

Elder Reflections

We Press On!...(Phil 3:14)

I have now passed the three-year mark of my new position as Shepherding Pastor at SBC. It seems like only yesterday that I sat with Nate and discussed how I can better serve the Lord as I retire from real estate. I can honestly say that these have been some of the most exciting, meaningful, and challenging years of my life. I never would have imagined (at my age) being involved in what I'm doing today...personal counseling, baptisms, hospital visits, weddings, funerals, a steady flow of couples coming for marriage counseling, and somehow, through all this, the Lord gives me the strength and determination to keep pressing on.

"The joy of the Lord is my strength", and I know I must keep looking "up" like it says in Psalm 121:1-2...

"I will lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth."

On a recent backpacking trip, my daughter Jenna reminded me to keep looking up and not always down. There's so much to see and beauty to behold before us...don't miss it! And, as elders, we need to be reminded to look up...to receive help and guidance from the Lord. We need to look up to see what wonderful things God is doing and behold His handiwork in the life of the church.

Lives are being changed, people are getting saved and baptized. Many are joining small groups, going on mission trips, asking for ways to serve. Our youth and kid's buildings are full of young people getting closer to God.

"But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of Him everywhere." 2 Cor 2:14

As I mentioned in my Elder Reflection three years ago... ***"My cup overflows!"***

And so, we(I) press on toward that goal by following the call that keeps us moving ever-increasingly onward and upward in Christlikeness and in the knowledge of Jesus!