

CROSSNOTES

Note the portion of the bulletin that I have placed on the right side of this page. It was written by a “preacher” named David Young. It was written as a “goodbye” to the members of the Overland Park church of Christ in the suburbs of Kansas City.

You will not have to read very long before you see many departures from the truth. What is even worse is that the congregation there totals over 1,000 folks.

I tried to set up a discussion, either oral or written, with their “family life” minister Dan Knight. He refused to discuss the matter publicly on two separate occasions – the typical attitude who subscribe to the Burger King church of Christ mindset; i.e. they just have to have it their own way!

Farewell from David

I am going to miss you.

As you know, today is my last official day as your Senior Minister. I will, Lord willing, be back on June 11th to enjoy the all-church picnic, but after that, we load the truck and move to Tennessee.

I want to thank you for the five years we have spent together. This church has richly blessed me ... and I want to record, for you and for myself, just a few ways that I have been blessed here.

First, you have blessed me with a great lesson about prayer. OP is a praying church, more than any other church in my past. Together, we have had lots and lots of opportunity to grow together through prayer. One of my first joys at OP was hearing women say prayers (believe it or not, in my previous churches, I think I had only heard women say prayers once or twice). I have grown in my own prayer life as a result of your belief in prayer. Thank you.

Second, you have blessed me with a great lesson on leadership. My role at OP has included much more than preaching and teaching; indeed, sometimes these have seemed like the smallest part of my job. At OP I have spent lots of time working with other leaders trying to forge a vision, draw up effective strategies, and align the resources of the church appropriately. What I have learned in this process is that change is hard ... really, really hard. More than anything else, it requires trust. In five short years, we didn't achieve the vision with the flare I had wanted, but along the way, you gave me a lot of trust. I thank you for working with me. I thank you for giving me your trust.

Third, you have blessed me with a team approach to ministry. Johnson County has lots of managers, and many of you would rather