

February 3, 2019

Scott's Thoughts



My wife and I want to buy a house. I'm not sure why, the last one we bought was in 1977 and we only lived in it for three years, three years of constant

maintenance. We were constantly trying to make it better. Then we moved out of state and rented it out for seven years. That was worse than living in it. Because we didn't live in it and it was located in a high tax state the taxes went up every year. After eleven years of owning a house we sold it for just about what we owed on it so we could get away from the responsibility of it. So for all that time we had basically nothing to show for it.

So why buy now if we buy a house and finance it for 30 or even 20 years we will be really old (as if we aren't now). Well after all these years of renting we are ready to settle down. We have never really decided to live in one place until now. I have, as many preachers have, moved many times. There is most likely not a good reason for preachers moving so much. It has just become the norm that goes with the job. It is also the reason that many preachers don't buy their own home. Smaller congregations find it more economical to provide a house for the minister than to increase his salary. It also eliminates the hassle

of trying to find a house and get moved within a fixed time frame.

Why Newkirk? Why now? Aren't you still a preacher? Why Newkirk? - In all the years of moving I have come to know and love many people from all walks of life. Never have we lived in a place like Newkirk. It is such a small town with many great attributes some negatives (it is COLD in the winter). Over all it is a great place to live and feel comfortable. Why now? - It could be I've finally matured enough to I realize that starting over every couple years in not an answer. Yes, I'm still a preacher and that is not just a job it's what I do. I have worked in other fields over the years but I have never quit preaching. During a four-year stint in Central Texas I worked five days a week at a normal job and traveled on weekends to do fill-in preaching. Some times I drove six hours one way to do so.

We are now in Newkirk and want to stay. I want to know every person in town by name and where they live. I want to be God's example on a daily basis. And when the day comes when I can no longer physically preach, I want to still go to sleep in Newkirk.

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott