

## Keeping a Son for His Purposes and Glory

Life Divisions	<b>Early Years</b> 0-8 (Reno, NV)	<b>Adolescent Years</b> 11-18 (Reno, NV)	<b>Young Adult Years</b> 19-24 (Reno-California)	<b>Manhood Years</b> 25-32 (California - OK)	<b>Maturing Years</b> 32-39 (Oklahoma)
Chapter Titles	<b>Exploration &amp; Exposure</b> A Kid in the Desert	<b>Lost &amp; Found</b> Trying to Find My Way	<b>Discovering Manhood -</b> Marriage, Fatherhood, Work	<b>Finding My Identity -</b> Painter, Musician, Father, Worship Leader	<b>Arrived-ish and Humbled</b> Church Planter/Pastor
Brainstorming  (formative events, hard times, good times, impacting family experiences )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- born in Reno, NV 1981</li> <li>- mom and dad were married young and came from hard family backgrounds</li> <li>- we moved around a lot</li> <li>- apartment life/lots of friends</li> <li>- exposed to music</li> <li>- dad was in a band</li> <li>- exposed to pornography</li> <li>- introduce to God (Awanas)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- settled into a home for the next 8 years</li> <li>- dad began drinking heavily</li> <li>- mom and dad both working</li> <li>- my friends were not the best influences</li> <li>- excelling in music (viola)</li> <li>- exploring sex, drugs, alcohol, dating, playing in bands</li> <li>- invited to church youth all nighter</li> <li>- found Godly friends</li> <li>- started going to church</li> <li>- committed my life to Christ (baptism)</li> <li>- began leading worship</li> <li>- started dating Emery</li> <li>- broke up a lot over shame</li> <li>- left home</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-attended college on scholarship (viola)</li> <li>-Christian band signed</li> <li>-dropped out to move to CA and pursue Emery</li> <li>-found new Church</li> <li>-Emery &amp; I still struggling</li> <li>-broke off engagement</li> <li>-learning trade (Painter)</li> <li>-playing in bands</li> <li>-pursuing music in church</li> <li>-introduced to spiritual gifts</li> <li>-discipled by good friends and pastors</li> <li>-married emery</li> <li>-Ezra was born</li> <li>-promoted to management</li> <li>-church change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-invitation to move to OK</li> <li>-started own businesses</li> <li>-started recording music</li> <li>-increased opportunities to lead and play in churches, worship settings (Passion, College Ministry)</li> <li>-started to dj weddings</li> <li>-had Myer and Truman</li> <li>-first marriage counseling to work through past</li> <li>-pastoral internship</li> <li>-part time ministry work</li> <li>-feeling a call to full time vocational ministry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-moved to N. Edmond on 3 acres</li> <li>-sister moved in</li> <li>-best friend/mentor moved to CO</li> <li>-overlooked for WP job (first significant disappointment)</li> <li>-introduced to Redemption Church</li> <li>-accepted worship position at Redemption</li> <li>-moved to full-time ministry</li> <li>-ended business</li> <li>-dad's breakdown</li> <li>-anxiety and panic attacks</li> <li>-create significant doubt</li> <li>-Surprise - Dagny born</li> <li>-affirmation of calling</li> </ul>
God's Authorship	My parents did the best they could at providing a stable home for us, but they both worked full time so my sister and I had a lot of outside influences. God made himself known through my parents and through Awanas. I have my first memories of shame and of being loved by God.	God protected me from falling into trouble with the law, or hurting myself with drugs/ alcohol. He chased after me by using friends I had met at Awanas in my early years. I understood Grace for the first time and was able to turn from shame. God brought Emery and I together but would have to take us through some very hard times	I left home a bit angsty. God kept me safe with good friends who were seeking him. I learned that his provision crossed state lines. He showed me what unconditional love had to look like (Emery). He increased my desire to know him and be used by him. Increased my musical and leadership abilities.	Experienced yet again God's profound provision as we moved across the country and started a business. He provided steady work and new opportunities to grow in my gifts and passions as a musician and leader. Began to experience healing from past. Increasing longing to be used by him.	During these years I felt like God gave me what I had always longed for in my profession after experiencing a very significant disappointment. He continued to humble me through these years, allowing me to experience pain from trying to be in control. He surrounded me with tools to heal and grow.