

Dear James,

After a year of focused deliberation and prayer Tammy and I have decided it is time to move to Indiana to be closer to family, help lead the pastor care arm of Twelve Stones, and to further develop the replication of Soul Care and TSM regionally and internationally. In talks with Scott and Luke they have agreed that this summer would be best. While not ideal logistically I don't think I can give 100% here and I don't think my heart is anchored here anymore. I feel myself dreaming more and more about the replication of soul care and the help I could provide to TSM and pastors around the world.

That said, I believe there is still much ministry to be done together and if possible I would like to transition to a long-term partnership from the Indianapolis area. Scott and Luke have discussed a transition where I am phased down to half salary by August this year and then maybe on some agreed upon retainer for 2018 if this would be mutually advantageous. The goal would be to transition to Indiana by late July but to stay connected and help with succession in BSC and consult as CHO through 2017. I hope to take the month of August off to rest and prepare for the next season. Tammy and I both agreed I am in need of a sabbatical after 20 years without one. Starting in July I would hope to have some freedom to work from home or Indiana but work on campus strategically when most needed.

I would focus on the following deliverables for the rest of 2017:

- Help train and coach a successor.
- Meetings with Luke, Beth and team to develop a transition plan for leadership.
- After clarifying IP agreement develop final drafts of Hope Groups, 401,501, and 601 for publication (fully licensing content to HBC for use and replication inside HBC).
- Finish writing/filming for "Hope Groups in a box".
- Perform all intensives, and fulfill all commitments through summer (ALM, HU, etc.).
- Stay in touch with Brian and HBF to help with BSC replication and crisis management issues.

You know how fond I am of you and your family. Tammy and I both want you to know it has been a privilege to serve at HBC and for the Fellowship for almost 8 years. We want very much to honor the love and loyalty that has been built by staying in touch and serving together for the Kingdom where and whenever possible. We don't see a future where we are not supportive and connected in some way. It is no coincidence that we are studying necessary endings in this season. We were called for a season and I hope we are leaving having served well. We are indebted to you, and the pastors and elders of this church for all that has been invested in us and our family. This has not been an easy decision but there has been a clear and consistent shift of direction for 18 months with multiple things affirming this move in the immediate future. I covet your support and prayers. I have tried not to make this a distraction and while the timing is awkward I believe this will be positive for everyone involved.

Sincerely and with great affection,

Garrett

May 17, 2017

(Editorial note: Originally posted with incorrect date)