



### **Introduction:**

Hey there! It's great to meet you! My name is Josef Kruppenbacher, and I'm the Associate Pastor at Ponderosa Bible Church. I love what I do, especially overseeing the Youth Groups for Junior High and High School, the Sermon-Based Small Groups, Men's Ministry, and supporting the Senior Pastor when needed. I feel incredibly blessed to be part of such an amazing Church family, and I do my best to build it up as God enables me. The Church culture at PBC is genuinely inspirational, and I'm so grateful for the opportunity to serve the wonderful people at

Ponderosa. If you ever have any questions or want to chat, please don't hesitate to contact me at [joek@pbcpayson.org](mailto:joek@pbcpayson.org). I'm always happy to connect with new friends!

### **Interests and Hobbies:**

I'm someone who loves to explore and try new things. I enjoy a wide range of hobbies and interests, such as reading, cooking, camping, writing, poetry, songwriting, playing guitar, card games, hiking, gun shooting, board games, carpentry, and other fun activities. Spending time at home with my family, watching a movie together, or going on a family vacation to discover new places are some of my absolute favorite things to do. I also love going on romantic getaways with my wife, where we can create some unforgettable memories. I feel incredibly grateful to have such an amazing family. (:

### **Inspirations:**

Jesus has been the most significant source of inspiration in my life. I was moved to tears when I read Matthew 11:28-30 for the first time at seventeen. These verses express the heart of God, and I knew I had found something extraordinary, "Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For

my yoke is easy and my burden light.” These verses inspired me to want to share this Jesus whose words I just read with others.

Christ is my main inspiration, but CS Lewis is someone I also look to as an example. Lewis used logic to explain Christianity, and his works *Mere Christianity*, *The Problem of Pain*, and *Miracles* are some that I would highly recommend that you read if you haven’t already. I would love to teach a course on him one day if that ever becomes an option. Here are some of my favorite quotes from Lewis:

- "If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world." - *Mere Christianity*
- "There are only two kinds of people: those who say to God, ‘Thy will be done,’ and those to whom God says, ‘All right, then, have it your way.’" - *The Great Divorce*
- "A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word 'darkness' on the walls of his cell." - *The Problem of Pain*

Right now, I do my best to draw inspiration from the two mentors God has given me, Pastor Joe Falkner and Michael Hughes. Pastor Joe's love, patience, and grace are truly inspiring, and I have come to understand the importance of following his example in ministry. Michael's practical approach to Christianity and his dedicated service to our Church and reputation are admirable, and I appreciate his contributions. Their influence has made me realize that my decisions do not affect only me but also those around me, which has caused me to commit myself to being carefully considerate of my actions and to have integrity in everything I do.

