

Super Bowl Champ Trades Cleats for the Cross

Stefen Wisniewski has football in his blood, but Jesus in his heart.

His father, Leo, played in the NFL as a nose tackle for a few years before Stefen was born, and Stefen carried that legacy through 10 seasons in the NFL, winning two Super Bowls with the Philadelphia Eagles and the Kansas City Chiefs.

The 32-year-old Wisniewski made a video announcement through his Twitter account that he was retiring from football to pursue pastoral ministry. In the video, he said:

“After 10 seasons in the NFL, I’m retiring. I absolutely loved playing the game of football, but after 10 years, my body, my mind and my heart are telling me it’s time to move on,” Wisniewski says.

“What am I going to do next? I’m going to be a pastor. The absolute best part of my life is my relationship with Jesus Christ, and I can’t imagine a better full-time job than teaching people the Bible and sharing the love of Christ with others.”

I have an announcement to make :

– Stefen Wisniewski (@stefenwiz61) August 26, 2021

Wisniewski said if he would take the time to say thank you to all those who helped him succeed in the NFL, his Twitter video would go on too long, but he posted more details in a separate tweet.

He elaborated about his love for Jesus, saying that “You were my strength, joy, purpose, anchor, life, peace and passion

through it all. I only made it through the tough times because of Your presence and because of the promises in Your Word. And the intense joy from knowing You far surpasses any joy that came from even the best parts of the game of football. And all glory that people try to give to me for what I've accomplished truly and rightfully belongs to You" (Rom. 11:36).

The Pittsburgh native has been very open about his faith, often sharing his testimony to men's church groups, encouraging men to lock arms with each other and be the men of God they are called to be. {eo}

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