

1980

Go, Speak to the People of Plano

*And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness
quietness and assurance for ever. Isaiah 32:17*

During the early part of 1980 I was a practicing veterinarian in McKinney, Texas and a lay speaker in the First United Church of McKinney. It had been ten years since I had sold my animal hospital, my farms and my investments at the direction of God to follow Him. While in McKinney that same hospital I sold had gone into receivership and was offered back to me by a judge. The Lord asked me, “Do you want it?” I fasted for three days in making the decision. At the end of three days the Lord asked me again, “Do you want it?” I replied back, “It is not important what I want, it is important what you want!” He finally replied back to me, “I don’t want you to have it.” That was the test, and I had passed. Six weeks later on the way to see a horse, I was driving through Lincoln Park, a small town in north Texas, and the Spirit of God spoke to me. “Go to Plano and speak to the people of Plano.”

I considered what was said and then asked, “What do I say?” The Lord answered, “Read when Paul went to Antioch and you will understand.”

Acts 11:25,26 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

I understood after reading at the direction of God that I was a prophet and teacher sent to the people in Plano.

Several months later I was asked to speak to a group of people already meeting in Plano. I spoke my first message in Plano on August 3, 1980 at Meadows Elementary, a school just down the street from our current location.

Soon after I began to look for a building to house the ministry. I went to look at the site we have now. It was then owned by the Church of Christ; a 16,000 square foot building on 2 ½ acres. It was after the initial walk-through I said to myself, I wouldn't have this place! But after two weeks of no sleep I asked the Lord what He wanted. It was His will for me to buy it, so I began the negotiations.

On November 24, 1980, Water of Life Church of Plano, Inc. was chartered.