At Southern you will receive a theological education that is built on truth, with a rich legacy and a vision for training leaders for Gospel impact.
The conventional wisdom just does not fit. As children, we are taught the adage that we are not to start what we cannot finish. But ministers of the Gospel will never really finish anything, and they are not very qualified to start anything. As the Apostle Paul told the Corinthians: “According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 3:10-11)

They will take their places in a long line of faithful ministers. They will build upon the foundation laid by the apostles, and that foundation is Jesus Christ. They will toil and serve and witness and teach and preach and lead, and build, but they will die with more undone than done. Some will serve long, some may serve only a short time in this earthly life, but they will serve a cause they cannot complete; they will tell a story they cannot conclude.

The American dream does not fit this calling. That dream calls for years of preparation to be followed by formal qualification, decades of professional accomplishment, and a happy retirement. Our hope must be that ministers of the Gospel will never retire, for the ministry is never accomplished. They may in due time be reemployed, but never really retired — never ready to rest and merely collect a pension or cash in their retirement accounts and live a life of leisure. They are to serve to the end, learn to the end, teach to the end, and be faithful to the end.

As a matter of fact, the Christian ministry is as concerned about the end as the beginning. With Paul, we look back to the beginning, when Christ declared the establishment of his church, commissioned the church with the Gospel, and promised that the gates of hell will never prevail against it. But we also look forward to the end, and that ending puts everything into perspective. The Christian ministry is a profoundly eschatological calling.

Behind us is a line of faithful Christians who toiled and served and preached and planted and tended and witnessed and died. The graduates we see before us today get in that line, are indeed already in that line, and they will never get to finish what they start — and we can live with that.

Why? Only because Christ will finish what He has started. Only because we are absolutely confident that this is not about us, but about Christ — all about Christ.

And we are not alone. As John saw in the book of Revelation, before the throne of God are arrayed men and women from every tribe and language and people and nation. All of them ransomed together by the blood of the Lamb who was slain, now made a kingdom and priests to God, set to reign with Christ on the earth.

This vision frames the reality of the Christian ministry. Our task is to lay our lives on the line in service to Christ, knowing that this vision is truer than true and absolutely assured. The Gospel is to be preached to the nations, knowing that Christ will redeem sinners by his blood from every nation, every tribe, every language. We go, we send, and we sustain with this vision in view. We declare that today is the acceptable day of salvation, and we declare to all people everywhere that salvation is to be found in the name of Christ and in Christ alone.

Are you ready to join us in this monumental task of ministry? God is raising up a generation of men and women who are ready to lay their lives down for the sake of the Gospel and His glory. Perhaps you are in that number.
The books appear on the front cover and on page 71 are from Southern Seminary’s James P. Boyce Centennial Library. Each book was written, edited or used as a teaching aid by one of the seminary’s four founding fathers.
While some were concerned that combining the two schools would de-emphasize church music, Stinson pointed out that the merger actually helps Southern to serve local churches better because the school is now turning out music ministers who also have pastoral and theological training.

Southern began to rethink the mission of its music and leadership schools when it learned that more than 80 percent of music ministers in Southern Baptist churches serve in dual roles, such as youth or children’s ministry, that demand pastoral and theological expertise, Stinson said.

“What we decided to change was how we were training,” Stinson said. “In the past, the focus had been on music performance. We have had very competent musicians who have graduated from this institution, but they weren’t necessarily as pastorally qualified as they should have been.

“So, what we decided to do was not quit training musicians, but train theologically-grounded, pastorally-qualified worship leaders for the local church. That is a very different vision, but it doesn’t mean we’ve quit doing something, it means we’ve improved it.”

The school has added degree programs, including doctoral degrees, in areas of worship leadership and family ministry to serve the needs of churches more effectively, Stinson said. One of the major emphases that makes Southern’s new school unique is its Family Equipping Model, Stinson said, which seeks to train local churches how to equip families to disciple their children in the home.

“We think that discipleship is best carried out in the local church through families and that parents are the primary disciple-makers of their children and that belief is infused in all of our degree programs,” Stinson said.

One of the great strengths of the new school is its faculty, Stinson said. Professors in the School of Church Ministries have become leaders in the evangelical discussion about family ministry through teaching, speaking and writing books, he said.

“We have the right faculty, and we can deliver what we are promising,” he said. “They have the right vision. They have the right training. They are writing books. That is a great strength for the school now.”

Technology meets theology

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary launched a custom designed iPhone application in December 2009. Since its launch, the SBTS app has been downloaded more than 2,000 times and has garnered a four-star approval rating on Apple’s five-star rating scale.

Southern’s communications and campus technology departments joined forces to develop the app, which features: audio and video files of chapel sermons and events, Twitter and blog feeds from campus leadership, and a complete concierge and information service.

The free app is available at the Apple App Store. Download it today.

New School at SBTS thriving after one year, Stinson and Mohler tell trustees

By Jeff Robinson

It has been one year since The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary founded the School of Church Ministries and Dean Randy Stinson told trustees April 20, that the new school has gained significant strength during its first year.

In the spring of 2009, Southern Seminary merged its School of Church Music and Worship and the School of Leadership and Church Ministry to form the new school. At the spring meeting of Southern’s board of trustees, President R. Albert Mohler Jr. interviewed Stinson on the school’s first year.

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Albertmohler.com welcomes new look

By Emily Griffin


The redesigned albertmohler.com offers a more user-friendly platform for visitors to read Mohler’s daily blog, access audio and video files and stream broadcasts of The Albert Mohler program — a daily talk-radio program on the Salem network. The visual appearance of the website is more streamlined and modern. Visitors can “follow” Mohler through a live Twitter feed and link to Mohler’s Facebook fan page.

Mohler’s vision for the website was made reality through the work of David Yeiser, Russ Hawkins and Southern’s communications and campus technology departments. Hawkins, director of software development at Southern Seminary, said the website overhaul took months to complete, but is now operating with the most technologically advanced software.

“The new site is really going to allow users to interact in a very efficient and simple way,” Hawkins said. “Users will find it just as easy to find one of Dr. Mohler’s blog posts from last year as the blog post from this morning.”

Yeiser, an information designer and owner of Design Intellection, is very pleased with the visual appeal of the site.

“Dr. Mohler is involved in so many activities that it was challenging to develop a website that included visual elements that represent all of his activities but does not look too cluttered,” Yeiser said. “I am happy with the design and think that it is an easy outlet for people to view Dr. Mohler’s daily commentaries.”
Student life initiatives continue to enhance the SBTS experience

By Emily Griffin

Even to the most casual observer, it is easy to see that The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Boyce College are making campus-wide upgrades.

In 2008-09, the Southern Seminary community saw the Duke K. McCall Sesquicentennial Pavilion rise on the east side of campus and appreciated the appearance of directional signs and flourishing landscaping across the seminary’s 80 acres. In 2009, the Honeycutt Student Center welcomed the campus mall, Boyce College’s Patio Room was upgraded, several of the residence halls received updated paint and the campus’ Internet bandwidth was strengthened.

In 2010, remodel work was completed in Cooke Hall, which serves as the home to the School of Church Ministries, and additional upgrades to classrooms across campus were launched. The Honeycutt Center’s Health and Recreation Center renovation was completed in the spring, making it more accessible to students and offering more opportunities for families to use the center together.

“We completely modernized the Health and Recreation Center,” Dan Dumas, Southern’s senior vice president of institutional administration, said. “With this project we’ve taken into consideration young children and mothers. There will be places for mothers to gather and talk while their children play. There are upgrades to everything from the facility entrance, to the locker rooms, to the types of games, etc. We’ve also decided to open the Recreation Center at 6 a.m., allowing more time for students and employees to workout in the mornings and still have plenty of time to get ready for class or work.”

Dumas has been working with Southern’s President, R. Albert Mohler Jr., and the seminary’s Executive Cabinet to plan, fund and initiate these improvement projects and is excited to see what is still in store for Southern’s campus and students.

“We really want to minister to and care for our students. We want to put our capital funds towards the students and their student life experiences,” Dumas said. “We are building all the time; we are rolling out large quantities of capital and energy towards projects that are for the students and will only better their experience at Southern as they prepare for Gospel ministry.”

Dumas is looking forward watching the construction of two state-of-the-art conversation pits, which will be located outside the Mullins Hall and Fuller Hall complexes. “These conversation pits will include fire pits, gas grills, Wi-Fi accessibility and comfortable seating for a crowd,” Dumas said. “These are areas that will serve as conversation and discipleship places, and places to take advantage of the climate that we enjoy here in Louisville.”

The Executive Cabinet is hoping projects like the conversation pits will further the community spirit that is already prevalent at Southern.

Campus safety and security are also paramount issues to Southern’s administration. In 2010, a 360° security camera and emergency phone post, which will be connected with the Campus Safety and Security office, will be installed between the seminary lawn and Boyce College. Dumas said throughout 2010-2011 similar posts will be deployed across campus.

Another major improvement to campus security comes with door-entry security upgrades. In 2010 all Mullins Hall outside-entry doors will require a hand scan for admission. Similar systems will be installed in other residence halls.

Dumas and the Executive Cabinet are engaging in a master plan to roll-out additional campus-wide security measures and facility upgrades, but as with all growth, expansion is limited by time and funding.

“The big issue is that we want to make sure that we are deploying capital towards strategic, well thought out student life and security projects,” Dumas said.
Southern iPhone App
theology meets technology

sbts.edu/iphone
Burk charges Boyce graduates to live with no reserves, no retreats, no regrets

By Emily Griffin

On May 7, Denny Burk, dean of Boyce College, acknowledged that graduation is a bittersweet occasion in many ways. Burk reminded the 96 graduates that a room full of proud parents are looking at their boys and girls and realizing that they are no longer boys and girls but men and women. Burk also pointed to the Boyce teaching faculty, which was proudly saying goodbye to a dear group of students.

In his commencement address, “No Reserves, No Retreats, No Regrets” from Matthew 16:24-26, Burk took the Boyce College class of 2010 to another graduation — one that took place almost 100 years ago. At that time, there was a young man graduating from college. He felt the call of God on his life to be a missionary, and he was determined to preach the Gospel in North-west China. But unlike most of you, Burk said, this young man was fabulously wealthy. Burk explained that the young man’s name was William Borden and that he was the heir to a significant family estate.

As a 16-year-old, Borden travelled through Asia, the Middle East and Europe. During his travels he felt a growing burden for the lost and hurting people he encountered. Because of what he experienced on this trip, he wrote home about his “desire to be a missionary.” As you can imagine, Burk said, many people in Borden’s life had a difficult time coping with his decision. How could a person with such tremendous financial resources just leave it all behind? In response, Burk said Borden wrote two words in the back of his Bible: “no reserves.” Meaning, Borden would not hold anything back, not even his vast fortune, from Christ.

