



“...freeing those in ministry from business distractions.”

My heart is full of many feelings today as I announce that I have begun my transition to retirement. I'm excited about many aspects of retirement, but saddened by the fact I won't be working with so many in ministry that I highly respect and care about.

#### **Here's what I'm excited about**

The Lord has given me the privilege of founding Ministry Business Services, Inc. (MBS) and of leading its team of extremely qualified professionals. I truly love and care for each member of our team, and wanted to be certain going forward:

1. They would be cared for and led as the Lord's given me the privilege of doing. I believe in Jesus' model of servant leadership, and have endeavored to do that well for more than three decades.
2. The company Grace and I felt the Lord call us to found would continue to serve Christian churches and ministries well.

The person who has purchased MBS meets those two criteria very well. In fact, I consider [Jonathan Smith](#), MBS' new President, a perfect match!

In 2006 I met Jonathan at a conference, and in 2007 felt the Lord's leading to invite him to join me behind podiums at conferences and to introduce him to my publishers. The niche MBS serves has gotten to know him well as they've heard him speak at many conferences and have read many of his articles. I didn't do that with the goal of setting him up as the next owner of MBS, but last Fall we felt God's leading that for MBS' benefit, and for our clients' and team's benefit, he was the right one to succeed me. Jonathan is an IT pro who is focused on ministry, and will lead MBS well.

I'll continue with MBS in a part-time role to help Jonathan transition to lead MBS. I'll also speak and write, and will do so with two official business titles:

1. For MBS, my title will be Ambassador— *that's* exciting!
2. I've also started a new unrelated company to keep me active and focused on building The Kingdom. It is a Christian book publishing company called [GreenDot Press](#), where I hope to help Christians by publishing books that help them sense God's direction in their lives and in their vocations.

For those reading this that are on the MBS team, thank you for letting me serve with you as a “first among peers”. I so highly respect you, and I love your sense of call to serve Christian churches and ministries through MBS. I look forward to seeing your impact continue and grow under Jonathan's leadership!

For those reading this who MBS serves, thank you for trusting my leadership to accurately identify IT strategies that save you money, increase your team members' focus on fulfilling their call by eliminating IT distractions, and for inviting me and the MBS team to join your team in building The Kingdom. I believe the MBS team will be here for many years to serve you under Jonathan's leadership!

What a privilege it is to serve the Sovereign Lord! It is amazing what God can do through one who is both: willing, and available! I'm proof!

[Nick B. Nicholaou](#)

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