KENNETH COPELAND

BIBLE COLLEGE

RELOCATION GUIDE

EQUIPPING BELIEVERS FOR MINISTRY

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Planning for Your Relocation

Temporary Housing – Many times, you'll need to make temporary housing arrangements while you look for a more permanent residence. Here are options to consider if your relocation will require a temporary residence.

- **Hotel –** Extended-stay hotels offer lower rates and fuller amenities than traditional hotels. An extended-stay hotel will have a full kitchen, including refrigerator, stove, microwave, dishwasher, sink, pots and pans and dishes. In the Fort Worth area, extended stay options include Hawthorn Suites, Homewood Suites, and Extended Stay.

- **Corporate Housing –** Fully furnished apartments and condominiums exist. They usually offer short-term leases. **See appendix A for some corporate housing website options.**

- **RV Park –** We find that some people relocating to Fort Worth planning stay in RV parks or fifth-wheel trailer campers. You can find a selection of RV Parks across the Metroplex. **See appendix A for some RV park website options.**

- **Friends and Family –** Staying with with friends or family who may already live in the DFW Metroplex is also cost-effective.

Permanent Housing – Whether or not you'll need temporary housing, permanent housing will be a priority. There are a number of considerations regarding securing permanent housing. Here are some things we found to be important:

- **Current Housing Situation –** What is your current housing situation? Do you need to break a lease with an apartment complex? If so, what will that require, and how much will it cost you? Is that financially feasible? Do you own a home that you need to sell? If so, what is the state of the housing market in your area? Is it a buyer's market, or a seller's market? What will the financial ramifications be if you sell? What do you believe is a reasonable timeframe needed to sell your home?

- **Financial Considerations –**
  - **Apartments -** If you plan to rent an apartment in the Fort Worth area, do your research online to estimate how much the deposit and preliminary fees will cost. Usually, you'll encounter non-refundable application fees, as well as an administration fees. Do you have pets? If so, you'll likely also pay a pet deposit.
  - **Purchasing a House -** If you plan to buy a house, research property tax and home owner's insurance rates in your target neighborhood. Do you have a proper down payment?

Neighborhoods – The Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex is a large geographical area. While the shortest distance between Dallas and Fort Worth is 32 miles the travel time with traffic can be 45-90 minutes. Eagle Mountain International Church is located in Newark, TX, which is about a 30-45 min drive from downtown Fort Worth, and 90 minutes or more from downtown Dallas.

Planning for Your Relocation

There are a number of websites to help you learn more about the neighborhoods of DFW. ***See appendix A.*** Below are some of the key considerations when choosing your new neighborhood community:

- **Rural –** Areas west and north of EMIC are the most rural.
- **Urban –** Downtown Fort Worth, Downtown Dallas, and Uptown Dallas are the most urban.
- **Suburban –** The areas east and south from EMIC are the most suburban.
- **School Options for Dependents –** Given the geographic scope, and population of the DFW Metroplex, there are Many school districts. ***See appendix A for alist of some of the area school districts***
- **Employment –** Certainly, proximity to your place of employment will play a large factor determining where you will want to live permanently.
- **Hobbies & Leisure -** In choosing your neighborhood, hobbies and interests may be a consideration. The DFW Metroplex is a large area th at offers a great variety of activities. There are many trails for running and cyc ing. There are a number of lakes for boating and water activities. There are many malls and shopping centers to choose from. Additionally, Six Flags, water parks, and many museums provide a lot of family fun.
- **Public Transportation –** Currently, a significant public transportation system does not exist. There are future plans to expand the Fort Worth public transit system to the northern suburbs. ***See appendix A*** for some websites that will give you more information.

Employment – Another high-priority consideration when relocating is employment. Proximity to your place of employment to KCBC should be considered. There are many large Fortune 500 companies headquartered in DFW in addition to many small businesses, making the Metroplex one of the best areas to find employment in the United States . ***See appendix A for some key websites to assist in your employment efforts.*** Here are some of the key considerations in planning for your new employment in DFW.

- **Job Transfer –** Are you able to transfer with your existing company? One of the great benefits of a metropolitan area as large as DFW is that many U.S. companies are represented here.
- **Business and Tax –** Do you own your own business? If so, what will it take to transfer that business to the DFW area? Have you researched the differences in taxes, licensing, business laws, etc.?