Borden spent his college years at Yale University, living with “no reserves” and prepared himself for mission to China. Burk said that it was during this time that Borden made an entry in his personal journal that read, “Say ‘no’ to self and ‘yes’ to Jesus every time.”

In his first year at Yale, Borden began something that transformed the campus. With just a handful of classmates, he started a morning prayer and Bible study group. By the time he graduated, there were 1,000 of Yale’s 1,300 students meeting in a Bible group.

Burk said that upon graduation, Borden turned down lucrative job-offers. In his Bible he wrote two more words: “no retreats.” Borden would not be turned back from what God had called him to do. He would only press forward in his pursuit of Christ.

Burk shared that after finishing his ministry studies at Princeton Theological Seminary, Borden sailed for China. He stopped first in Egypt to learn Arabic. While in Cairo, he contracted cerebral meningitis. Within a month, the 25-year-old Borden was dead.

After Borden’s death, they found his Bible and in it he had written two more words underneath “no reserves” and “no retreats.” As he lay dying he wrote, “no regrets.” Whereas the world and even some of his friends looked on his life as wasted, Burk said Borden had come to a different conclusion even as he lay dying — no regrets.

Burk said, “Graduates, today we send you forth with the prayer that you would follow hard after Christ so that this might be your legacy as well: no reserves, no retreats, no regrets — that you would hold nothing back from Christ. That you would let nothing turn you back from following Christ wherever he may lead you, that you would count it all joy to lose everything for Christ.”

Burk asked the questions, “How do you leave this graduation with the same determination with which Borden left his? How did Borden do it?” You do it by believing what Jesus said in Matthew 16:24-26, he said.

“If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it. For what will a man be profited, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

“This faculty that has poured their lives into yours does not send you out to follow your dreams. We send you out to follow Christ. And to find that in truth all of your dreams can only be fulfilled in Him,” Burk said.

Burk acknowledged the key issues presented in the Matthew passage: Jesus is calling you to do something and to believe something. Following Jesus and His command for you to do something means denying yourself, your agenda, your plans and your ideas about what’s best for you — it means taking up your cross to follow Him.

Jesus commands us all to believe the Gospel, Burk said. The Gospel teaches that Christ was crucified and raised for sinners such that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.

“If you don’t believe that, then you will spend the rest of your days trying to preserve your life, and if you do that you will lose your life forever,” Burk said. “But if this Gospel is true and you believe in Him who made it true, then you can’t lose your life.”

Burk closed his address with, “Graduates, as you leave this place, we want you strong and faithful as you go into God’s field. If there is a legacy for Boyce College in your life, let it be this: that here was the place that you learned that all you need is Christ. If you have Him, you have everything. To the end that God might build a legacy in you of no reserves, no retreats, no regrets.”

Burk’s entire address is available at www.boycecollege.com
Mohler to SBTS grads: You won’t finish what you start
By Jeff Robinson

Christian ministers are not professionals who take their degrees into the world seeking success as it is typically defined, but instead are deployed for a task of Gospel proclamation which they will not finish, R. Albert Mohler Jr., told the 205th graduating class at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in May.

Preaching from 1 Corinthians 3:10-11 and Revelation 5:6-10, Mohler told the 231 graduates that they have completed advanced degrees, but they will never receive applause from the world.

“Those who graduate from this school today, though rightly congratulated, are being sent out to put everything they have, everything they are, everything they have learned and everything they hope for, on the line for mission and ministry in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,” Mohler said.

“They are not starting careers. Indeed, this may end their careers. They are not newly-minted professionals. In fact, they may be largely useless in the eyes of the secular world. They are now deployed for a life of ministry that runs counter to the wisdom of the world.

“The call to the Christian ministry is a profoundly counter-cultural reality. The conventional wisdom just does not fit. As children, we are taught the adage that we are not to start what we cannot finish. But these ministers of the Gospel will never really finish anything, and they are not very qualified to start anything.”

Southern’s graduates joined a long line of faithful Gospel ministers who have preached the Word across the globe and have served the Kingdom of Christ in anonymity. All ministers are building on a foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, a project that will not be finished until Christ returns, Mohler pointed out.

“They will toil and serve and witness and teach and preach and lead and build, but they will die with more undone than done. Some will serve long, some may serve only a short time in this earthly life, but they will serve a cause they cannot complete; they will tell a story they cannot conclude.

“The American dream does not fit this calling. That dream calls for years of preparation to be followed by formal qualification, decades of professional accomplishment, and a happy retirement. Our hope today must be that these ministers of the Gospel will never retire, for the ministry is never accomplished. They may in due time be redeployed, but never really retired - never ready to rest and merely collect a pension or cash in their retirement accounts and live a life of leisure. They are to serve to the end, learn to the end, teach to the end and be faithful to the end.

Some will be called to minister in difficult places, some will suffer on behalf of the Gospel and some may be martyred for their faith, Mohler said, but for this they will receive a profound reward in the next life.

“This vision transforms the Christian ministry from a profession into a calling that makes no sense according to the wisdom of the world,” he said. “The vast majority of Christian ministers and pastors have served without the slightest attention of the world, completely lacking in its accolades and attention. They preached the Word, in season and out of season, evangelized, baptized, taught, tended, wept, and cared and they were laid in humble boxes and lowered into the waiting earth. And all is well.”

Mohler’s entire address is available in audio and video format at www.sbts.edu and a complete manuscript may be accessed at www.albertmohler.com.
Moore speaks at first-ever Desiring God Parenting Seminar

By Robert E. Sagers

Moore speaks at first-ever Desiring God Parenting Seminar

What does parenting have to do with the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Absolutely everything, contends Russell D. Moore.

Moore, dean of the School of Theology and senior vice president for academic administration at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, spoke at the first-ever Desiring God Parenting Seminar hosted by Bethlehem Baptist Church, March 5-6, in Minneapolis, Minn. Desiring God is affiliated with the ministry of John Piper, Bethlehem Baptist Church’s pastor for preaching and vision.

Preaching on “Crucified Parenting” to more than 500 seminar registrants, Moore rooted the biblical call to parenting in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Preaching on what Joseph of Nazareth can teach families about raising God-imaging boys, Moore said that fathers provide for their sons identity, provision, protection and fidelity.

Calling on fathers to raise their sons to be masculine, Moore noted the difference between satanic masculinity and Christ-honoring masculinity. Satanic masculinity, he said, seeks to sever fathers from sons. At Calvary, however, even when it seemed that God had abandoned his Son, Jesus cried out in prayer to His Father. Just as sons will identify with their earthly fathers, so Christians are to identify with the Son of God in relating to their heavenly Father.

Likewise, Mary of Nazareth has much to teach families about how to raise God-exalting girls, Moore said. Mary’s life exemplified honor, submission, power and a lack of fear.

Speaking to the issue of the so-called “silent years” of Jesus — that is, the lack of explicit biblical reference to Jesus’ life between the ages of 12 and 30 — Moore argued that the Bible does display Jesus in every stage of life: as an embryo, infant, child and adult. Churches, then, ought to be training children to be adults, not focusing on the adolescent teenage years as a separate life stage category, he said.

AFL 2010

Southern Seminary welcomed 600 people to hear about embodying the Gospel by responding to the cry of the orphan at the 2010 Adopting for Life conference.

AFL 2010 speakers included: Russell D. Moore, David Platt, Dan Cruver, Eric Bancroft, Justin Taylor, Jedd Medefind and Mariel Sandberg.
CHECK OUT SBTS.EDU/EVENTS

Coming attractions below! Check out SBTS.EDU/EVENTS for details about the annual events on the campus of Southern Seminary.

- Give Me An Answer Student and Collegiate
- Southern Seminary and Boyce College Preview
- Vigilance
- Connecting Church and Home
- Andrew Fuller Conference
- Fall Festival
- Refo 500

SBTS.EDU/EVENTS is your primary resource for information on all of Southern Seminary’s upcoming events.
Jones’ book receives Christian retailers’ award

By Jeff Robinson


Jones’ 2009 work received the 2010 Christian Retailers’ Choice Award in the Christian education category. Jones’ book, from Rose Publishing, provides a 220-page summary of the entire sweep of church history from the time of Christ through the modern day.

Gretchen Goldsmith, CEO of Rose Publishing, said she is deeply pleased to see Jones’ work honored in the broader community of Christian publishers. Jones serves as associate professor of leadership and church ministry at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

“Dr. Jones has a unique ability to communicate theological material in a way that is accessible and lay-friendly,” she said. “His blend of humor and solid historical research contributed to the appeal of ‘Christian History Made Easy.’

“He envisioned a book that would combine the best of church history for people living in the Internet age and this wonderful full-color book is the result. We at Rose Publishing congratulate Dr. Jones. We have heard from many readers who agree with the judges’ criteria, expressing the ‘impact it had... including the ability to speak to hearts and evoke emotion, open minds to new ways of thinking and encourage and affirm Christ-like living.’”

Jones has authored numerous books, including “Conspiracies and the Cross,” and “Misquoting Truth: A Guide to the Fallacies of Bart Ehrman’s ‘Misquoting Jesus.’”

The work for the primer on church history began many years ago, Jones said.

“This book developed very differently than any other book I have written,” he said. “This book actually began more than a decade ago, when I served as the pastor of a tiny congregation in rural Missouri. This was a church of farmers and factory-workers with a few school-teachers and military personnel mixed in. I wanted them to dig deeply into theology; so, I worked to discover how I could teach them theology in a way that was enjoyable and interesting.

“What I discovered was that, when I told the stories behind theological truths, the people were fascinated and they saw the real-life relevance of theology. So, I developed a series of studies that taught theology by working through the stories of church history from the apostles to today. I photocopied the study and, as much as possible, included pictures, maps, questions and quite a bit of humor.

“Even then, I envisioned a full-color version of the study that would look like some of the colorful, slick-paged books about military vehicles that I used to devour as a child. This past year, I had the opportunity to turn that vision into a reality in the book that’s become ‘Christian History Made Easy.’”
“Run to Win the Prize”
Author - Thomas R. Schreiner

This volume, based on Thomas R. Schreiner’s lectures at the Twelfth Oak Hill Annual School of Theology, explores the meaning of the warning passages in the New Testament and the role they play in a believer’s perseverance in the faith.


