

## Beyond Devotional - Week 7

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*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts” Isaiah 55:8-9*

We moved to Brazoria County in 2013. What we didn't know is that our move would be such a huge part of God's plan in our life. In 2016, we attended Brazos Pointe Fellowship with some friends. This church for the unchurched reached us and we felt it was a place we could connect and grow with God. Shortly after, my husband suffered a job loss that had supported our family. In the midst of the uncertainty, we believed our plan was to sell our house and move to the Pacific Northwest, to be closer to family. We sold most of what we owned, placed the house on the market, and searched for jobs in that area. What we didn't know at the time was, even though God put this dream in our hearts, his timing was different than ours.

As the weeks turned to months and no doors opened, I began to pray for God to show us the way. Instead of Him showing us a path to the Pacific Northwest, He spoke to my heart, letting me know, “Do not be afraid, you have been planted here”. I told my husband, I don't think we are supposed to move. We took our house off the market and within weeks my husband found a full-time job. We decided to be all in with God. We began reading the bible daily, attending church, volunteering and connecting with our small group family.

Then the Sunday came when we heard Stephen Searles speak about his dreams for Seattle and how “unchurched” it is. I remember this overwhelming feeling of joy and fear consuming me while he talked. I think about the transformation God did in our lives, since being Christ followers and my desire for others to experience that. I thought about how six years ago we were trying to look for a church to attend there and how God had presented a new dream of helping start a church in the same area. While we don't know what God's timing is for the dream he put upon our hearts, we know our next step as a family will be to help in any way we can with planting The Pointe Church in Seattle. What originally seemed like a missed opportunity, is now clearly seen as God working in His timing. He showed up, time and again through the trials we faced here. We want to help others see that light as well. We look forward to helping ‘The Pointe Church’ spread the Good News of Jesus in a way many have never heard before. We continue to pray to be the hands and feet of Jesus and look forward to the plans that God has for us.

**Sarah Neumann**