



Rick Sowell

Senior Pastor, Choctaw Road Baptist Church

I grew up in Clarksville, TN and although I grew up in church I did not begin to follow Christ until I left home at the age of 18. I came to know Christ as a result of the ministry of David Busby at Park Avenue Baptist Church in Nashville, TN. My first career was in the field of engineering. I worked for Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM for 2 years. It was during that time that I surrendered to God's call on my life for ministry. I have been serving full time in the pastorate since 1990. I have served at Eastman Baptist Church, First Baptist Church Heavener, OK and CRBC. I love to practically communicate the truth of God's Word.

My family story is not an ordinary story. I am currently on my second marriage to my wonderful wife, Stephanie. My first marriage ended with the death of my wife, Debbie, in May of 2005. She died suddenly from hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. I was left alone to raise three children and pastor a growing church. God blessed my life greatly in 2008 by allowing Stephanie and I to join our lives in serving God. Together we have 6 children and are often referred to as "The Brady Bunch." Kaela works for JASCO in Edmond, Nathan works Mathis Brothers Furniture, Jordan is a Junior at Oklahoma State, Bree is a freshman at the University of Central Oklahoma, Brady is a Senior at Choctaw High School and Bryce is a Junior at Choctaw High School. When I'm not at work I'm usually watching a high school soccer or baseball game. I enjoy the outdoors—hunting, shooting and fishing. I go to the gym regularly.

Ministry is measured in changed lives. I love to see people grow in their relationship with God as evidenced by their life decisions. I LOVE CRBC, it is the best church I have ever pastored and I believe God has a great future planned for the church.