

Hello!

In work news: I'm starting a new role June 1. I'll be Director of GTIS (Global Technology and Information Services). It's my boss' job (I didn't scare him away, he's actually still going to be my boss; he and I will both serve on the Global Operations Group and he will move to a different role).

This would also be a prayer request. The thing is I know all is not rainbows and sparkles and light, but I'm planning to enjoy this. There are far more sparkles and rainbows than we think. Although darkness is at work in the world and there is plenty of suffering and inhumanity, etc., God's kingdom doesn't just win in the end, it's on the advance right now. No, I didn't just say God's kingdom is sparkles and rainbows. But it is good.

Would you pray for joy at work specifically? Pray for wisdom and by wisdom I mostly mean learning how to stop talking. It's incredible what people can do when I just quit talking. I think I need to explain and to make clear. Nope. It's the art of doing less. The less I say, the better the outcome. The less I do, the more people get engaged. The less I attempt to convince them, the more people are interested in coming to solutions. Also, often the less I do, the more I see God at work.

None of which means I'm quietly doing nothing of course. It's that I'm more selective in my activities and I'm hoping I'm listening better and saying more of things like "you're right", "that's a good point", etc.

Thank you so much for praying for my Germany meetings and trip. Everything went really well (okay, except the part where I got on the train without returning the keys to the apartment where I stayed in Germany: Yay for DHL in Italy next day service). Interested in pictures (and details about the trip part)?: see

<https://howethingsare.wordpress.com/category/2015europe/>

I visited lots of cathedrals (Munich, Milan, and Rome). I know some people have different reactions to huge elaborate cathedrals. I find them breath-taking. Literally, walk in and take a second to catch my breath. Whether or not the people who built them had God-honoring intentions, these places remind me of both God's glory (He's worthy of these places. These places, as great and beautiful as they are, can't compare to my God himself) and the connection to the church universal, across the globe, across time... Christ's church is just only one church, one body. Walking into a place where Christ's church has been worshipping God for hundreds or a thousand years: overwhelming in a really fantastic way.

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Blessed be the Lord forever.

Amen and Amen. Ps. 89:52