**Relevant
Experience &
Accomplishments**

I lead leaders. My former interns are successful pastors across the US.
Hired, trained and overseen paid staff and lead large volunteer staff groups.
I've seen growth (200% annually) and loss (10% annually) throughout my years in youth ministry.
Managed budgets from \$150,000 to \$1500 (annual)
Transformed the sacred-cow-youth-choir (with over 100 singers and 30 staff) through strategic long term change to create a much more culturally relevant ministry to both those within the church and those outside.
I lead a dying and self destructing youth ministry into a passion for the lost and for missions.
Created alternative worship experiences for young adults including introducing them to festival worship (Tabernacles, Passover, Hanukkah) and a weekly gathering.
Wrote a comprehensive training manual for new volunteers entering youth ministry staff
Created dozens of videos for teaching and youth ministry. I even created a film festival one year for the youth in the community.
Trained in conciliation and mediation techniques through Peacemaking Ministry (hispeace.org)
Led mission trips to sensitive locations among the First Nations People in British Columbia, Canada as well as trips to Russia, Mississippi, San Francisco, Sacramento, Monterey. I was invited by Hume Lake to help put on a camp in Monrovia Liberia.
Invented over 100 youth group games (I still love playing games)

Personal Life

I was born in Los Angeles, CA into the home of a CE Pastor; and from that fateful day, (June 20, 1973) I knew that I wanted to be a junior high pastor. Okay, maybe not *that* day, but since junior high I've always wanted to serve as a pastor. Of course I believe that God has placed that same calling on every believer: to be used in full time ministry regardless of your vocation. But after high school and some bible college, the Lord opened the doors into youth ministry at my home church. That's when I discovered that Junior High ministry is an absolute blast and the Lord used me to grow the ministry from 6 students to over 30 and the fun only got better.

In 1995 I became a 'real' junior high pastor; but more importantly, my wife Sonja and I were married. I knew I wanted to go to seminary. But immediately after finishing college, the high school pastor at our home church left and we put our seminary plans on hold to take the high school ministry on an interim basis. In 1998 we moved to Dallas to attend Dallas Theological Seminary and the Lord gave us our first daughter (Carissa).

The first years of seminary were the toughest of our lives. But through those difficult circumstances the Lord led us to a unique ministry opportunity that combined my techno-geek side with my children's ministry upbringing and we couldn't say no. So we joined the staff of Northwest doing their IT and Elementary age ministry. I think that I learned more about my own ministry skills amidst the insanity of performing two what-should-be full time jobs, attending school full-time and being a husband and father. That year the Lord added a second daughter (Alicia) to our family. The church also endured a difficult split that taught me a lot about church dynamics. Soon the Lord opened the doors to youth ministry at Northwest. I jumped at the chance. Our third child was born (Samuel), and I decided to take seminary at a little slower pace and enjoy the fun of junior high ministry and a young family.

After seminary we returned to our home state and took a job as youth pastor at Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church in Sacramento. Working with young adults and high school students over tumultuous times for the church has been a difficult time but a wonderful blessing at the same time. The Lord blessed us with our fourth child (Emet) and the deep refreshment found only through difficulty. I was deeply impacted on a mission trip to Monrovia Liberia. As our lives have slowed down a bit, I have found refreshment from reading. Sonja and I look forward to place where our family can grow together and serve our community.