As the title suggests, Schreiner, James Buchanan Harrison Professor of New Testament Interpretation and associate dean of Scripture and interpretation at Southern Seminary, argues that the Christian life is, as Bunyan expresses it so well in “The Pilgrim’s Progress,” like a marathon race which the believer must run all the way to the end to be saved. He asserts that warnings in Scripture, like those found throughout Hebrews, are designed as means that God uses to cause believers to persevere in the faith; the genuine believer cannot fall away and he will persevere by God’s grace, but he must run for it.

Early in “Run to Win the Prize,” Schreiner interacts with other views of warning passages such as the Arminian belief that genuine believers can lose their salvation and another popular approach, which asserts that the warning passages point to the mere loss of rewards in heaven. Seeing the warning passages as they really are, Schreiner argues, promotes the holiness of life that Scripture calls believers to. Schreiner believes the rewards in view in the New Testament such as “the crown of life” are always eternal life.

“NT authors did not promise an eschatological reward regardless of how someone lived in the future. Instead, we have seen that both new believers and experienced believers are urged to persevere to receive eternal life... this was commonplace in the New Testament.”

“40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible”
Author - Robert L. Plummer


Plummer’s book provides answers to commonly asked questions on topics like inerrancy, canon and interpretation and other queries on biblical issues and occurrences.

One week after it was released, the book was ranked No. 1 among hermeneutics books on Amazon.com.

Darrell Bock, research professor of New Testament studies at Dallas Theological Seminary, said of Plummer’s book, “Read this excellent primer and read the Bible better as a result.”

“Well written and carefully researched, I believe “40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible” is an invaluable resource for anyone who has serious questions about the Holy Scriptures,” said Daniel Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, of Plummer’s work.

“40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible” is available in LifeWay Christian Stores and at Amazon.com.
Haitian earthquake impacts SBTS and Boyce College communities

By Emily Griffin

Boyce student and missionary Abel Barthelemy is from the south-Haiti port city of Jacmel. Months after a 7.0 magnitude earthquake shook Haiti, Barthelemy is praising God his family is safe, but still hurts for his city. He speaks of the natural disaster in a concerned but calm tone, recognizing the Lord’s sovereignty over all situations.

“I think God is always good, He is always sovereign. He is loving and compassionate, but because of the sin of our world we have consequences,” Barthelemy said. “He is in control, and He shows that.”

Just 25 miles from Haiti’s capital city Port-au-Prince, the Jan. 12 earthquake struck Jacmel with equal force, and two weeks after the quake the city continued to wait for any kind of aid. Many of Jacmel’s 35,000 residents were living in tents or some kind of makeshift structure. The majority of Barthelemy and his wife Cerette’s family members were fortunate to have tents, but many Haitians found themselves homeless. Barthelemy continues to praise God that his immediate family wasn’t physically harmed in the quake, but asks for prayers as his country faces a long recovery.

“God has put them there for a reason. God is powerful, and He alone is sovereign,” Barthelemy said. “I trust that they will be okay.”

Barthelemy has three semesters remaining at Boyce, and he already feels God is calling him back to his native land to continue his missions work.

“This is a wonderful school; all the professors have a great, deep conscience for the ministry and the Gospel. There is no better place to be,” he said. “There is no good school to train ministers in Haiti, but my heart wants to go back.

“Thank you to all professors and staff at Boyce and Southern who are praying for me and have given me strength through prayer. Thank you to the Southern Baptist Convention for the relief effort. I also thank all Americans who are giving with a compassionate heart.”

Buckets of Hope

In response to the Haiti quake The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary worked in partnership with Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief to help alleviate the hunger needs in the earthquake-ravaged nation.

Southern Seminary served as the final collection point for the North American Mission Board’s “Buckets of Hope” program in the state of Kentucky. NAMB asked churches and individuals to buy specific food items to put in a five-gallon bucket. Those buckets were then taken to regional collection points and delivered to the central collection location, Southern Seminary.

Southern and Boyce College student, faculty and staff volunteers gathered to load the buckets, which contained enough food to feed a Haitian family for a week, onto pallets and shrink-wrap the pallets. Once the buckets were packed, NAMB transported them to Hialeah, Fla., where the Florida Baptist Convention organized their delivery to Haiti.
Theology is about spiritual warfare and the Great Commission. That’s why the School of Theology has as its central focus the glory of God and the preparation of His servants. The School of Theology purposefully offers theological education to train students to be pastors, teachers and biblical counselors who faithfully uphold the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
He then found himself in a rural pastorate in which there was a woman whose husband had just been killed in a head-on collision. He told me how this widow looked up at him and with tears in her eyes said “Why did God let this happen to me?” He said that at that moment he realized that he had nothing to say. Southern Seminary is training pastors and church leaders and ministers who would have had something to say.

If you’re interested in a career — a boring, middle-class, American ministry career — then the School of Theology is not the place for you. But if you’re ready to declare war on the principalities and powers of evil with a Gospel that saves and transforms and changes the entire world — then I am ready to be your dean.

The School of Theology is ready for you. The oldest of Southern Seminary’s three schools, the School of Theology is central to the mission of Southern Seminary. We exist to train pastors and other ministers in biblical knowledge, preaching and teaching, and to prepare them to execute the Gospel ministry more faithfully in the local church. Students in the School of Theology receive a rigorous, high caliber education and are also trained practically — in how to communicate and in how to disciple others in the context of the local church.

We have a world class faculty of scholars who write books, give lectures and who are well known throughout the world — but more than that, they’ll know you. They’ll pour their lives into you, shaping you and forming you into being the kind of minister that the church needs (www.sbts.edu/theology/faculty).

Is God calling you to boldly proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

If God’s calling you to take up a copy of the Word and stand up and plead with sinners to be reconciled to God in Jesus Christ, then you ought to prepare. I encourage you to pray about preparing for ministry in a place where you will go through the most rigorous training you can find in order to proclaim the Kingdom of Christ faithfully — the School of Theology at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (www.sbts.edu/theology).

Blog: www.russellmoore.com
Facebook: facebook.com/russellmoore
Twitter: twitter.com/drmoore
Should you join the corps of students in the School of Theology at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary? It depends. If you desire to be a biblically-convicted, Spirit-filled minister of the Gospel of Jesus, ready to honor the Great Commission and fight in the spiritual battle that takes place all around us, then the answer is yes. Theology at Southern is centered on glorifying God, fulfilling the Great Commission and preparing students to advance the Gospel against the principalities and powers of evil.

At the School of Theology we train preachers and teachers, pastors and missionaries, counselors and apologists: every possible calling to press the claims of Christ to the nations. At the School of Theology, we talk tirelessly about the Great Commission. Our students and faculty share the Gospel, plant churches and disciple new believers (www.sbts.edu/theology).

The School of Theology is led by a world-renowned faculty. If you study anywhere else, you’ll be assigned books written by our professors. We submerge every student in the Word of God. You will know how the Bible fits together and how to teach it, preach it, counsel from it, evangelize with it and defend it.

Master of divinity
The School of Theology’s master of divinity (M.Div.) is the foundational graduate degree program for ministry preparation. We have designed the program to give students comprehensive knowledge in biblical and theological studies and to help them develop the specific skills needed for effective ministry. The master of divinity is structured to meet the needs and interests of today’s students, with a variety of different concentrations: Christian ministry, pastoral studies, biblical and theological studies, biblical counseling, and worldview and apologetics.

The Christian ministry emphasis is our “flex track,” enabling you to design the program to best suit your ministry objectives and callings. The pastoral studies emphasis will shape you into a well-rounded shepherd of the flock, ready for a lifetime of ministry in the trenches. The biblical and theological studies emphasis is a rigorous boot camp centered on Greek and Hebrew courses. The School of Theology has as its central focus the glory of God and the preparation of His servants. Our world-class faculty will pour their lives into you, shaping you and forming you into the kind of leader that the world needs.
In addition to being a professor of Christian apologetics at Southern Seminary, Mark T. Coppenger is pastor of Evanston (Illinois) Baptist Church, Baptist Campus Ministry director of Northwestern University and managing editor of the online Kairos Journal.

for serious scholars, equipping the next generation of expert pastors, theologians and biblical apologists.

The biblical counseling emphasis is a one-of-a-kind program training pastors and counselors how to meet real human needs. We believe the Word of God is sufficient to address every skirmish in the life of every soul. The worldview and apologetics concentration is focused on studies that will prepare ministers to engage culture with a compelling Christian worldview.

Master of arts
The master of arts from the School of Theology is designed for men and women called to counseling ministry or for persons who, while not preparing for a ministry vocation, require or desire ministry training. Southern offers a master of arts in theological studies and biblical counseling and coursework can be completed in two years.

Master of theology
The School of Theology’s master of theology degree (Th.M.) is a one-year program that offers students an opportunity to gain greater mastery in an area of study once they have completed their M.Div. The Th.M. May be pursued in any of the School of Theology’s four major divisions: Scripture and interpretation, theology and tradition, worldview and culture, and ministry and proclamation.

The School of Theology does offer the Th.M. in a modular format, which allows you to complete your degree without relocating to Louisville. This format combines the academic quality you expect with the scheduling flexibility you want. Additionally, up to 12 hours of doctoral level credits can be transferred into a Southern Seminary doctor of philosophy program if the student is later admitted to the program.
Doctor of ministry
The School of Theology’s doctor of ministry, (D.Min.), degree is an advanced professional doctoral degree. The Southern Seminary D.Min. is offered in four concentrations: expository preaching, biblical counseling, biblical spirituality and applied theology. Students in the program are expected to pursue their D.Min. concurrently with full-time vocational involvement in ministry.

The School of Theology designed the doctor of ministry program with many distinctive features. Participation in interdisciplinary academic seminars and learning practical applications of classroom teaching further equip doctor of ministry students for faithful ministry.

Doctor of philosophy
Research doctoral programs in the School of Theology are designed to give students of superior ability an opportunity to prepare themselves thoroughly for effective leadership in Christian thought and life, especially pastors and teachers. Doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) areas of study include Old and New Testament, biblical studies, church history and historical theology, systematic theology, Christian philosophy, Christianity and the arts, Christian ethics, Christian apologetics and worldview studies, biblical counseling, Christian preaching, pastoral theology and biblical spirituality. The School of Theology does offer the Ph.D. in a modular format, which allows you to complete your degree without relocating to Louisville.

