

Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builder is useless. 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

Another edition of *APK's Attic*. I was hoping that by now I would have great news of a wonderful new opportunity in ministry. However, God just hasn't given me such news yet. Therefore, I am jokingly the "homeless, unemployed pastor." In reality, I prefer to call it my "unpaid sabbatical," for in many ways, that's what this time has been.

My resume has been sent out to several organizations, and I check up on many ministry referral programs nearly every day. When I shifted away from immediately entering into church planting, I knew that the position I am now seeking is a somewhat rare one. Therefore, I am not extremely surprised by the delay. I just simply continue to seek God, His will, and the position He has for me, and trust that He will bring it to me at the right time.

In the meantime, God has been wonderfully gracious in preparing me more fully for ministry. He has also given me abundant opportunities to minister and train others in ministry right here in Auburn. Additionally, I've had the opportunity to see some fruit of my past ministry that I would not have seen had I moved on.

BuildingChurch: Equipping for Ministry

First, I've seen some amazing fruit from the guys in my discipleship group. One of them graduated and is in Texas working, while being a part of a discipleship ministry there. He will be moving up north for PT school in January. Another guy got a job interning as a youth pastor for the summer. I had the chance to see him in action, and am humbled to see how far God has brought him in such a short time. A third member of my D-Group, Ranjit, has graduated with a masters degree, but will be returning to his homeland, India, as a missionary with Friends Missionary Prayer Band.

Second, I helped my mom launch a new web site, *ChristianTeacher.org*, a source of help and information for Christians involved in public education.

Third, I have helped at Lakeview in many ways,

including participation on a youth missions trip. But my big project at Lakeview has been the singles' ministry. They have been planning a major reorganization, which will be implemented Sunday, August 25. The class has changed their name to *The Power of One* and is pioneering a new 11am Sunday School hour at Lakeview in order to help add attendance to the 9:20am worship, and free up space in the 11am service. Due to the possibility of me leaving at any time, I have not been at the forefront of this reorganization, but I have been intricately involved in helping others maximize the effectiveness of the changes. I have helped train several new leaders in various areas of ministry.

Finally, God has provided me with "a man of peace," a non-Christian who is well-connected in several places of business in Auburn. I believe God is working in this man's life. He has introduced me to several people in a local pool hall, as well as other places here in Auburn. When contact with unsaved people was listed as my only major weakness in my planter assessment, I knew that God would provide the solution at the proper time. Please pray for this man that God would bring him to salvation. Imagine how much a man this well-connected could affect a community like Auburn with the Gospel!

Et Moi: Personal Comments

In addition to a fruitful ministry during this interim, I truly have had a "sabbatical" of sorts. I generally am a visionary, constantly looking forward. With nothing in front of me right now, I have reflected on the glory and grace that God has extended to me throughout my life, especially in recent years. I honestly am refreshed and renewed, and prepared for a new season of ministry, wherever God may lead.

I also have read a few church growth books and some other things that will hopefully better prepare me for a future in ministry. Please continue to pray as I await the next chapter!

God bless!


Andrew P. Kulp