

TRANSITION FAQ BY C3 ELDERS

Why is Michael leaving C3? Michael and Christy have had a growing desire to be closer to their family. As this desire has grown, they have recently sought opportunities near family to minister to a church family. This opportunity arose and they think this is a good fit for their gifts and stage of life.

Where are the Boys going? Michael is likely to be called as the pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Santa Barbara, CA. As Michael mentioned in the video, the process is not yet final. Calvary has been through a difficult period of decline but the members desire to see God revitalize their church through the faithful teaching of the Word. Given the need and demographics of the members, Michael is well-suited for the role. We plan to financially support him, which is consistent with our desire and missions history of supporting church planters, church plants and revitalization efforts. We see no better place to financially support this kind of work than through one of our own who has more than proven himself as a faithful pastor.

When will be his last Sunday? Michael will teach through the four week Advent Christmas series in December starting Sunday, December 2nd. His last Sunday to preach will be Sunday, January 6th. The Boys will be with family over the Christmas & New Years holidays.

Did the elders ask Michael to leave? Absolutely not. Michael recently came to the elders and let us know his desire to be closer to family and shared that he was pursuing this ministry opportunity nearer family. Michael leaves with our full blessing and support as he enters this new phase of ministry. We've been praying for God's direction and wisdom for them over the last several weeks.

Are there any plans to have the C3 family show their appreciation for Michael & Christy before they leave? Yes. On Sunday, January 6th we will host a luncheon to give the church body the opportunity to express our love and appreciation for them. We would also encourage you to reach out personally to Michael and Christy to express your gratitude for their service. Michael's C3 email address (michael@c3houston.org) will continue to work through the end of January 2019. He can also be reached at pastorboys@gmail.com.

Who will preach once he's gone? While there are few men that can preach like Michael Boys, C3 has capable teachers that have served C3 well over the last seven years. We believe that it is the biblical role of elders in a church to teach and exhort in sound doctrine. Our plan is to create a preaching rotation of Seth Thornton, Jay Brown, and a number of other elders/elder quality men from C3 to fill the pulpit. We will also ask gifted teachers/pastors from other churches to fill the pulpit periodically. We remain committed to expository preaching of the Word of God. We do not plan to hire an interim teaching pastor from outside C3.

Who will lead the church with Michael leaving? Our elders will continue to lead the church. This is the value of the Biblical model of a group of elders leading the church rather than one individual. Biblically, an elder is one of a group of biblically qualified men who jointly shepherd and oversee a local body of believers (see 1 Timothy 3.1-7 and Titus 1.6-9). Our current elder team is: Seth Thornton, Todd Rapp, Skip Stites, Lantz Bowman, Mike Roberts and Brandon Clarke. Brandon and Lantz will be rolling off at the end of December after serving their three year term. As is our normal schedule for elder affirmation, we will affirm, by vote of our members, our elder council on January 13, 2019. We will be asking the membership to affirm elders who will continue to serve (Seth Thornton, Todd Rapp, Skip Stites, Mike Roberts) along with four additional elders (Dave Marye, Robert Lee, Brandon Cavazos and Jim Fowler). Dave and Robert have previously served as elders and Brandon Cavazos and Jim are two new elder candidates who have been in our normal evaluation process for a number of months. Over the next few weeks, we will be communicating more about these men to the church body and our desire for these men to be affirmed by the membership on January 13th.

Who will lead the church staff and day to day ministry of the church? The elders have asked Seth Thornton to assume the responsibilities of leading the staff and day to day ministry of the church in the interim. Seth is a founding pastor of C3 and we believe Seth is very capable of handling these responsibilities for the church through this transition. We are committed to press forward as planned with all C3 ministries.

Will we hire a new Teaching Pastor? Yes. Our prayerful desire and intentional goal is to find an elder-quality man who loves Jesus and possesses several key qualities, including the gift of teaching, preaching experience, agreement with the theological and philosophical DNA of C3 and the ability to serve well alongside our elder team and staff.

How will we find this new Teaching Pastor? We have formed a Search Team made up of current elders and previously serving elders. We cannot imagine a more weighty and important shepherding role than hiring a new Teaching Pastor. The search team is: Jim Bailey, Dave Marye, Jay Brown, Robert Lee and Mike Roberts. The process will involve input and interaction from the membership as we narrow down candidates and have in-town visits. Ultimately, like any other elder or pastor we call, the church membership will vote on the final candidate the elders put forward as our recommendation.

How will I get updates regarding the new hire search? We will communicate updates regularly via email and during our services throughout the process. While there are and will be many questions that we do not have answers to, we want the process to be as transparent as possible.

What can I do? (1) Write a personal note to the Boys about how God has used them in your life. (2) Pray for our church, staff, elders, membership, Michael and Christy, our future Teaching Pastor and the search team (3) Talk to your kids about how God's kingdom is global (the Boys' are still on our team) and His plan for our church while unknown to us is wise and good and (4) Resolve to stay, pray, serve and grow. While this is a loss for C3, we believe that C3 is grounded and sustained by Jesus... Michael has taught us well!

If I have pressing questions, who can I contact? Please email us at elders@c3houston.org or feel free to approach any one of our elders or search team members. Michael and the elders will be present on Sundays to answer any questions you have related to Michael's transition and C3's future. We are praying that we love and lead you well as we pursue what God will do next with C3.