Will you join us?
At Southern Seminary, we lead and equip students to be a part of something bigger than themselves. The Gospel is for the world, and Southern exists to advance the Gospel. Students at Southern are surrounded by brothers and sisters in Christ, who share the same passion to be faithful Gospel ministers to the glory of God.
Master of Divinity

Christian Ministry
Pastoral Studies
Biblical and Theological Studies
Biblical Counseling
Worldview and Apologetics

Advanced Master of Divinity

Master of Arts

Theological Studies
Biblical Counseling

Doctor of Ministry

Applied Theology
Expository Preaching
Biblical Spirituality
Biblical Counseling

Master of Theology

Doctor of Philosophy

Old Testament
New Testament
Biblical Studies
Church History and Historical Theology
Systematic Theology
Christian Philosophy
Christianity and the Arts
Christian Ethics
Christian Apologetics and Worldview Studies
Biblical Counseling
Christian Preaching
Pastoral Theology
Biblical Spirituality

Diploma

Theology
God gave you THE GIFT.
We can help you refine it.

the Southern Seminary D. Min.
in Expository Preaching

www.sbts.edu/dmin
Schreiner, who serves as the James Buchanan Harrison Professor of New Testament Interpretation at SBTS, was elected to the faculty during the early years of the conservative resurgence at Southern after spending 11 years at Bethel Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., where he also served as an elder at Bethlehem Baptist Church.

“It was the vision of Southern, the vision of Dr. Mohler, that this was to be an institution that was theologically sound, that was to be biblically-based, that drew me here,” Schreiner said. “I didn’t know of another place that was doing what we are doing here, so that was very exciting to me. Also, there was camaraderie on the faculty, not that we agree on everything, but we agree on the main things and I love that. We have a shared theological vision.”

Fourteen years later, Schreiner is one of Southern Seminary’s most accomplished and beloved professors among students and faculty alike. He has published numerous important books including “Paul, Apostle of God’s Glory in Christ: A Pauline Theology” and his 2008 magnum opus, the massive “New Testament Theology.” Along the way, Schreiner has become one of the most respected New Testament scholars in the evangelical world.

But it is not primarily the publishing resume that has made him one of Southern’s most beloved professors. Schreiner, who also serves as preaching pastor at Clifton Baptist Church, can often be found meeting one-on-one with students in the cafeteria or having lunch with a group of students and talking about theology, personal life or even sports.

“Unfortunately, you can’t get to know every
student at Southern because of our size, but I believe it is very important for professors to spend time with students,” Schreiner said.

“We see that human touch is very important and we see it in the Bible; Paul says, ‘I am writing this epistle, but I want this face-to-face contact with you.’ I think if we only taught students and had no interest in them, we would be less than biblical in terms of forming and shaping people. So, I think that is an important part of education.”

In his years at Southern, Schreiner has seen the student body double in size as young Southern Baptists and evangelicals have come to desire sound doctrine and confessional theology in droves.

While Schreiner finds the growth encouraging, he says it is the quality and not so much the quantity of students at Southern that continues to amaze him.

“What encourages me the most is the type of students we have at Southern. They are a great blessing,” he said. “They are serious, they are theologically-driven, they are good students, they are thoughtful and they are godly. It is a great joy to teach our students. Our students are so eager to learn and that is a great blessing. It is amazing how many great students we have, and I’m not just talking about great academically, I’m talking about their hearts too — the kind of people they are. I’m really spoiled because our students are so good.”

Thomas R. Schreiner joined Southern Seminary faculty after serving at Bethel Theological Seminary. Schreiner is the author or editor of several books including: “Interpreting the Pauline Epistles” and “The Race Set Before Us: A Biblical Theology of Perseverance and Assurance.”
With full confidence in the truthfulness of the Christian faith, Josh McDowell encouraged his son to wrestle with the faith and test it against others. The younger McDowell read Christian apologists and he read widely skeptics such as Michael Martin, who wrote “The Case Against Christianity” and Dan Barker, author of “Losing Faith.”

But like his dad, who experienced similar struggles as a youth, Sean McDowell could not escape the first-century man from Galilee who was more than a carpenter. “While there is much compelling evidence for Christianity, I just couldn’t explain away Jesus of Nazareth,” Sean McDowell said. “His public ministry was only three years. He never wrote a book. He had no political or military power. And he had little money. And yet he turned the world upside down through his teachings.

“The claims Jesus made struck me as utterly profound. He didn’t just claim to know how to get to God — he claimed to be God. He didn’t claim simply to know truth — he claimed to be the truth (John 14:6). Jesus asked his disciples, ‘Who do you say I am?’ I realized that how I answered this question was the most important thing about me. The evidence was compelling that Jesus really was who he claimed to be.”

Today, Sean McDowell is in his 12th year in the ministry and is an apologist in his own right. He travels and debates skeptics, writes on Christian apologetics, has a speaking ministry and serves full-time as a Bible teacher and department head at Capistrano Valley Christian Schools in San Juan Capistrano, Calif. Sean and his wife have two children, Scottie and Shauna.

This spring, he began working toward a doctor of philosophy in apologetics and worldview at Southern while maintaining his teaching ministry at Capistrano in California.

“I love apologetics and SBTS offers the best Ph.D. program in apologetics and worldview studies that was conducive to my schedule,” he said. “The flexible-schedule was a huge part of the draw for me. “Many of my former professors also spoke highly of SBTS as well as the graduates I met. I would like to continue what I am doing (speaking, writing, teaching), but expand to teaching on the college level as well. I’m also hoping a Ph.D. will open some more doors for public debates.”
Alumnus
Adam Dooley
Master of divinity and doctor of philosophy graduate of the School of Theology

It is not uncommon for a student to arrive at Southern Seminary single and leave with a wife and children, but Adam Dooley’s matriculation here included one additional benefit that none others likely ever have: a professor who proposed marriage on his behalf.

It all began when Dooley visited the office of Hershael York, Victor and Louise Professor of Christian Preaching at Southern, and spoke candidly about his budding relationship with Heather. York filed away the information and acted on it after preaching in the church Dooley pastored as a student at Southern.

“Dr. York and his wife Tanya were certain Heather was the right woman for me,” Dooley said. “Sensing that I was nervous about proposing, Hershael picked up the phone, demanded Heather’s number, and got her on the line.

“I’ll never forget his words after he finally convinced her who he was: ‘Heather,’ he said, ‘If Adam were to ask you to marry him, would you say yes?’ Though she hesitated, he finally got a ‘yes’ from her, only to turn to me while on the phone and shout, ‘She promised she would say yes, do you want to ask her now?!’ We were engaged the next week.”

The couple was married in 2003 not long after Dooley completed his master of divinity at Southern. Dooley graduated from Southern with his doctor of philosophy in 2006 and moved to Red Bank, Tenn., a suburb of Chattanooga, where he was elected pastor of Red Bank Baptist Church.

“Red Bank Baptist Church is a traditional Baptist Church that has a long history of loving its pastors and supporting missions through the Southern Baptist Convention,” Dooley said. “Transitioning after a long tenured pastor is always challenging, but this congregation has willingly embraced our family.

“Our hearts are so mended together that we definitely consider Chattanooga home. Renewing our focus on evangelism and discipleship have been my two areas of focus since coming here. While helping a traditional congregation can be challenging, succeeding is very rewarding.”

The Dooley’s have one son, Carson Brent, born in 2007, and are expecting a second son in 2010. While they have found a home in east Tennessee, Dooley said they miss Southern Seminary.

“SBTS has forever shaped my theology, ministry and life,” he said. “Though it seemed like my seven years of study would never end, I look back on those days and wish that I could have just a little more time in such a wonderful place.”
The School of Church Ministries exists to equip God-called individuals for theologically-grounded and skillfully-practiced ministry in associate roles in the local church. For those whom God has called, The School of Church Ministries provides theologically-rich, vocationally-tested training in pastoral leadership, family discipleship and biblical worship.
The School of Church Ministries at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary exists to prepare individuals like you for theologically-grounded and skillfully-practiced discipleship in associate ministry roles in local churches.

The School of Church Ministries is committed to preparing God-called individuals to serve in the areas of biblical worship, family discipleship and pastoral leadership in local churches and denominational agencies at home and abroad (www.sbts.edu/scm).

If God has called you to be a worship pastor, consider pursuing a degree in worship leadership. Our curriculum teaches the core values of Biblical worship, pastoral leadership and musical excellence. The Institute for Christian Worship was founded on our campus, and serves students, faculty and local churches by providing lectures, workshops, guest speakers and other materials that focus on the biblical and historical foundations of Christian worship. (www.sbts.edu/church-ministries/institute-for-christian-worship).

The School of Church Ministries offers an invaluable opportunity for students to absorb first-hand knowledge from the leading professors and authors on family ministry. Infused in all of our degree programs is a commitment and strategy for reaching the generations through family discipleship. In addition, we offer several degrees allowing you to specialize in reaching the families of the 21st century.

Love for the local church is at the core of the School of Church Ministries which is why pastoral leadership is emphasized throughout all of our degree programs. As a student preparing for ministry in the School of Church Ministries you will receive extensive training in topics like teaching, organizational leadership, and change and conflict management.

The School of Church Ministries trains women to serve local churches in the teaching roles that the apostle Paul describes in Titus 2. We recognize the vital role that women play in the work of God’s Kingdom. To that end, we’ve created bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral level programs and ministries to strengthen women’s leadership and best use their gifts in the local church (www.sbts.edu/women).

At the School of Church Ministries we equip leaders like you for real life ministry. If has God has called you to one of the associate roles in the local church, we invite you to apply today and begin to saturate yourself in biblical teaching and practical training (www.sbts.edu/admissions).

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RandyStinson
Twitter: twitter.com/randystinson
Perhaps the call came a few weeks ago as you read a certain passage of Scripture. Maybe it became clear decades ago through the proclamation of God’s Word in a worship celebration. Or perhaps the call grew over a period of months as you prayed for guidance in your vocation. Whatever the context of your calling, one truth is clear: God has called you to ministry. Maybe God has even called you to minister in a specific role or with a particular group of people — in an administrative or worship leadership role, or perhaps with families, college students, youth or children.

Your calling is clear — but now, you see your need for training. You are ready to hone your calling and to cultivate the gifts that God has placed in your life, and you don’t want to waste this opportunity. You’re looking forward to learning from seasoned practitioners who have invested their lives in ministry. Yet, you also want to develop personal relationships with the professors whose books are reshaping entire fields of study. You long for preparation that is both practical and profound.

If that’s the sort of training that you’re looking for, take a close look at the School of Church Ministries at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. In the School of Church Ministries, we equip God-called leaders for real-life ministry. We can’t call you to ministry — only God can do that. But, for those whom God has called, we provide theologically-grounded, vocationally-tested training with an emphasis on pastoral leadership, family discipleship and biblical worship.

