

## **Michael E. Simons**

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### **Career Goal**

To obtain a full-time, long-term position as a Pastor of Students and Education, with a special emphasis in youth ministry, in a conservative Southern Baptist church of God's choosing, preferably in the Southeast region, where I can use my love for the Bible, music and evangelism to prepare Christians of all ages, especially youth in grades 6-12, to influence their world for the glory of Jesus Christ and to further His kingdom on earth. I desire to use my spiritual gifts of teaching and administration to set up an well-organized, effective church evangelistic outreach so that members may competently and successfully share their faith to unsaved family members, co-workers and friends within their circle of influence, in order that these individuals might receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. In addition, I also desire to design and establish a vibrant discipleship program that will enable Christians in all walks of their spiritual journey to have a growing, mature faith, ready and prepared for service within the local church and in the Lord's kingdom. My deep-seated desire is to minister to Christian youth and adults, and to use those influencing skills for effective use in any church that desires to reach out to its surrounding community. Unfortunately, youth are often the most misunderstood and overlooked element of our society; in order for them to flourish, adults should also be disciplined in the Christian life. To that end, I believe that youth ministry can and must be done within the framework of the family specifically and in church educational ministry as a whole.

### **Marital Status**

I have been married to Vicki Lynn Simons for almost 18 years (October 12, 1991); she fully shares my desire and dream in seeing that I am in a ministry where my unique gifts and perspective are valued and appreciated. Any church that extends a call to me welcomes her as well; we come together as a team. We have clearly stated that divorce will never be considered as an option in our marriage. In addition, we both share the conviction that God comes first in our lives, our marriage comes second, the church comes third, and then other activities are prioritized accordingly.

### **Education**

2003-2005

#### **Cedarville University**

Cedarville, OH

Candidate for *M.Ed.*, Teacher/Leader major, GPA: 3.92

June 1990

#### **Patriot University**

Colorado Springs, CO

Studies toward *D.Min.*, Pastoral Studies major, GPA: 3.0

June 1990

#### **Patriot University**

Colorado Springs, CO

*Master of Arts*, Theology major, GPA: 3.0

June 1985-1986

#### **Pensacola Christian College**

Pensacola, FL

Studies toward *Master of Arts*, Biblical Studies major, GPA: 2.9

May 1985

#### **Pensacola Christian College**

Pensacola, FL

*Bachelor of Arts*, Bible major, Greek minor, GPA: 2.0

## Skills

My skills include, but are not limited to Microsoft Office (Word, Access, Excel, PowerPoint), website design and maintenance; Organizational/Leadership skills; and Communication skills. I am experienced in areas of educational research, current educational theories and methodologies, development of long-term curriculum guides and lesson plans that have a high degree of continuity. Additional areas of expertise include utilizing PowerPoint technology in the classroom for the purpose of developing highly effective presentations that capture the visual appeal of school students. Although I have limited experience in counseling, I can listen to our youth with an understanding heart.

In addition, I am experienced in sermon preparation, clearly teaching the truths of God's Word. The church ministry that extends a call will also receive the benefit of my many years of classroom teaching experience. I enjoy participating in contemporary Christian music. My wife and I also have experience in drama presentations.

## Calling

I believe very firmly and passionately that God has called me to work with the educational ministry of the local church. Included in that overarching group are parents and youth, grades 6-12 in particular, and I long to minister full-time and long-term in the development of the spiritual lives of these circles. I am not to be considered as a candidate who desires to advance to another position in the church, such as a senior pastor. I have a high work ethic so I am not reluctant to work hard in the completion of a certain goal. Based on my other occupations, some have not been personally fulfilling or satisfying in allowing the Lord to fully use my spiritual gifts. A few have simply been out of economic necessity in order to provide for my family.

There are seasons in a person's life where one examines what has been accomplished in light of eternity and believe that a change of some sort is needed; I have sensed this change of direction for several years now as a result of the Real Evangelism conference I attended in 2005. For over 28 years now, church ministry is all I have ever wanted to do and that desire grows stronger by the day. Based on my previous experiences in working with youth and adults in a classroom setting, I believe that this God-given calling can be more fully realized in a church ministry rather than a school classroom setting. It is possible to teach the timeless truths of God's Word to the church in a way that is fresh, relevant, cutting-edge and appealing without compromising Bible truth in any way.

In short, the church ministry that calls me will have an effective, qualified teacher with a long-seated desire and call to ministry, no bad habits in the ministry to be overcome, and the unquestioning support of a dedicated and loving spouse. The senior pastor will be able to train me in the way needed that will assist the church toward the furtherance of their overall core values and mission in fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

## Experience

2001-2005

### **Aiken Christian School**

Aiken, SC

*Middle School History, English and Math teacher*

- Instruction and education of grades 6-8 history students
- Integrated PowerPoint presentations into history lessons during the last 2 years
- Experienced in alternative methods of assessment, cooperative learning; I received many compliments from my students in making changes to styles of lesson presentations
- ACSI Standard-level certification for 5 years

1991-1992

### **Odenton Christian School**

Odenton, MD

*Grades 5-8 Bible and History teacher*

- Instruction and education of grades 5-8 Bible and history students
- Substitute teacher for elementary grades

1986-1990

### **Temple Christian School**

Aiken, SC

*Grades 7-12 Bible, History, Science teacher*

- Instruction and education of grades 7-12 Bible, history, and science students
- Regular chapel speaker; gained experience in long-term planning
- Discovered that my spiritual gift is teaching

## Activities

My activities include, but are not limited to, Sunday School teacher for sixth/seventh grades and substitute Adult Sunday School teacher at Town Creek Baptist Church in Aiken, SC, solo and group music ministry, FAITH Sunday School Evangelistic outreach, drama ministry, webmaster for MrSimons.com, committee member for political campaign of Vicki Simons for Aiken County School Board, and founding member/past president of the Aiken County Taxpayers Association.