

George's Story

Thank you for your great assistance in pointing my life in a new direction. In November I felt God urging me to follow Jesus and no longer just be a fan. I needed to strengthen my faith and search for a new kind of wealth through service. Sermons from my pastors, books from Christian authors and God all said it was time for a change and for me to mature. I listened and found a great resource called MissionNext.

Your excellent site and staff helped connect me to a short term volunteer opportunity for Pioneer Bible Translators in Dallas. I had three weeks off over the holidays and felt this would be a great time to try being a full-time volunteer to fill a recent vacancy. I had gone on some short term missions outside the country before. I found the same type of joy using my talents here in the USA.

The challenge and change were very good for me. I made new friends who I expect to keep for life. I gained a much better perspective of the amount of work put in by missionaries in this country, as well as paid staff, who are needed to support the work of missionaries worldwide.

I also realized what a toxic environment I was in at my current job. Working six days a week, including every Sunday, was wearing me down. I was making money but lacked the time I needed for community involvement. I discussed opportunities with other agencies listed on your site in the Dallas area. They felt they could put my talents to work at SIL. Instead of just another New Year's resolution, I gave notice at my job and moved to Dallas.

I look forward to an uplifting environment supporting missions worldwide. I may return to a normal job in the future or become a missionary. I am trying hard to turn away from obsessive planning and turning myself over to God's plan for me. His plan is awesome.

Your January newsletter throws down a great challenge for everyone to take a step now. My suggestion is don't rush to quit you job, but pray and consider major changes carefully and discuss it with your pastor. The timing was right for me while on my faith journey. I suggest you start now by filling out a service profile at MissonNext. Try some of volunteer opportunities provided and consider putting your talents to work for the glory of God, not just a paycheck.

There are many verses and books of the Bible reinforcing my decision. The strongest probably was Rev. 3:20 - "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me."

It was time to me to open the door and then go out to follow Jesus. It is great to find a new use for my gift of hospitality. Don't miss your chance to spend time with Jesus!

- George Lameyer, Feb 1, 2016