

Pastoral Calling To Kansas City (Abridged)

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- Hab 2:2-3 "And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make [it] plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. (3) For the vision [is] yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."
- 2Cor 13:1 "This [is] the third [time] I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses let every word be established."
- Jer 32:6-8 "And Jeremiah said, The word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
(7) Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee, saying, Buy thee my field that [is] in Anathoth: for the right of redemption [is] thine to buy [it]. (8) So Hanameel mine uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the LORD, and said unto me, Buy my field, I pray thee, that [is] in Anathoth, which [is] in the country of Benjamin: for the right of inheritance [is] thine, and the redemption [is] thine; buy [it] for thyself. Then I knew that this [was] the word of the LORD."

I. My Pastors Recommended This Opportunity.

- Acts 13:1-4 "(1) Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. (2) As they ministered to the Lord. and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. (3) And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid [their] hands on them, they sent [them] away. (4) So they. being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus."

- A. **The Bible teaches that God often gives the vision to a man through his leader.**
- B. **My pastors recommended I pray about and look at this situation.**

II. My "Pastoral Desire" Answered By This Opportunity.

Psalms 37:4 “Delight thyself also in the Lord;
and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.”

- A. I wrote out "My Pastoral Desire" on 10/6/95.**
- B. This opportunity matches my ideal pastoral situation.**

III. God Is Currently Making A Move In My Life.

Matt 3:17-4:1 “(17) And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, I whom I am well pleased. (1) Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.”

- A. I received the word from my pastor on March 25, 1996.**
- B. I received the following opportunities during our missions conference.**

IV. I Shed Tears Throughout our Missions Conference.

Psalms 126:5-6 “They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.”

- A. I have never wept or felt burdened about any opportunity or group of people.**
- B. I wept several times over the course of our missions conference at the mention of KC.**

V. Kansas City Is a Unique Field In My Life.

Josh 15:18 “And it came to pass, as she came [unto him], that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted off [her] ass; and Caleb said unto her, What wouldest thou?”

- A. Kansas City is the ONLY field I have asked of God.**
- B. Kansas City is the ONLY field I would never consider.**

VI. Other People Have Mentioned This Opportunity.

Acts 21:12 “And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.”

A. Some people have mentioned this opportunity directly.

B. Some people have mentioned me working at my church.

VII. This opportunity is an Open Door.

1Cor 16:9 “For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and [there are] many adversaries.”

2Cor 2:12-13 “(12) Furthermore, when I came to Troas to [preach Christ’s gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord, (13) I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not Titus my brother: but taking leave of them, I went from thence into Macedonia.”

A. God opens doors of ministry to his ministers.

B. Men use the doors of opportunity, confirmed by rest in their spirit.

VIII. This Opportunity Has Been Confirmed By The Word.

1Sam 3:21 “And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh: for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the LORD.”

A. God has revealed which Bible personalities I would be like in this role.

B. God has revealed the largest challenges facing me.

C. God has revealed the first book I would preach: Joshua.

My Current Plan:

Acts 13:3 “And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid [their] hands on them, they sent [them] away.

A. God says that leaders use fasting and prayer to confirm God’s call.

B. God says that forty days are the standard period of God’s testing.