Preparing to Move

Moving Checklist

Whether you choose to use a professional moving service or to move yourself, there are a number of things to consider. Included in the following list are important items for those who have chosen to move themselves. If you choose a professional mover to assist in your relocation they will handle many of these concerns, but not all of them.

Two Months Before

1. **Research -** Start researching moving companies. Do not rely on a quote over the phone. Request an on-site estimate. Get an estimate in writing from each company, and make sure it has a USDOT number (U.S. Department of Transportation) on it if you are moving to a different state. If you're moving within a state, some states still require a USDOT number, check here to see if your state does. You can also check with your state's public utilities commission, moving association or Better Business Bureau.

2. **Organize School Records -** Go to your children's school and arrange for their records to be transferred to their new school district.

3. **Insurance -** Check into switching your vehicle and home or renter's insurance.

Six Weeks Before

1. **Order supplies -** Order boxes and other supplies such as tape, bubble wrap, packing paper, and permanent markers. Don't forget to order specialty containers, such as dish barrels or wardrobe boxes.

2. **Use it or lose it -** Start using up things that you don't want to move, like frozen or perishable foods and cleaning supplies.

3. **Take measurements -** Check room dimensions at your new home, if possible, and make sure larger pieces of furniture will fit through the door.

One Month Before

- **Begin Packing –** If you are not using a professional moving service that would pack your house for you, it's time to begin packing. While packing, note items of special value that might require additional insurance from your moving company. Make sure to declare, in writing, any items valued over $100 per pound, such as a computer.

- **Label -** Clearly label, and number each box with its contents and the room it's destined for. This will help you to keep an inventory of your belongings. Pack and label "essentials" boxes of items you'll need right away.

- **Valuables** - Add items such as jewelry and important files to a safe box that you'll personally transport to your new home. Make sure to put the mover's estimate in this box. You'll need it for reference on moving day.

- **Change of Address Form/Address Forwarding** - Go to your local post office and fill out a change-of-address form, or do it online at www.usps.gov. But in case there are stragglers, it's always wise to ask a close neighbor to look out for mail after you've moved. Check in with your neighbor two weeks after the move.

- **Notify Important Parties** - Alert the following of your move: banks, brokerage firms, magazines and newspapers you subscribe to, and credit card, insurance, and utility companies.

- **Forward Medical Records** - Arrange for medical records to be sent to any new health-care providers or obtain copies of them yourself. Ask for referrals.

- **Utility Providers at New Home** – Look for the utility you are going to use. In Texas electricity is deregulated. This means there are many different electric providers to choose from. Bear in mind that some utility providers may require a deposit depending on a credit check. If you live in an apartment complex, you will likely have to use the electricity provider with whom it contracts.

- **Wireless Service** – Check with your current wireless provider to ensure they have adequate coverage at your new address.

Two Weeks Before

- **Automobile Tune up** - Take your car to a garage and ask your mechanic to consider what services might be needed if you're moving to a new climate. Make sure your vehicle is ready for the trip. Oil change, tires, belts, hoses, etc. In Texas, you have 30 days to pass inspection for your vehicles. There can be no check engine light on, and it cannot have been reset within 100 miles.

- **Legal Documents** - Make sure you have your original birth certificates and social security cards.

- **Clean out Your Safe-Deposit Box** - If you'll be changing banks, remove the contents of your safe-deposit box and put them in the safe box that you'll take with you on moving day.

One Week Before

- **Refill prescriptions** - Stock up on prescriptions you'll need during the next couple of weeks.

