
From the Desk of
Tommy Nelson

Y'all,

Most of you are aware that some changes are coming at Denton Bible. It's called a "transition" or "retirement." It will be coming in the near future. You may say that the idea of retirement is not in the Bible. It's not. But transition is – bringing up the young to take their place in leadership. Moses transitioned leadership to the next generation. So did Elijah, Elisha, David, Samuel, Paul, and, most importantly, Jesus. It's why we're all saved. Transition is the attempt to preserve the truth – those things that must not change. Churches stand or fall upon their ability to transition leadership.

We are a church started by God. Mel didn't come to Denton to begin a church. Neither did I. It was something God did. Mel and I caught the wave. We both had a deep sense of responsibility to what we had been given.

And that's why we are beginning the process of transition. A church like Denton Bible Church needs to always be, to always exist. A church that is fundamental, premillennial, Calvinistic, dispensational, discipleship-focused, elder ruled, complementarian, and "non-woke" must continue. I've never felt anything quite so strongly as the need to transition now to the next generation. Our church is as strong as it has ever been. Twelve new young elders have come aboard. We have ministries for all. Our staff is skilled, excited, and young. Of our fifty staff, forty eight are younger than me. All our future leadership are Gen X and Millennials.

Thus, the most important job is before the elders and me. DBC has got to be here and faithful until Christ comes. There must always be a Denton Bible Church. For the last couple of years, a major focus for the eldership has been to plan for and implement a transition for the church. Our goal is to transition the leadership of Denton Bible Church to the next generation who will preserve these truths. An Executive Pastor team has been created and Mike Scheer, Jake Craven, Logan Nyquist, and Jason Mendeke have been promoted to this team. They have the responsibility to lead the staff through this transition period and they are currently managing the day-to-day activities of DBC.

Most of you are aware by now of the man taking my place. Logan Nyquist is now the Associate Pastor with the intention that his role and responsibilities will increase over time. You will soon see him in the pulpit more often. Logan was a Young Gun and is a DBC staff member. He is a DTS graduate with a great giftedness in biblical exegesis, preaching, and languages. He has a passion for evangelism and discipleship. I started at Denton Bible when I was 27 and started preaching full-time at 37 as Mel moved into missions full-time. Logan started here about 9 years ago and will begin moving into the pulpit at approximately the same age as I did. He has the tools needed and he has been faithful where he has been planted. Most of all, he has been faithful to those things that Denton Bible stands for.

When it happens, Teresa and I will still be here to serve where we're needed. Like always. We don't have to rebuild, just reload.

When Paul "Bear" Bryant and his wife reflected on their time at Texas A&M, his wife Mary Harmon said, "I cried two times in College Station. Once on the day we arrived and again on the day we left." Such is my story. The day I arrived at North Texas, I cried. The day I leave DBC, I will cry again.

For Him Who does not change,

Tommy