We …
A Legacy of Excellence
More than a century ago, it was Southern Seminary that launched the world’s first seminary-based program in educational ministry. The purpose of this program was to train pastors to lead educational programs with the highest degree of excellence. In 1953, the Department of Religious Education became the School of Religious Education; in 2001, in response to churches’ expanding expectations for educational ministry, this school became the School of Leadership and Church Ministry. In 2009, the School of
Leadership and Church Ministry merged with the School of Church Music and Worship to form the School of Church Ministries, a new school dedicated to training God-called ministers in the areas of *pastoral leadership, family discipleship and biblical worship*.

**Equip Leaders**

**A Vision for Effective Ministry**

Our core values in the School of Church Ministries are simple: everything we do revolves around equipping God-called ministers to lead in biblical worship, family discipleship and pastoral leadership.

*Biblical worship* centers not on fleeting spiritual experiences but on the character of God; that’s why our worship leadership degrees cultivate the knowledge and skills that are needed to disciple people through worship, guiding worshipers toward the glory of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And you will be trained not simply as a musical performer but also as a skilled teacher of God’s Word.

Throughout Scripture, God calls parents to function as primary faith-trainers in their children’s lives. That calling is what has driven Southern Seminary to become the leading institution in the world in reshaping the field of family ministry. That’s also why every student in the School of Church Ministries — whether trained as a worship leader or executive pastor, collegiate minister or student pastor, women’s leader or Christian educator — learns to function as a leader in *family discipleship*, preparing parents to disciple their children.

Scripture establishes an explicit expectation that pastors must be skilled leaders and teachers. Pastors should be “able to teach” and to “care for God’s church” (1 Tim. 3:2, 5); therefore, students preparing for pastoral ministry in the
School of Church Ministries receive extensive preparation in *pastoral leadership*. This includes not only training in dealing with church conflicts and organizational transitions but also equipping to serve as a skilled teacher of God’s Word.

**For Real-Life Ministry**

**A Love for the Local Church**

Professors in the School of Church Ministries are more than mere instructors; they are experienced ministers. What students receive in the School of Church Ministries isn’t simply research about how someone somewhere might do ministry. Students gain the wisdom of present and past ministry experience from the hearts of seasoned practitioners. That’s because professors in the School of Church Ministries view their responsibility to local churches as a sacred trust — and their passion for local-church ministry began long before they joined this faculty.

Faculty members in the School of Church Ministries have spent decades in the trenches of real-life ministry, and they bring into the classroom a wealth of effective, vocational ministry experience. Even now, many professors continue to serve in pastoral roles in local congregations.

If the deepest longing of your heart is to sequester yourself in an ivory tower, filled with lofty ideas but separated from the real-life struggles of God’s people, the School of Church Ministries at Southern Seminary is not the place for you. But, if you have been called to step into the struggles of real people and to speak the words of God, the School of Church Ministries is precisely the place where you will receive the training that you need.
School of Church Ministries

Master of Divinity

Children’s & Family Ministry
Church Ministries
College Ministry
Discipleship & Family Ministry*
Leadership
Women's Leadership*
Worship Leadership*
Youth & Family Ministry*

Advanced Master of Divinity

Master of Church Music

Master of Arts

Students can choose to focus in one of the following areas:
Children’s & Family Ministry
Christian Education
College Ministry
Discipleship & Family Ministry*
Leadership
Women’s Leadership*
Worship Leadership*
Youth & Family Ministry*

Master of Theology & Doctor of Philosophy

Family Ministry
Higher Education
Leadership

Doctor of Educational Ministry

Family Ministry
Leadership
Biblical Counseling
Evangelism and Church Growth
Missions Leadership

Doctor of Music Ministry

Doctor of Musical Arts

Doctor of Ministry

Family Ministry
Leadership

Diploma

Worship Leadership
Church Ministries

*These degrees allow students to choose an additional emphasis as a minor.
For specific degree programs, please visit our website www.sbts.edu/scm
Throughout Scripture, God calls parents to function as primary faith-trainers in their children’s lives. That calling is what has driven the School of Church Ministries at Southern Seminary to become the leading institution in the world in reshaping the field of family ministry. Programs include the master of arts and master of divinity in discipleship and family ministry as well as the doctor of ministry and doctor of philosophy in family ministry.

Enroll today and become a leader in family discipleship and fulfill your calling to prepare parents to disciple their children.

www.sbts.edu/scm
“There is a deep need among men and women for a focus on their home lives, training them how to guide their families and how to relate to family members in constructive and godly ways,” said Jones, who also serves as children’s ministry coordinator and editor of The Journal of Family Ministry at Southern.

“Too often, churches have expected families somehow to engage in discipleship together in their homes, without ever training them for this task in the church. The Family Equipping Ministry Model at Southern equips churches to equip families to engage in Gospel-centered discipleship first in their own households and then beyond their households.”

Jones joined Southern’s faculty in 2007 after 15 years of local church ministry. He served as senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Rolling Hills in Tulsa, Okla., from 2003-2007 after serving as the church’s minister to students, and before that for six years as pastor of Green Ridge Baptist Church in Green Ridge, Mo.

Jones developed the definition of the Family Equipping Ministry Model used at Southern in his “Perspectives on Family Ministry” (B&H Academic, 2009): the process of intentionally and persistently realigning a congregation’s proclamation and practices so that parents — and especially fathers — are acknowledged, trained and held accountable as the persons primarily responsible for the discipleship of their children.

“According to one recent survey, 85 percent of parents admitted that they were responsible for their children’s spiritual growth,” Jones said, “yet, with few exceptions, these parents had no plans for their children’s spiritual training and had experienced no training or accountability in their churches for such a task.”

Jones said that local church leaders must prioritize teaching parents about their responsibility to train their children.

“Many parents aren’t actively rebelling against...
God’s expectation — they’ve simply never been informed of their responsibility,” he said. “The church has a responsibility to train parents, especially fathers, to plan and to engage in an active and intentional discipleship process with their children.”

Jones said parents and local church leaders working together will provide children with the focused, biblical upbringing they need.

“To envision the family-equipping model in action, imagine a river,” he said. “The river represents children’s growth and development. One riverbank signifies the church, and the other riverbank typifies the family. Both banks are necessary for the river to flow forward with focus and power. Unless both riverbanks support the child’s development, you are likely to end up with the destructive power of a deluge instead of the constructive possibilities of a river.”

Jones co-authored “The Da Vinci Codebreaker” and has written several other books himself, including “Christian History Made Easy,” “Prayers Jesus Prayed,” “Finding God in a Galaxy Far Far Away” and “Misquoting Truth.”

Jones and his wife Rayann have been married for nearly 16 years. In 2003, they adopted Hannah Rachel Jones and Jones said they are planning to adopt another child in the upcoming year.

Jones said one key thing that he wants students to take away from his courses is to invest in and embrace the place of ministry God gives them.

“I spend a great deal of time talking about making changes and managing conflict wherever God places you,” he said. “There’s a reason for this: I want students to love whatever church they are serving — not continually leaning over the fence, looking for someplace that may be a little easier, a little trendier or a bit bigger. Wherever they go, I hope that they root their lives in that particular community and learn to love that community, seeking the peace of that place (Jer 29:5-7).”
For pastor and author Steve Wright, the answer to that question is to further his ministry opportunities and because of the training available at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

“Eight years ago the Lord began to awaken a burden within my heart for the Gospel, the family and the church,” said Wright, pastor of parent and family discipleship at Providence Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C. “When I realized that this burden would require greater theological training, I was encouraged by the many seminary options before me, (but) Southern was leading the way in training local church pastors to treasure the Gospel in the church and at home.

Over the years, Wright developed a friendship with Randy L. Stinson, dean of Southern’s School of Church Ministries. When Wright decided that he wanted to pursue a further degree in family ministry, Southern became his top option. In January 2010, he began work on a Ph.D. in philosophy of family ministry in the School of Church Ministries at Southern.

“Beyond the theological training, it was the transparent relationships that the professors sought to develop beyond the classroom that attracted me to Southern. I haven’t taken a class yet where the professor hasn’t invited me into their home for dinner with their family,” Wright said. “My ministry influence has been impacted greatly by the way these men have modeled community and the Gospel.”

Wright began serving at Providence in 1999, most recently as assistant pastor of student ministries. Wright now oversees ministry from infancy through high school at Providence. Wright is the author of the youth and family ministry books “ReThink” and “ApParent Privilege.”

Originally from Gainesville, Ga., Wright and his wife, Tina, were married in 1989. They are the parents of three children — Sara, William and Tyler.

Wright said the goal of his doctoral degree is to further equip him for local church ministry.

“For me, there is no promotion beyond working at the local church — that is the highest calling that I could ever wish for,” he said. “Being able to serve the bride of Christ is a blessing to me. Through the training I am receiving (at Southern), the hope is that as my life is being transformed and I am learning and growing, I will be able to serve the bride to a greater capacity.”
Alumnus
Dan Odle
Master of divinity graduate of the School Church Ministries

In Southern Seminary’s new School of Church Ministries, the training of worship pastors combines the best of musical preparation with deep and practical theological and pastoral equipping, alum Dan Odle said, enabling men to fill roles in today’s churches.

Odle graduated from Southern in 2002 with a master of divinity degree in church music and was a part of the committee that shaped the direction of musical training in Southern’s School of Church Ministries. Odle also serves as adjunct professor of worship at Boyce College and Southern and often leads music in the seminary’s chapel services.

“In the School of Church Ministries it is not an either/or, but a both/and of musical and pastoral development,” said Odle, who serves as pastor of music and worship at Highview Baptist Church’s Fegenbush Campus in Louisville. “In the same way that pastors learn Greek and Hebrew, there is a sense in which music ministers have to learn classical music education to be able to speak the language of music, but we then must continue on to how that works itself out in the church today. We have sought to take the best of classical education and combine it with the best of contemporary practice.”

In addition to thorough musical training, students with a worship leadership emphasis in the School of Church Ministries spend significant time receiving theological and pastoral training. Odle said such training is essential for worship leaders.

“There is a new emphasis for the minister of music (in churches today) that the word minister is the most important part of that description,” he said. “Music ministers are now doing hospital visits, counseling and other pastoral duties. We do use music as a tool but it is all done under the framework of pastoral ministry.

“A music pastor is in many respects a theological filter for the congregation in the sense that our songs teach about who God is. It is possible to choose songs that sound good, but that don’t lead the congregation in singing songs with sound theology.”

Odle will celebrate 10 years of ministry at Highview this summer as he began serving as an intern there in the summer of 2000. He has been married to Stephanie for 16 years and they have five children: Bekah, Jacob, Jaron, Micah and Ella.

