



Sharing

The Newsletter of SOMA USA • June 2021

Hello! My name is Kyle Spradley, and I am the new National Director of SOMA USA. The last few months have been a whirlwind since God moved me out of out a twenty-five-year career in video production and then planted me into the ministry of SOMA. Several people have asked me, "How in the world did you go from being a self-employed camera man, to leading an international mission agency?"

This is a GREAT question, and there is a long story—with a simple answer ... GOD! In a nutshell, God distinctly moved in my life three different ways over the course of fourteen months. First and most important, the Lord gave me the grace to fully surrender everything to Him; I gave Him my finances, my relationships and control of my life. Second, one week after I surrendered, I lost my biggest client due to a corporate restructure. That client represented between 25%-35% of my annual income for the past fourteen years. This was a significant loss, but I chose to trust God. Third, a few months after that, I was invited to speak at a men's conference, which ended up being a profound experience for me. That very day, God opened up my heart and mind to the idea of some type of full-time ministry.

As I prayed about these God incidents, He continually impressed upon me the same message, "*I am bringing something to you. Don't worry about your business or the idea of ministry.*" I didn't know exactly what that meant—a new client to replace the one I lost, some type of ministry, or something completely different—I really didn't know. What I did understand, however, was that I was to wait on the Lord ... literally. After a few months of hearing this same message, I was approached to submit an application for the Directorship of SOMA. I was floored. Following several more months and two interviews, I was amazed to be offered the position—and I accepted. God had fulfilled His word.

As I look back, I can see how God has been shaping me for this role. I have been active in renewal ministry, discipleship and missions for a number years, including SOMA missions. Each time I came home from the mission field, I always felt



SOMA mission in Tanzania, l to r, Kyle Spradley, Libby Manning, Dr. Glen Petta, Rev. Alex Leighton

like there was something more, or that I was being prepared for something, but I could never put my finger on it ... until now! Looking back, it's incredible to see the Lord's hand in my life. One thing I do know—I have much more to learn.

As Glen steps back from the ministry and I step into his very big shoes, I can assure you that the mission of SOMA remains unchanged! God has been faithful, and I believe He will continue to direct this ministry in mighty ways. Thankfully, Glen is staying close, and I know he's just a phone call away. As SOMA moves through this time of transition, we truly look forward to what God has in store.

If you have partnered with SOMA in prayer, with your talents or treasure, bless you! If you haven't yet, please consider the vital importance of keeping our church leaders renewed, encouraged and empowered with God's Word and Spirit. Please pray for *us* as we continue ministering to those on the front lines, and that He may give us the grace to change the world, one mission at a time.

Thank you so very much, and God bless you.

Kyle Spradley
National Director SOMA USA

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Focus your smartphone camera 3" to 5" above the QR code at right to
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SOMA USA

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MINISTRY UPDATE

In many ways, the year 2020 was one for the record books. If you have been unable to see the regular updates through our SOMA eNews, we're delighted to share how God guided the ministry of SOMA last year and the first half of this year. Before the pandemic, SOMA ministered around the globe within the context of short-term missions. Once the pandemic hit and travel was closed, SOMA developed a new outreach to support Church leaders by leveraging online technology. A video conference series named Pastor to Pastor was launched to strengthen pastors as they continued to shepherd their people during this most challenging time. By bringing together clergy with key international Christian leaders, including several bishops and archbishops, pastors have the opportunity to be restored and strengthened through an intimate time of sharing and teaching. In 2020, SOMA facilitated six Pastor to Pastor calls. The series has continued in 2021, and this month we'll host our eighth call with the Rev. Canon Dr. Ashley Null. From relationships developed over many years of ministry, SOMA has been blessed by the generosity of time and teaching of these seasoned Christian leaders serving on the front lines. Feedback has been very positive, and we thank God for the fruit born of this Pastor to Pastor series. We look expectantly to the day when we can, once again, minister person to person. I'll keep you updated as travel developments make it possible for us to get back "in the field"!



Peace be with you,
Kyle