

Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builder is use less. Unless the Lord protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good. It is useless for you to work so hard from early in the morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat; for God gives rest to His loved ones. Psalm 127:1-2 (NLT)

Trinkets: That Trunk in the Corner of the Attic

Late again! My original intention was to release the January edition of *APK's Attic* before I left for Louisville last week. However, due to my preparations for class and a few other items I had to deal with, my time did not permit me to write this edition earlier. However, now that I am back in Auburn, I can look back over the past 10 days and I know why God's providence had me wait.

Heartwork: Pastoral Internship Responsibilities

For the next two months, I will be serving under Hal Cooper, Lakeview's Minister of Prayer and Evangelism. As I serve under Hal, I will continue to help organize the Tuesday night FAITH outreach ministry. Also, I will be helping Hal organize and plan for a Prayer Conference to be held at Lakeview at the end of February.



Hal Cooper

In addition to my responsibilities of serving under Hal, I have several other ministries I will be involved with throughout this, my final semester in Auburn. I will be teaching the *Find Your Place* curriculum one last time here at Lakeview. Phil Swearingen has helped me recruit someone to take over this vital class at the church, so I will be training him as I teach. I will also be helping this church member look at ways in which the church can expand the contents of the class to transfer it into a more complete "New Members" type of class.

I have also recruited 4 college guys that are my new "D-Group." I am extremely excited as I look around the room at these guys. I have committed to invest my life into these guys in a special way over these next several months, helping each of them solidify their spiritual walks through spiritual disciplines and greater understanding. Additionally, I hope to prepare each of them in such a way that they can lead others in the discipleship process.

Gone Mental: Seminary Course Work

As I already mentioned, I just returned from Louisville. While in Louisville, we had a one-week fire-hose-style class in the second half of Systematic Theology. I have just finished the take-home mid-term and final, and am preparing to do the research for a paper due on February 1.

In February, we will begin our final semester of classes. Due to the intensity of the program thus-far, we will only need to take two classes this spring. Bro Al will be teaching a class on Pastoral Leadership, and Dr. Chuck Lawless will be coming down twice in April to teach us a class on spiritual warfare. I look forward to both of these classes, as they are an excellent way to close this chapter in my life.

Ephesians 1:16: Thanksgiving and Prayer

Thank you:

December turned out to be a great month for support. Please pray for this to continue. Some special personal gifts enabled me to purchase some valuable books for my theological library.

I know many of you have been praying over the past month as I traveled over 4,000 miles to make some much-needed visits to old friends and key supporters.

Praises:

TW—new job! Great harvest of decisions at Lakeview this past Sunday!

Prayers:

Others: M&SK—prayerful consideration of family issues. CC—raising support for international missions. JDJ—several misc. struggles.

Myself: Church-Planter Assessment process and trips. Continued development of *Worship Community* vision and core-group. Diligence to the end of the Lakeview chapter of my life, and contentment to leave in May. New semester of FAITH.

Building Church: Planting, Growth, & Health

Two weeks ago, I had no idea how much I was going to be able to write in this section. Less than a month ago, I was starting to get frustrated, as I was wondering what doors were going to open up. With a core group developing, I wanted to get some balls rolling soon. Little did I know, some of the balls were already rolling without me.

During my long road-trip from Florida to Arkansas and then to Texas, I had several conversations with people in Maryland that have begun to solidify some significant possibilities for church planting in that state. While in Louisville, I was able to make contacts that may lead to an appointment with the North American Mission Board, in conjunction with Maryland's state board.

Additionally, I have begun the intensive Church Planter Assessment process with both organizations. Please pray for me as I prepare to make the appropriate trips, seeking appointment as a church-planting missionary in that part of the country.

The possible core-group has begun to emerge. I am working with six Lakeview members who are considering involvement in the layperson portion of the planting team. Each of these people are at different points in the process of making a decision. As I survey this list of names, I am amazed at how effectively God is calling out just the right people to fill the most vital positions in the *Worship Community* vision. I had an extended lunch with one of the guys today, who closed our time by saying, "I'm about 80% sure. I have to look at some big decisions over the next few months." Please pray for each of these six people as they consider making the huge decision to relocate their lives to Maryland.

Why Maryland? My long-term vision is to plant a church that will become a bridge-point for planting churches throughout the northeast and around the world. What better place to create such a bridge than in the state that bridges between north and south?

For a complete picture of what the *Worship Community* church-plant vision entails, peruse through the web site at: <http://BuildingChurch.net/wc>, or if you do not have access to the web, please contact me and I will be glad to send you the printed version.

Et Moi: Personal Comments

Several months ago I was having a conversation with my mother about my future plans. I told her that it was going to be hard to leave Auburn. She has heard me call Auburn "home" for several years now, but this conversation made her realized just how much truth is behind the term. When I leave Auburn in May/June this year, I will have lived in Auburn for nearly eight years, which is longer than I have ever lived in a single town my entire life.

Not only so, but some of my closest friendships of all time have been forged in this town. And above all else, it was in Auburn that God showed me what His plan for my life was: to build His church . . . not the building—but the people.

As some of my closest friends know, I have experienced an immense amount of emotional ups and downs recently. Most of them relating to the idea of leaving Auburn. One day I will be excited about Maryland, and the next I'll be wondering why I would ever want to do such a thing.

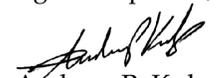
As the distant thought of leaving has begun to be immanently realized, I am not ashamed to say that some tears fallen. But it is in such circumstances that I am reminded of the basis of our faith. Thank God our faith is not based on our feelings!

Jesus is in fact the Son of God, come to earth to live a sinless life, that he would die the death we all deserve, and be resurrected to life again 3 days later . . . all that we could be redeemed unto a right relationship with God—the relationship He created us to have, but we chose to rebel against.

These are facts. We accept the truth of these facts by faith. We must trust God that what His Word tells us about our salvation is real. Finally, our feelings will confirm our faith—but we must not rely on them, for even the smallest circumstance can shift our feelings astray.

I am learning to not only rely on my faith in the facts of my relationship with God, but also in my belief that He is leading me in this new direction. It is only by faith that we can learn to trust Him.

With Growing Anticipation,



Andrew P. Kulp