Odle said the relationships he developed with professors at Southern are ones he expects to keep for the rest of his life.

“Perhaps the most impacting thing about my time at Southern was the personal interest my professors took in my family and me,” he said. “They were not just teaching, but ministering to me outside the classroom as well as through prayer, and encouragement and instruction.”
Has God called you to be a worship pastor?

If so, consider pursuing a degree in Worship Leadership from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Southern’s graduate programs teach the core values of Biblical worship, pastoral leadership and musical excellence while preparing leaders like you for service to the churches of the 21st century.

To learn more, visit us at www.sbts.edu.
The Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism is committed to making disciples of Christ in the local church, North America and around the world. Knowing that 1.6 billion people have no access to the Gospel, the Billy Graham School seeks to equip pastors, teachers, evangelists, missionaries, church planters and denominational workers for the purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission.
As a student in the Billy Graham School, you will have the privilege of studying with the finest Great Commission faculty in the world. Our professors have solid academic credentials and full-time local church and mission field experience. We expect all of our faculty members to be actively doing ministry as they teach ministry foundations and practical skills. On average, our faculty members serve overseas on short-term mission trips a combined 35 weeks per year, and many of our faculty members also serve as pastors or leaders in local churches.

At the Billy Graham School, our faculty seek for every graduate to be a called disciple and minister of Jesus Christ, serving His Kingdom; to possess an abiding love for people and the work of Christian ministry in the context of the church; to bear witness to the truth of Holy Scripture; to maintain the historic principles of the Christian faith and of the Baptist heritage and to learn and do Great Commission ministries in the areas of missions and evangelism.

Achieving these goals involves far more than merely reading textbooks. Through local, national and international mission opportunities our students share the Gospel with lost men and women. Additionally, each year the Billy Graham School extends invitations to international missionaries to join our faculty as adjunct and visiting professors while they are stateside. Local church pastors and leaders also join us in the classroom to share their experiences. Billy Graham School students use these unique opportunities to reap the knowledge gained through these experiences.

I am glad that you are considering joining the student body of the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism. Our graduates are serving God faithfully as pastors, church staff members, North American church planters, international missionaries, denominational employees, college and seminary professors and well-equipped laypersons. Perhaps you will be the next graduate to carry on this tradition. Apply today at www.sbts.edu/admissions.

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Blog: chucklawless.com
As you consider enrolling in seminary, ponder these scenarios:

- **New believers in the Far East plead for biblical, practical training.**
- **A local church pastor needs help in leading his church to focus more on evangelism.**
- **Missionaries in the Pacific Rim are seeking biblically appropriate ways to connect with and evangelize Muslims.**
- **Church planters in Canada face the influence of relativism in Canadian culture.**
- **A pastor in the Northeast is struggling to reach Northeasterners who publicly stand against Christian values in the name of tolerance.**
- **In a city of eight million people, only a handful of strong evangelical churches exist.**
- **A local church layman wants to be equipped to evangelize and disciple his co-workers.**
- **A church staff member desires to create a prayer training module based on previous spiritual awakenings in North America.**

The Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary exists to prepare leaders like you to address such needs as these. At the Billy Graham School, the faculty works to produce leaders who are biblically grounded and practically trained to do the work of the Great Commission (www.sbts.edu/bgs/faculty).

We seek to equip students for ministry as pastors, teachers, evangelists, missionaries, urban ministers, church planters and denominational workers. The Billy Graham School seeks to render training that is foundational for all other church-related ministries that emphasize missions, evangelism and church growth.

The wide spectrum within which Christian ministers function necessitates both comprehensive and highly specialized education. To meet the demand for comprehensiveness, students in the Billy Graham School complete courses and seminars that will enable them to think theologically and to make practical application. To meet the demand for specialization, each Billy Graham School student has the opportunity to focus his or her interests in an area of vocational preparation including missions, evangelism, church planting, Black church and urban ministry, church growth, communications, world religions and pastoral ministry (www.sbts.edu/bgs/degree-programs).

**Master of arts**
The Billy Graham School offers the master of arts in theological studies in two concentrations:
lay leadership and intercultural leadership.

If you are seeking a degree that will provide biblical, theological, historical and practical training enabling you for lay ministry in the local church, then the master of arts in theological studies-lay leadership (MATS) is ideal for you. The purpose of this degree is to provide ministry training for those persons who are not preparing for a professional ministry vocation. Like all programs in the Billy Graham School, the MATS program focuses on Great Commission studies and is built upon a biblical and theological foundation.

The master of arts in theological studies-intercultural leadership is a uniquely designed program to provide training for persons who are under appointment by the International Mission Board, the North American Mission Board, or other approved Great Commission groups and are currently serving on the mission field. If you are interested in this program, please note that admission is contingent upon appointment status as well as the approval of the missions agency (www.sbts.edu/bgs).

The master of arts in missiology is a graduate degree designed to provide training for missionaries and others who serve or plan to serve in intercultural ministry and church multiplication positions.

Master of divinity

The Billy Graham School offers the master of divinity in missions, evangelism and church growth (M.Div.) in several distinct concentrations: Great Commission ministries, applied apologetics, Black church and urban ministry, intercultural youth ministries, itinerant evangelism, missions, North American church planting, pastor, international church planting and missions, and Bible translation.

Each concentration of the M.Div. is built upon a core curriculum steeped in church history, systematic theology, Greek, Hebrew, ethics, evangelism and missiology.

The Billy Graham School offers innovative programs to help you spend time on the North American and/or international mission field. Our “2+2/3 Program” provides students with two years of on-campus study followed by two or three years of church planting and off-campus study to complete the M.Div. degree. The “Reverse 2+2 Program” offers students
just the opposite — two years of training and off-campus study followed by two years of on-campus study. Our “5/12 Program” offers a maximum of 12 hours of academic credit while serving on the international mission field for a minimum of five months. In addition, the Billy Graham School offers the M.Div. taught entirely in Spanish.

**Advanced programs**

The master of theology (Th.M.) program offers students the opportunity to gain greater mastery in an area of study than is normally possible at the M.Div. level. It may be pursued in any one of five areas of study in the Billy Graham School: evangelism and church growth, Christian missions, world religions, applied apologetics or Black church studies.

The professional doctoral degrees are the doctor of ministry degree (D.Min.) and the doctor of missiology degree (D.Miss.). Our D.Min. program allows students to study with a cohort of other pastors, staff members and missionaries who are facing real-life issues in their ministry. This approach was designed to promote collegiality and friendships, and it also provides a ready-made base of prayer support and encouragement.

The D.Miss. is an advanced professional research degree designed for missionary practitioners. Within the 48 hours of study, your program will culminate with a field research project that addresses a missiological issue in your particular missionary context.

The Billy Graham School’s doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) program equips students for advanced scholarship, effective teaching and service. The program requirements for the Ph.D. in the Billy Graham School vary from field to field ([www.sbts.edu/bgs](http://www.sbts.edu/bgs)), but the degree may be completed without relocating to Louisville.

**Serving God faithfully**

At the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism, we are committed to making disciples of Christ in the local church, in North America and around the world. The Billy Graham School faculty has a passion for fulfilling the Lord’s Great Commission, and each of our professors is ready to train you, encourage you and pray for you as you prepare to answer your calling.
Billy Graham School

Master of Divinity
- Great Commission Ministries
- Applied Apologetics
- Black Church and
  Urban Ministry
- Intercultural Youth Ministries
- Itinerant Evangelism
- Missions
- North American
  Church Planting
- International Church Planting
  (2+2/3 IMB)
- Missions and Bible Translation
- Pastor Concentration
- Advanced M. Div.
- Advanced M. Div.
  Church Planting
- Programa Hispano
- Urban Ministries

Doctor of Ministry
- Evangelism and Church Growth
- Missions Leadership
- Black Church Leadership
- Korean Church Leadership
- Urban Ministry

Doctor of Missiology

Master of Theology &
Doctor of Philosophy
- Evangelism and Church Growth
- Christian Missions
- Black Church Studies
- Applied Apologetics
- World Religions

Diploma
- Missions
- Theological Studies

Master of Arts
- Theological Studies -
  Lay Leadership
- Theological Studies -
  Intercultural Leadership
- Missiology

In an increasingly urban world, urgent mission and ministry work is often found in the city. The Dehoney Center for Urban Ministry Training at the Billy Graham School is facilitating urban mission and ministry training through research and connecting students to ministries in global urban centers. Dehoney Center opportunities include internships, interaction with field practitioners and urban mission opportunities, especially through a new partnership with Southern Baptists in New York City. www.sbts.edu/bgs
In an increasingly urban world, urgent mission and ministry work is often found in the city. The Dehoney Center for Urban Ministry Training at the Billy Graham School is facilitating urban mission and ministry training through research and connecting students to ministries in global urban centers. Dehoney Center opportunities include internships, interaction with field practitioners and urban mission opportunities, especially through a new partnership with Southern Baptists in New York City. www.sbts.edu/bgs

Haggai Habila, from Nigeria, is learning how to navigate his way through our post-Genesis 3 world. He turned to The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for his Master of Divinity. Driven by a passion for fulfilling the Great Commission and making disciples of Christ, Southern Seminary is empowering Haggai to answer his calling.

THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
WWW.SBTS.EDU

Haggai Habila
Follower of Christ, Husband, Son and Southern Student
Rainer convinced Beougher to visit the school before making a hasty decision. Beougher visited Southern Seminary and the Billy Graham School soon after — coming more for fellowship, not thinking that he’d be interested in a teaching position. After listening to Southern Seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr.’s vision for the institution and Rainer’s vision for the Billy Graham School, Beougher was convinced that he needed to be a part of the Billy Graham School.

“It was the kind of thing that the Lord’s hand was all over,” Beougher said. “Given the vision for the Billy Graham School, it was clear that this is where I needed to be.”

Fifteen years later Beougher is the Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth and associate dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism. Under the leadership of founding dean Rainer and present dean, Chuck Lawless, the Billy Graham School has grown numerically in terms of students and degree programs, but what pleases Beougher most is the school’s ever-strengthening passion for fulfilling the Great Commission — both in North America and around the world.

Beougher said the best part of teaching is when he can tell his students are absorbing the Scripture and allowing the Word to shape their thoughts and actions.

“The best part is when the light bulb comes on for the students, particularly in terms of evangelism,” Beougher said. “We have a lot of students who come here with great experience and great passion, and I am just basically trying to encourage them and say ‘keep doing that.’ But we have other students that come here that still need encouragement. I once had a student in my personal evangelism class that said ‘I have to admit I was sure I was going to hate this. The whole concept of evan-
gelism was terrifying to me and it’s not anymore.’

