

## My Path

He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; I will let the Holy Spirit guide. Please know that while I do not mind public speaking, I actually enjoy it; but I do not like to talk about myself in gatherings such as this, much less leading a chapel session. For some this is normal and easy, but for me the Lord is stretching me by providing opportunities to share.

Unlike those that I have met and spoken to at WA, I do not have the benefit or history of having working in missions or working for organizations who's mission it is to advance the gospel for Jesus.

Did not grow up Christian or religious; no praying, no bible, no church

Interesting, parents sent my sister and I to a Christian elementary school (wanted a better education for us)

Song appropriateness – I was broken but today I am a new man

Grew up secular but how many know that God can still work with, and through, a jackass. How many know that He will, and can, develop you and use you whether you realize it or not? How many know that He will honor your dreams and can still redirect your path? He has done that for me, and to me.

Grew up and raised in the Long Beach area of California.

**Enlisted in the Army** in July 1987 after graduating High School

- Medic: 1987-1989
  - Wanted to fly helicopter; originally enlisted as a helicopter mechanic but was told that Army aviation did not want me
- Aeroscout Observer (flying crewmember on reconnaissance and scout helicopter): 1989-1994
  - Married wife Julee in October 1989
  - 1<sup>st</sup> son born in July 1990
  - Deployed to Desert Storm in 1990
    - Shot down/crashed in May 1991 -life epiphany moment
  - Started college, started investing, started to get promoted
  - Still NOT with Jesus
- Signal Officer: 1994-2007 – entry into the Information Technology game
  - Daughter born in 1997
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> son born in Sep 2000
  - After 9/11 – involved in the creation of a new military organization involved in Command and Control of Domestic WMD events – new tech, new processes, new rules
  - Special Ops community in 2004 thru retirement

**Retired as a Major in August 2007**

50 countries visited, 16 moves, three combat campaigns

**Civilian career**

- IT Director for the Attorney General State of Tennessee: 2007-2008
  - Breakdown over Labor Day weekend of 2008 – **WAKE UP!!!!**

- Born again in Sep 2008 – might be ok to say that I reconnected
  - **Revelation strike overload (testimony for another time)!!!**
- First miracle in Oct 2008 – son’s xbox
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Miracle in late 2008 - \$600 flying at us across parking lot of Best Buy
  - We had just given \$600 to a ministry
- IT Director for Montgomery County, Tennessee: 2008-2011
  - In March 2010, guided by the Lord to help plant a church in Clermont, Florida – moved family to Florida in September 2010 while I remained in Tennessee hunting for job
  - 1<sup>st</sup> son died in Feb 2011 in Qatar (Middle East) – he was an airman with the Air Force
- IT Operations Manager for Seaworld Parks & Entertainment: 2011-2014
  - Interviewed the day after being notified that my son had passed
  - Was later told that it was that interview that locked me into the job
  - Fell into a dark place a year after son passed away. Did not necessarily give up on Jesus but I did stop going to church for almost 3 years
- Operations Executive for LabAnswer: 2014-2015
  - Not following God, mistake – resigned 7 months later
    - Reconnected with my values – **Wake Up!!**
  - Reconnected back with the church in May 2015
- Consultant: 2015-2016
- Director of Business Applications and IT Support for CMG (Opiate Addiction assistance): 2016

**Today I am** your Director of Infrastructure at Wycliffe Associates

### Education

- Bachelors Degree in Professional Aeronautics
- Masters Degree in Information Management
- Doctorate in IT Leadership (no dissertation)
- A few other certifications and licenses

Father passed away in January – I was able to share the Life Prayer with him 2 weeks before he died.

I was witnessing to my mother this weekend during a 10 hour drive, she is started to get curious now. You don’t have to change but you will ultimately find yourself changing anyway. The struggle is real for the child believer but once you love yourself and begin to believe that you are ok in His eyes – you will have communion with Him to a degree that will guide you in the right direction. The right steps and the right decisions.

Self”less” service, not self-service

I thank God that I am better today than I was yesterday and I know that I will be better tomorrow than I am today.

Jesus said that we need to lift our eyes and look at the fields, they are ready for harvest.

I view the process that WA follows for translating bibles as one that endeavors to advance and build the church. I am only one person but I firmly believe in the power of the team. A team is made up of singular individuals who have a responsibility to contribute to the team; John reminds us of Isaiah in

John 1:23 that I am the “*voice of one*” crying in the wilderness, making straight the ways of the Lord. The NLT reads that we are to make a highway through the wasteland for our God. Is this not what we are accomplishing? What can be accomplished with a million voices?

He has a purpose for all of us and everyone – every step we’ve taken and every decision we have made have led us to this point right here, right now – I for one want to know that my steps and my decisions are “aligned” with Him. This is what has led me to this moment right now. I am not perfect but I endeavor to continue to call on Him; I have made some bad choices when I failed to do this. I realize that I will experience tribulations but these only serve to drive me further to persevere as I continue to develop my character. I know that with good character, there is hope.

My son’s headstone reads: Faith, Honor, Glory, and Hope

I understand my purpose – I am in God’s Army, fighting the good fight until the day that I stand in front of Him. My role today is with WA until such time that the Lord gives me a new direction.

Until that time, know that I am here for all of you present and as well as those that cannot be here. I offer my gifts and services to the staff and team members of WA.