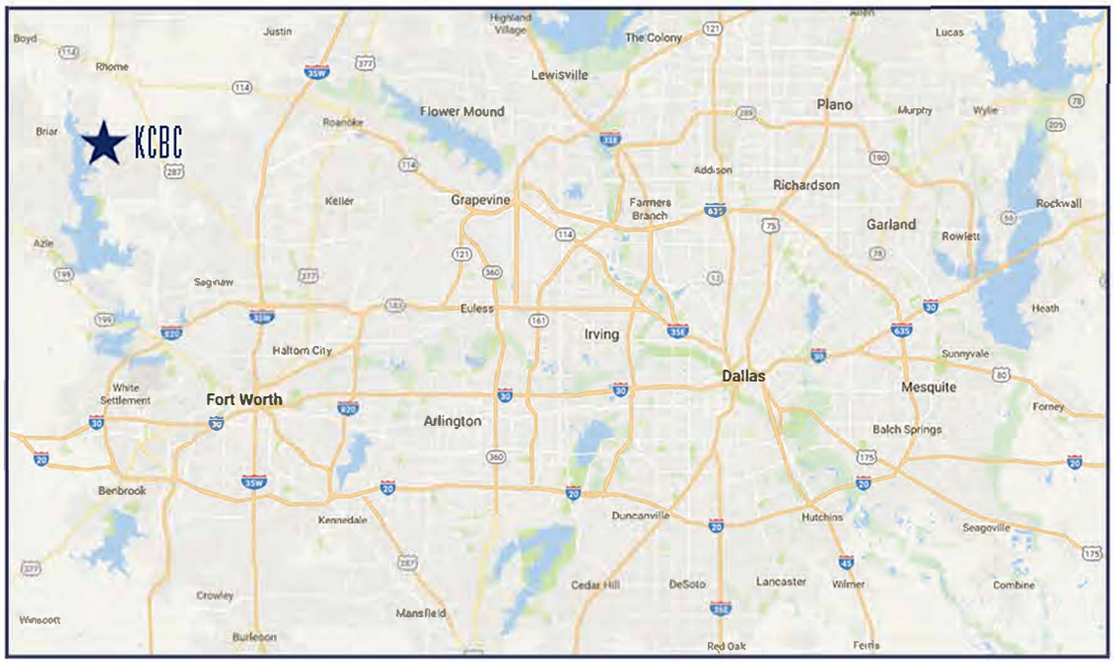
Executing the Move

It's Moving Day! Here are some considerations to ensure your moving day execution goes well.

- **If you are leasing an apartment or home**, be sure to confirm the move-in date to avoid any misunderstandings.
- **If using a professional moving service,** compare the movers' inventory with yours to ensure nothing has been left out. Plan to be present while the movers are loading to make sure they take everything and that there are no problems. Make certain the movers have your contact number where you may be reached should any issues arise.
- **Turn the thermostat down**, and turn off water heater.
- **If you've hired movers**, be a blessing and consider providing light snacks and bottled water.

Travel – Now that everything is packed, and loaded and on its way it's time for your travel to DFW.

- **Plan your route to DFW.**
- **If you're traveling with children** pack snacks, plan your meal times and bring along some fun games to make the travel time more enjoyable.



Post Move

Congratulations! You made it to Texas! The Word of God in **Proverbs 24:27 says, "Put your outdoor work in order and get your fields ready; after that, build your house."** Now that you are here, below are a few things you will need to know and do immediately.

1. Vehicle Inspection

There is a 30-day window to register your vehicles in TX. Before you can obtain a Texas registration, your automobiles must pass inspection. The type of inspection will vary depending on which county you live in. Check the Texas Department of Public Safety website (see appendix A) for more information. Many mechanic shops, oil change locations and service stations are certified by the DPS as inspection stations. Bring your insurance card; you'll need proof of insurance. You must also transfer your insurance to Texas prior to having your vehicle inspection performed. Texas insurance coverage requirements are a minimum of $30,000 per injured person, up to a total of $60,000 for everyone injured in an accident and $25,000 for property damage. The state's portion of the inspection fee is **due at the time of registration.**

2. Vehicle Registration

Once you've transferred your insurance to Texas, and your vehicles have passed inspection you can register them. To do this, you must visit your local county tax-assessor collector office. You will need your insurance card, proof of vehicle inspection (the Vehicle Inspection Report from the inspection station), and proof you own the vehicle, such as the registration or title from your previous state. You can also show a current foreign/military ownership document or foreign evidence of ownership. You are not required to title your vehicle in Texas, but first-time registrants must fill out and complete Form 130-U.