“People think that evangelism is not for them, and then they start to understand it and that is a transformation that happens from the inside out. That transformation is something that the Lord does, not me.”

Beougher said his conviction for practicing and teaching evangelism comes from Matthew 12:34, where Jesus says our mouth speaks out of that which fills our heart.

“When we are passionate about something, we talk about it,” he said. “That is why grandparents don’t need to have a training seminar about how to talk about their grandkids — they just do it naturally. If we’re in love with the Lord, if he is real in our lives, then our witness will just be an overflow of our walk with him. A lot of evangelism training focuses on methods — and there certainly is a place for that — but I think it ought to center on our relationship with Christ.”

During his years at the Billy Graham School Beougher continues to be challenged by his students’ passion and commitment.

“It’s best to phrase it through a conversation that I had with one of my daughters,” he said. “We were talking about different generational things and I asked her what her generation thinks about my generation. She said, ‘We think that you all are just playing church.’ She quickly followed that with ‘I don’t think that about you and mom! I think you two really mean it. But your generation is just going through the motions playing church and my generation doesn’t want to just go through the motions. We really want to do it and have our hearts there.’

“I sense that among our students. I sense that our students aren’t just going through the motions; they really want to impact the world with the love of Christ. That passion and commitment continues to challenge me.”
Alison’s heart had long been set on serving the Kingdom through missions. “I grew up in a non-denominational church in Philadelphia that was very missions minded,” Alison said. “Our biggest event every year was the week-long missions conference where over 100 missionaries from around the world would come and set up booths and talk to us, and ever since I was small I thought ‘I want to be a missionary when I grow up.’”

While in high school, the Lord developed a heart in me for the Muslim world and then directed me to a specific country. When I met my would-be husband, he also had a heart for that country, and we were on the ground here one year after being married!”

The Billy Graham School’s balance of theology and Great Commission courses was what attracted Alison to the school. “The school is founded in strong theology and also explores the methods, hardships and command of Christ to take that truth to the end of the world, making disciples of all nations,” she said.

On the mission field, Alison works in an area with 52 unreached people groups, each of which has a different language. Thirty-seven of those people groups are completely unengaged, she says, which means there is no living witness among them.

Alison and her husband have learned the trade language and are working to set up a team that, she says, follows the model of Luke 10 where Jesus sent out the disciples two-by-two to each village on His final entrance in Jerusalem.

“We go out for about two weeks to the cities and villages and look for people of peace — people who will receive the truth. The truth transforms their life and then they want to tell their family the truth,” she said. Alison has drawn on her course work and preparation that she received from the Billy Graham School. “Various courses have had excellent requirements of scripture memorization, sharing the Gospel, etc.,” she said. “I had finished about half of my degree when we left the States and have continued my studies online. I can honestly say that the single most encouraging thing for me, while being overseas, has been my continued studies.”
This calling was a shock to my wife, Tonya, and me. For one thing, I had no desire to serve in a full-time ministerial capacity. Moreover, His calling was shocking because I couldn’t even pray in public,” Jackson, senior pastor of Central Baptist Church in Decatur, Ala., said. “God called one of the weakest to show that if anything happens from my ministry, it is only because of Him and not me.”

Jackson enrolled at Southern Seminary where he earned his master of divinity. He then pursued a doctor of philosophy at Southern Seminary’s Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism. Jackson absorbed the Bible-centered instruction of the Billy Graham School and is proud to be a member of the school’s first doctoral group.

“It was in the Ph.D. program at Southern that God began to solidify the words of missionary William Carey in my heart, ‘Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God,’” said Jackson. Jackson valued all of the courses he took during both his master of divinity and doctoral degree programs. He cites Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth and Associate Dean of the Billy Graham School Timothy K. Beougher’s emphasis on teaching one-on-one disciple making as having been one of the greatest influences upon his life.

“The Billy Graham School has a faculty that is passionate; they are passionate for God and His glory, passionate to train men and women to ‘study themselves approved unto God,’ and passionate about fulfilling the Great Commission,” Jackson said. “The one word that I believe best describes the Billy Graham School is passion.

“My fondest memory is the camaraderie in this first class of doctoral students. We were more than classmates; we were friends.”
EXPLORE YOUR DOCTORAL OPTIONS AT THE BILLY GRAHAM SCHOOL OF MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM. EARN YOUR DEGREE UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF A WORLD-CLASS, GREAT COMMISSION FOCUSED FACULTY. THE BILLY GRAHAM SCHOOL OFFERS YOU CONVENIENT SCHEDULES THAT DON'T NECESSITATE RELOCATION AND A WORKABLE MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN.

*Doctor of Ministry in Evangelism and Church Growth, Missions Leadership, Black Church Leadership, Korean Church Leadership, and Urban Ministry
*Doctor of Missiology
*Doctor of Philosophy in Evangelism and Church Growth, Christian Missions, Applied Apologetics, World Religions, and Black Church Studies

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE WWW.SBTS.EDU/BGS OR CALL AN ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR AT (502)897-4617
Centered upon a classical biblical and theological program of study, each degree plan at Boyce College is dedicated to the task of preparing men and women for ministry. Boyce College is committed to the spiritual development of each student and providing students the tools necessary to have an effective and powerful ministry of the Word.
At Boyce College, we aim to produce graduates who are grounded in biblical truth and prepared to enter the ministry and global workforce with confidence. Each year Boyce College produces a class of influential leaders and faithful servants to the churches of our Lord.

Boyce College’s bachelor of arts and bachelor of science programs were carefully designed to ground students in biblical and theological studies and offer specialized instruction in areas of interest like: expository preaching and pastoral leadership, biblical counseling, missiology, music ministry, youth ministry, humanities, elementary education, leadership, and worldview and apologetics (www.boycecollege.com/academics).

Whatever degree track you choose, Boyce College is committed to our Lord’s command to “make disciples of all nations...teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19-20). With the words of Matthew as our guide, Boyce College will challenge you to adopt and grow a Christian worldview and take the light of the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

The student experience at Boyce College is second to none. Our beautiful, historic campus is on the grounds of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and offers resources that only the world’s largest seminary can offer. Weekly worship services bond the entire Boyce family and on-campus leadership opportunities will develop students’ leadership and service skills (www.boycecollege.com/student-life).

We are looking for God-called men and women like you — those who are ready and willing to use their gifts to spread the Gospel.

If God is calling you to this great work, then I encourage you to come be a part of what God is doing at Boyce College. Visit www.boycecollege.com and apply today.

Blog: www.dennyburk.com
Facebook: facebook.com/dennyburk
Twitter: twitter.com/dennyburk

Our founder James P. Boyce once said, “We hold the education of the ministry a matter of the first importance to the churches of Christ.” Boyce’s 19th century declaration is what continues to drive Boyce College today.
The Word — Receive it. Study it. Follow it.
Boyce College aims to produce graduates who are equipped with the knowledge and confidence that they need to shape their world and society for Christ. Boyce students receive rigorous training in all of the biblical and theological disciplines while also studying how the Bible applies to the various ministries of the local church. When you graduate from Boyce College, you will possess the tools that you need to have an effective and powerful impact on the world.

Boyce College Dean Denny Burk has said it this way, “We are training pastors, youth workers, missionaries, and many others to rightly divide the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15).

It is that kind of Bible-based ministry that Boyce College will equip you to have.

Worldview — Discover it. Absorb it. Stand on it.
The apostle Paul says that “We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:5). Making our thoughts obedient to Christ includes having a realistic understanding of the world and how God’s truth relates to every aspect of God’s creation.

“I want our students to be able to have the Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other so that they can have a Christian worldview, a way of thinking that is integrated with and growing out of God’s revelation,” says Dean Burk.

Witness — Live it. Own it. Proclaim it.
At Boyce College we take our marching orders from Jesus Himself, who commissioned us to “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you” (Matthew 28:19-20). We aim to train students who will be deployed to the ends of the earth to share the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

“What we are doing here at Boyce College, I believe, is a fulfillment of the Great Commission. I want students to be so passionate about the glory of God that they are willing to take His Gospel to the nations. That is ground zero for everything,” says Dean Burk.

Boyce College will equip you to spread a passion for the supremacy of Christ in all the world for the joy of all peoples.
Academics
If you want Gospel-centered ministry training that combines real-world experience, Boyce College is the place for you. Our twelve degree programs are designed specifically to prepare students for service in the church, in the classroom and on the mission field. Boyce College faculty members are world-class scholars who love the church and prepare students to have an impact.
Whether you are called to serve in South Carolina or South Korea, in the pulpit or in the public schools, Boyce College has a degree program for you. As the world changes and the culture shifts, Boyce graduates are up to the challenge.

Student life
Believe it or not, our students actually spend much more time learning outside the classroom than in the classroom.
Boyce College’s commitment to training leaders for the church extends beyond the classroom. Student Life is designed to help men and women develop spiritually, emotionally and socially.

Worship
A weekly highlight for Boyce students is the one-hour worship service that bonds the entire Boyce family. Our students also have the opportunity to thrive under the teaching of world-renowned theologians and preachers every week in Southern Seminary chapel services.
Additionally, the entire Boyce community gathers for special chapel services throughout the semester.

Student leadership
Our students are the future leaders of the church, and we are committed to providing opportunities for them to develop the skills necessary to serve faithfully and with excellence.
Whether it’s encouraging spiritual growth through the Student Council, building a sense of community through the resident advisors, welcoming new students through orientation teams or introducing prospective students to Boyce through the ambassadors, we train future leaders through current service.
Fellowship
Nothing complements Christian education more than Christian fellowship. Boyce students have a variety of opportunities to grow in God’s Word through their relationships with other students. They can relax and watch a movie in one of several student lounges, talk theology over coffee in the Founders’ Café or have a picnic on the abundant green space.
Throughout the year, there are special events designed to foster fellowship and develop Christian character. Students can also enjoy friendly competition through sports tournaments such as “hall ball.”

Athletics
The Boyce College basketball team is all about excellence on and off the court. Now in its fifth year competing in the National Christian Collegiate Athletic Association, the Boyce Bulldogs focus on both winning games and winning hearts and minds for Christ. Our student-athletes learn and apply God’s Word, practice personal discipline and develop leadership skills that will serve them well in ministry.

The Boyce Bulldogs provide an environment that encourages mental, physical and spiritual growth. Boyce is shaping Christian leaders, one game at a time.

Married students
Married students account for nearly one-third of the student population at Boyce. Student life offers unique opportunities for our married students to connect with other married students and build relationships that will last a lifetime. Whether you’re a newlywed or have been married for several years, upon your arrival at campus you will be introduced to other students in a similar stage of life.

