



FBC Winnsboro Church Family,

Let's get the formal part out of the way first: I accept! We accept! 😊

Today is a day of rejoicing, a day over two years in the making (and a day our God has planned from eternity past)! Our God has been gracious and kind to lead us—you as a body, we as a couple—to this day. I am eager and excited to come as your next pastor and to shepherd the flock of God at FBC Winnsboro (1 Pet 5:2). Dionne and I are excited to come and join you as a body in the work of ministry, building up the body of Christ, **together** (Eph 4:11)!

As we look to the days ahead it is critical we remember this: the Great Commission is the great mission of the church—**make disciples of Jesus** (Matt 28:19-20). All that we do should be all about leading people to know and follow Christ and walk with Him and by the Spirit—all for the glory of God (1 Cor 10:31; Gal 5:16; Col 3:17; Heb 13:20-21). Let's pray now and in the days ahead that the Holy Spirit will be at work in us and through us so that our lives individually and collectively as a local body of Christ are defined by knowing Christ, walking by the Spirit and glorifying God...and encouraging and exhorting others to do the same.

We will be praying for you in these weeks of waiting. I'm sure you're ready for us to be there, just as we are ready to be there. Pray for us as well. There is much work to finish here before coming to you. Let me also ask you to pray for the body here at The Hills Church in San Antonio. This is a kind, loving, and committed body who needs your prayers as they face the loss of their lead pastor. You have walked this path. Now pray they will walk this path well for their good and for the glory of God.

Let me close by answering the question I raised in my first sermon to you: What is it that we want? **We want the Word. We want Christ!** I pray that our lives will be given to this: know the written Word of God fully so that we will know the eternal Word of God, Jesus Christ, truly. Eternal life, the life of flourishing, truly is to know the one true God and Jesus Christ whom He sent (John 17:3), so let us give our lives to knowing Him and making Him known.

In Christ and for His glory,

Pastor Tom Wilson