The base registration fee in Texas is **$50.75** plus $1 for TexasSure - the electronic insurance verification program - and other Department of Public Safety initiatives plus $1 for improvements to the registration and titling computer system. All totaled, state registration is **$52.75**, but counties may add other fees to this cost. The state portion of your vehicle's inspection fee will be due at this time. As a new resident, you also will pay sales tax-related fees required by the state's Comptroller of Public Accounts. Sales tax fees on a vehicle **can be $90 or the difference** between your previous state's sales tax and the Texas sales tax. While at the county tax assessor-collector's office be sure to ask your customer service representative to sign you up for e Reminder. They will email you when it's time to renew, and you will have the opportunity to renew your registration online.

3. Driver License

As a new resident you are required to obtain your Texas driver license from the Texas Department of Public Safety. Before you can get a Texas driver license, you will first need to transfer you auto insurance to Texas and register your vehicles in Texas. New Texas residents can legally drive with a valid, unexpired driver license from another U.S. state, U.S. territory, Canadian province, or qualifying country for up to 90 days after moving to Texas.

4. Register to vote

In Texas you will have to:

- be a citizen of the United States.
- be a resident of the county in which the application for registration is made.
- be at least 17 years and 10 months old (you must be 18 to vote).

5. Permanent change of address

Update your home address, the address on your vehicle records so you will receive your registration renewal notice. You are **not required to purchase an updated title or registration**. You can update your address on your vehicle records by **mail** or **in person** at your local Texas DMV office . If you are changing your address close to your expiration date, call (888) 368-4689 to change your address. The Texas DMV would have already sent your renewal notice to your old address. To change your address on your vehicle records by mail, complete a Change of Address for Texas Vehicle Registration form, and send it to the address specified on the form.

6. Toll Roads

In the Dallas-Fort Worth area, there are a number of tolls roads. The most cost effective method of paying for tolls is with a TXTag. More information can be found in Apendix A.

Key Websites (Appendix A)

Housing Websites and Surrounding Apartment Complexes:

- www.expresscorporatehousing.com
- www.premiercorporatehousing.com
- Northlake Village RV- www.northlakevillagerv.com
- Legends at Eagle Mountain- www.legendsateaglemountain.com
- Eagle's Point Apartments
- Overlook Ranch Apartments- www.overlookranchapartments.com
- Longhorn Crossing- www.longhorncrossingapts.com
- Lakeview Mobile Home Park- www.lakeviewmhc.com

School System Websites:

- Fort Worth ISD - www.fwisd.org
- Keller ISD - www.kellerisd.net
- Northwest ISD - www.nisdtx.org
- Eagle Mountain/Saginaw ISD - www.emsisd.com
- Connections Academy - www.connectionsacademy.com/texas-virtual-school
- Homeschool Options – www.homeschool.com
- Lake Country Christian School - www.lccs.org
- Fort Worth Christian School - www.fwc.org
- Liberty Christian School - www.libertychristian.com

Neighborhood Websites:

- Destination DFW - www.destinationdfw.com

Public Transportation Websites:

- www.trinityrailwayexpress.org/index.html
- www.texrail.com
- www.dart.org/riding/tre.asp
- www.the-t.com/commuterrails/tre/tabid/208/default.aspx
- www.fwta.org

Employment Websites:

- Southlake Focus Group - www.southlakefocusgroup.com;
- CareerDFW - www.careerdfw.org/J/

Texas Utility Company Websites:

- Power to Choose - www.powertochoose.org

Vehicle Registration, Driver License, & Tollway Websites:

- Texas Department of Public Safety - www.txdps.state.tx.us
- TXtag - www.txtag.org
- North Texas Tollway Authority - www.ntta.org

Financial Considerations

Housing Expenses

Temporary Housing Expense:

Current Home Expense:

Cost of breaking Lease

Cost of Selling House

New Apartment Expenses:

Application Fee

Administrative Fee

Deposit

Pet Deposit

Moving Expenses

Storage Unit Expense:

Self-move Expenses:

Moving Supplies

Boxes, Tape & Markers

Bubble Wrap & Packing Paper

Moving Truck Rental

Moving Truck Fuel

Furniture Pads

Two Wheel Dolly

Professional Mover Expenses:

Travel Expenses

Gas

Meals/Snacks

Lodging

Tolls

Vehicle Expenses

Vehicle Inspection

Vehicle Registration

Drivers License

(Appendix B)

Notes

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