

Michael Santiago

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Elders

McKnight Crossings Church
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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I grew up attending the Church of Christ. These years gave me a solid foundation of the importance and sanctity of God's Word. After a long study with the preacher of my home church, I asked him to baptize me in the name of Jesus Christ. Since that day, April 30, 2009, my walk with God has grown tremendously.

I am currently a youth minister at University Church of Christ in Abilene, Texas. I became a youth minister because my youth minister saw something in me when I did not see anything at all. It is for that reason that I wish to be a light and model to youth. Through my time at Harding I have developed many core beliefs and values in my ministry. One of which is my high view of scripture. I hold the entire Bible as my one source of authority. It is imperative to me that every lesson I present is thoroughly structured and backed by the Word of God. One of many valuable lessons that I have learned from my time at Harding is the value of "communicating a maximal message with minimal words." Ever since I heard my preaching professor say this, I have tried to structure all of my classes and sermons after this simple yet profound message. My passion and zeal to spread God's word soundly and effectively cannot be easily summarized. I wish to be able to speak with you personally to better share my love for Christ.

I have spent every summer of my college career as a youth intern. The first summer was at my home congregation in Harrison, Arkansas. Here I learned the importance of study and rest. I learned that as a minister, your cup needs to be full in order to fill other's cups. I spent my second summer at an inner-city church in North Little Rock, Arkansas. Here I discovered my own passion for evangelism and preaching. I worked with the youth and the homeless of North Little Rock. This internship changed my life significantly, and I decided to come back for my third summer. During my second summer in North Little Rock, I strengthened my skills in crafting bible lessons and sermons, and I practiced teaching the youth in an effective and dynamic way. I was given several opportunities to preach at River City both in Sunday morning service and at the homeless day shelter that is associated with the church.

Although all of my experience is in youth ministry, I have been feeling a strong calling to preaching as of late. When I survey the state of the church, it is blatantly obvious that there is a desperate need for preachers. I am a minister whose life and teaching is uncompromisingly dictated by God's word. I would wish to share more with you, but I hope that what I have written has been enough to peak your interest to consider me as a viable candidate for the preaching minister at McKnight Crossing Church. Thank you for patiently reviewing my shared thoughts.

Sincerely,

Michael Santiago



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