



Dear Friends & Family,

Anna and I have an announcement and it is not one that we make easily. Through the month of December, Jack McComas—my brother-in-law and the co-director of Dayton SHOP—and I were praying and fasting about Dayton SHOP and how God was calling us. Toward the end of this time Anna and I were in Kansas City for the OneThing Conference. While at that conference we received confirmation, upon confirmation that a season of life was ending and a new season was beginning. This leads us to our announcement: I will be stepping down from my staff role at the Dayton Student House of Prayer.

While at OneThing a respected spiritual leader in my life called me and very directly said to me that my season with the House of Prayer was over and that it was time for me to move on. To be honest, it caught me off guard, but at the same time it resonated with me in my spirit. This happened in the morning and all day I was pondering the questions - How would we make this transition? What job would I move onto? How would we pay the bills? For the rest of that day and into the next, my prayer time was before the Lord saying, "Ok, Lord, if you want me to do this I will, but you need to 'this and that' first."

The last night of the conference Daniel Kolenda spoke. In his message he said that many Christians are called by God and accept the call, but they also accept the call with a list of their own demands. Instantly, I felt a pit in my stomach because I knew that was me. I knew the Lord was calling me to step down from my position, and I was willing to say yes, but I was also saying to Him that He needed to show me the **why's and how's** of what was next. After this Anna and I went home and my next day at SHOP I talked to Jack and made him aware that God was moving us on. Jack confirmed that He felt God was saying the same thing to him.

We have spent the last two months meeting with friends, family and partners and communicating with them what we feel God is asking us to do. Through this we have found that God has been confirming into us what we feel our calling is in this next season, which is walking by faith in obedience. Before talking about what we feel God is leading us into for the next season of life we want to thank everyone for what he has done over the last three and a half years. We have been incredibly blessed to walk out this amazing part of our lives with some of the most faithful, generous and loving friends and family. When we look back over the last few years we are moved by the way that people have come along side us to make our ministry possible - to make the ministry of Jesus possible. We cannot express how thankful we are for every person that has encouraged us, given to us and just loved on us through the last few years.

Let us reminisce for a moment on what has happened in the last three and half years. In October of 2012, Jacob accepted the call to be an intercessory missionary at the Cincinnati House of Prayer. On Easter day in March of 2013, Jacob asked Anna to become his wife and Keirsten to become his daughter. They both accepted! That summer Jacob took a position at Hope Church as a part-time youth pastor. In October of 2013, Anna and Jacob got married and moved into our first apartment in Bellbrook, OH. In the beginning of the summer in 2014, Jacob moved from C-HOP to Dayton SHOP in order to be closer to home and also start spending more time in marketplace ministry—starting the first BHOP (Business House of Prayer). In the fall of 2014, we found out Anna was pregnant and by February of 2015 we were moving into our first home. Then it seemed like the clock sped forward to June when Daniel was born. Soon after that God opened up an opportunity for Jacob to work and minister in the downtown area of Dayton in the Oregon District. It's been a whirlwind of just a few years and when we think about it all we feel old, but then remember that we are only in our mid-twenties and that makes us feel incredibly young.

These years have been built around our calling to be intercessors, our calling to be before the Lord growing in our relationship with Him, helping others grow in their relationships with Him and heralding the call to prayer. When God told us that this season was over we realized that everything might change for us. To be honest we aren't even sure what that entirely means but we trust that God is doing something with us that will be benefitting to His Kingdom and that He will sustain us through it all. Since January, Anna and I have felt that God has been asking us a question - "What is our price?" and "What is it costing us to follow Him?" Considering this question has led us to look at life as a blank page, not valuing anything too highly and just saying, "God, you fill the page. Where do you want us to go? How do you want to use us? We will go." If God wants us to give up our home, our jobs, our things, or our comforts, we are saying, "Okay." We are renewing our yes to Jesus and giving Him the space to fully direct our path.

## What Now?

What will be doing now? This is truly the question. To be honest we don't have a definitive answer but we are certainly seeking God diligently in how He desires to use us. We feel that God has prompted us to begin praying and preparing for a few transitions but by no means do we have a clear cut view of what this next season will consist of entirely. Here are few things we would ask you to pray with us in:

1. We feel the Lord has called us to possibly move into the East Dayton part of town in the St. Anne's to Smithville area. This would be a huge transition for us. For one, it has never been "our plan" to move into the inner city, but we feel that God is calling us to set aside 'our plan' and get into His plan. This will present many challenges and many opportunities, so please pray for His guidance and His wisdom and boldness to fill us.

2. I (Jacob) am feeling led to spend more time in the marketplace and to be a forerunner in bringing faith into work. Focusing on helping individuals strengthen their identity in Christ and helping them realize that God has called them to serve Him through their work and to start thinking creatively on how they can give Him their lives through positions at work.

3. Lastly, we feel that God is asking us to give ourselves to Him entirely. We are not labeling one area of our life as ministry but giving Him everything and just saying God use us. We believe that He will use our home as a place to strengthen and equip His body, and that He will use it to house His children, in that we may be taking in children from broken homes at some point in the near future. We also feel that God will begin using every area of our lives to make His love known and to bring people into salvation.



### PREPARE FOR GOD TO MOVE IN LOVE THROUGH POWER

About three weeks ago I (Jacob) was in the Prayer Room at Dayton SHOP with my friend Matt sharing some testimonies and praying together. As we shared stories, I shared with him about the Azusa Street Revival that happened in 1906 and how God worked with such a great deal of power and how the unity of believers allowed God to move miraculously through Los Angeles and across the world. I also shared how there were many from across the nation and in the world that were coming together for Azusa Now to ask God for another outpouring of His Spirit, to see revival in our nation and our world. At that moment I decided to pray with Matt and ask God to provide a way for me to make it out to Los Angeles to attend this massive prayer meeting. I told God that if He was going to move I wanted to be there and if not then just keep me home. I asked for him to provide a way by the end of the day if He did that I would go but if not I would not ask again. That very day the mailman delivered a check with an amount that fully takes care of the airline

tickets and travel fees. Three days later my brother-in-law, Eric, also received a similar financial gift to help him get to Azusa. Now, I am expectant that God is going to do something powerful at this event!

Thank you, God, that you provide in miraculous ways! May you move with power to show many how much you love them, that they would see your love and hear the Gospel and be saved through the blood of Jesus Christ!

### THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR PRAYERS & SUPPORT OVER THE YEARS!

#### WHAT DOES PARTNERSHIP LOOK LIKE?

We would love for people to partner with us in what God is calling us to do. Honestly, we still need the help. We know that many of you have expressed your desire to continue giving towards our ministry. However, our gifts will no longer be tax deductible because money will no longer be able to go through a non-profit. Any gifts would be gifts and not charitable contributions like they have in the past.

**Online Giving** - [www.jakedcrawford.com](http://www.jakedcrawford.com)

**Check** - Make check out to 'Jacob Crawford' and mail to:

4444 Moss Oak Trail

Bellbrook, OH 45305

**\*Please Note:** any Checks received by Dayton SHOP on our behalf will not be accepted after March 31st and will be returned.