

Both Marina and I are blessed to come from families that love God and serve Him. Growing up in the church, I would say it was easy to talk the talk, but less easy to fake the walk as I got older. Even though I grew up in church, I really didn't feel like my faith became authentic until we started having kids. Very early on, the Lord impressed the seriousness of being a godly husband and father on me. It is a responsibility I hold in the highest regard.

When our first child was born in 2016, we were experiencing our third year in marriage, a divorce in the family, and learning how to do life together. Marina and I are blessed to be high school sweethearts, but with this also came the challenge of learning how to grow up together. My dear wife, has been forced to experience my stages of maturity or, lack there of, in our almost 18 years of relationship. For most of that time, I constantly felt behind and lagging in our spiritual walks.

I am thankful beyond words for my wife, as she challenged me about certain idols that I was clinching my fist around, soon after our second was born. I firmly believe that the challenge she gave me set my life on a different path. Instead of just talking the talk, I felt the Lord pull me towards a more authentic and life-giving faith. One of my best friends also posed the question about the genuineness of my faith at that time. He pointed to several fruits in my life that were not great, he chose to bring accountability to my doorstep, even though I met him with anger and defensiveness. The Lord used both him and my wife to draw me closer to Himself, to recognize the seriousness of my sin, and to fully embrace the blessing of leading my family towards Christ.



We absolutely love our CBC church family. And I want to serve it with every gift that I can. This community has been a fortifying and gracious group towards my family, and I want to help grow it the same way it has helped us.