We can help
It should be obvious by now that we think Boyce College is a great place. But you do not have to take our word for it. Come see for yourself.
Our Admissions Office is here to serve you. We can answer your questions. Feel free to contact us any time at 1-800-626-5525, ext. 4617, or e-mail us at admissions@sbts.edu.
Associate of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies

Bachelor of Arts

- Biblical and Theological Studies
- Christian Worldview and Apologetics
- Expository Preaching and Pastoral Leadership

Bachelor of Science in Biblical Studies

- Church Ministry with concentrations in Christian Leadership, Children’s Ministry or Women’s Studies
- Counseling
- Missions
- Music Ministry
- Youth Ministry
If you’re looking for an affordable college that is dedicated to Christ-centered teaching and has a deep sense of campus community, then we’re looking for you too. For decades Boyce College has produced graduates that have the knowledge and confidence to shape their world and society for Christ and take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Will you join us?

Go to www.boycecollege.com to schedule a campus visit.

FLAME, the Grammy-nominated Christian rapper, is a Boyce College biblical counseling graduate who is using what he is learning in the classroom to change the world.
I love that Boyce is a confessional institution and that there is a core set of doctrines that all Boyce professors adhere to,” Joslin said. “It puts Boyce on a certain theological footing that not every school has.”

A third generation Baptist minister, Joslin also serves as the worship pastor at 9th and O Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky.

“My grandfather, prior to his passing, my father and I are all in Baptist ministry. I have a great love for the Southern Baptist Convention and I’ve loved it through its ups and downs. I have an appreciation and thankfulness to the SBC,” Joslin said.

Faculty service to the local church, like Joslin’s, is a familiar occurrence at Boyce.

“Most of the faculty at Boyce are also working in their church or heavily volunteering,” Joslin said. “So what we are teaching students are not just lessons from a book – we are showing students how to apply the lessons and drawing from our own experiences.”

As a follower of Christ, a professor and a parent, Joslin takes comfort in knowing that Boyce allows its professors to take academic freedom and be creative with their lessons but within biblical parameters.

“You don’t have students going into one class hearing one thing and then going into another class and hearing something different,” Joslin said. “I can talk with parents at preview events and look them in the eye and tell them that their child’s faith will grow at Boyce and not be undercut. We love our students and disciple them as part of our Great Commission work.

“I would encourage anyone thinking about bib-
Joslin is entering his seventh year at Boyce College. He began his teaching career while completing his Ph.D. in New Testament at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. While at Boyce, Joslin has taught hermeneutics, Greek I-IV, systematic theology I-III, interpreting Hebrews, and Old Testament.

“I really love the languages – particularly Greek,” Joslin said. “I just feel at home when I see the Greek characters and I feel that I am in a very familiar environment.”

Boyce structures the elementary Greek course to span two-semesters. Joslin applauds this format, which encourages students to form relationships with their classmates and professor and develops a firm understanding of the language fundamentals.

“We get to start in August with the basic Greek alphabet – alpha, beta, gamma,” he said. “By the end of the second semester we are translating John together.”

Most of Joslin’s elementary Greek students enter the course intimidated by the task in front of them, and if they aren’t, Joslin says they should be.

“I do refer to Greek I as boot camp,” Joslin said. “There is a reason why people say ‘It’s Greek to me.’

“As a professor it is very gratifying to take a student from being intimidated at the start of the course to being humbly-confident by the end.”

“I would encourage anyone thinking about biblical studies – especially in the sense of gaining a strong Christian worldview – to consider Boyce College.”

— Barry C. Joslin
A junior at Boyce College majoring in biblical counseling, Sweetman was writing about politics, theology and even sports at the age of 13, an age when most of his peers were playing Xbox or spending increasing amounts of time in thought about the opposite gender.

A deep concern to challenge teens to think out of a Christian worldview drove Sweetman and some friends to publish an online magazine and allowed him to put his deep love for written communication to use.

Today, at 20, his thoughts have matured and his blog, Agent Tim Online, has exploded in popularity, with more than 750,000 hits in three years of existence. The goal of his blog and his other writings is to push his own generation to think deeply about the world around them through the lens of Scripture.

Sweetman grew up near Washington, D.C., a hub of political thinking and activism, a reality that fueled his love for ideas and writing at an early age. He first heard about Boyce College through Southern Seminary President R. Albert Mohler’s writing and radio show.

“As I felt the call to ministry, I knew I needed a place that would push and mold me both academically and spiritually - that place was Boyce College,” Sweetman said. “Also, the professors that I met during the time I was choosing the school blew me away by their love for the Savior and their unbelievable skill in the classroom. I left class wanting more.

“I have really enjoyed the classes here,” Sweetman said. “This is really the place to be right now. I am gaining a firm theological foundation that will help me in my writing ministry and hopefully help me to minister to my generation and encourage teens that all of life is to be lived to the glory of God.

“I think a great experience has been sitting under professors, leaving the class, and realizing that for the past three hours you’ve been in more than a class. It was a worship service. The realities of the truths you’ve just learn sink in, and all you can do is praise God. I’ve been blown away on many occasions by the depths of new truths I hadn’t learned. Those times have molded and shaped me in incredible ways.”

Sweetman is a regular contributor to “Boundless,” a publication of Focus on the Family, and has appeared as a guest on The Albert Mohler Program. Agent Tim Online may be accessed at www.agenttimonline.com. The blog name comes from a love Sweetman possessed when he was younger for movies and books about spies and secret agents.
This trio of theological heavyweights inspired Marcus Williams Gray to write and record a Grammy-nominated album that communicates profound Gospel truths through hip-hop tunes.

Gray, also known as Christian rapper FLAME, is a Boyce College graduate and current Southern Seminary School of Theology student who has broken into the world of big-time rap music with a hammer that is as potent as it is unusual within the musical genre: sound biblical doctrine.

Gray’s album, “Our World Redeemed,” took theology of Owen, Piper and Grudem and translates it into a musical study of redemption.

Growing up in the inner city of St. Louis, Gray was influenced by hip-hop culture from a young age. He started rapping in fifth grade, addressing positive and benign topics. But as he aged, Gray turned darker both in his music and his lifestyle.

At age 16 God got his attention: an 18-wheeler hit Gray. When Gray asked his grandmother why God let the incident happen, she told him God was trying to catch his attention. A week and a half later his grandmother died, and Gray felt broken.

When a friend invited Gray to church, the Gospel captivated him. Immediately God began removing vices from his life. As part of his devotional life, Gray wrote raps to God and sang to Him during quiet times. Though he had no plans to become a recording artist, Gray began to listen to other Christian rappers and realized the potential power of the medium for ministry. So through a series of providential encounters, he began producing albums.

Gray enrolled in Boyce College in 2007. He was attracted to Boyce after discovering that he and the institution shared the same beliefs in Biblical truth and the importance of being Great Commission minded.

“Upon visiting the preview weekend I was overwhelmed by their kindness, commitment to the Bible and its inerrancy, the local church and missions,” Gray said.

Gray is continuing his studies in biblical counseling at Southern Seminary in preparation for pastoral counseling.

“In my opinion Southern has the best program among the few seminaries that offer this philosophy of biblical counseling,” Gray said. “I am particularly excited about sitting under Professor Stuart Scott to glean from his case wisdom and knowledge of the Bible.”
Enrollment information

At Southern you will receive a theological education that is built on truth, with a rich legacy and a vision for training leaders for Gospel impact.
There will be milestones in your life that you will never forget. For those who desire to answer God’s calling, one of those milestones is where you receive your theological education. Because of this, Southern Seminary and Boyce College take your choice seriously.

Apply today
Making the decision about where to earn your theological education is a big step that forever changes your life and ministry. Once you’ve said “yes” to God’s calling, the Southern Seminary and Boyce College staff will help make your life easier and walk with you the rest of the way. We are here to help you through the application process and assist with any questions that you might have. All application materials are available online and can be accessed at www.sbts.edu/apply and www.boycecollege.com/apply. If you have a question, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Note: Admission requirements and prerequisites vary depending upon the degree you are seeking. See our current catalog for specific details, available at www.sbts.edu/admissions or call our Admissions Office at 1-800-626-5525 (x4617).

Visit today
A campus visit to Southern Seminary or Boyce College is one of the best steps you can take to clarify your thinking and discover whether this is the right place for you. When you visit, you’ll be welcomed by a member of our admissions staff who can answer questions about our degree programs, employment opportunities, financial assistance, and student life. You will also get the chance to interact with students and faculty, sit in on current courses, take a tour of our 80-acre campus, and even sample our Southern cuisine. Lodging at our campus hotel, The Legacy Center, is also included.

Schedule a visit of Southern Seminary or Boyce College today at www.sbts.edu/visit
Southern Seminary Preview

Our Southern Preview events are designed to give you a firsthand experience of all that Southern has to offer. Be our guest and enjoy the opportunity to interact with Southern Seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. and our faculty.

A fee of $25 per person secures your reservation and takes care of lodging for Thursday and Friday night as well as meals on Friday.

View a tentative event schedule and register today at www.sbts.edu/preview

Southern Preview Dates:
Oct. 15, 2010 and April 29, 2011

Boyce College Preview

Boyce Preview offers a great opportunity to see all of the exciting things that are happening at Boyce College. These visit days are specially designed to give you experiences that will assist in making your college decision. You’ll enjoy a day full of activities that includes several opportunities for you and your family to interact with faculty and current students. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to see if Boyce College is the place for you.

A fee of $25 per person secures your reservation and takes care of lodging for Thursday and Friday night as well as all meals on Friday.

View a tentative event schedule and register today at www.boycecollege.com/preview

Boyce Preview Dates:
Oct. 22, 2010 and April 15, 2011

Application Deadlines

Diploma and masters degrees
- Fall Semester – July 15
- January Term – Dec 1
- Spring Semester – Dec 1
- Summer Term – May 1

Professional doctoral degrees
- January Term – Oct 15
- Summer Term – Mar 15

Research doctoral degrees
- Spring Semester – Aug 1
- Fall Semester – Jan 15

Boyce College

Fall Semester – July 15
- Spring Semester – December 1
- Summer Term – May 1
- January Term – Dec 1
Housing and Financial Assistance

At The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, we’re not just concerned with getting you to campus. Once you’re here, we want to make your stay as comfortable as possible. That includes assisting you with housing and financial planning.

We maintain a variety of housing options for singles and married couples. They are all affordable and conveniently located on campus.

The student housing office manages residence halls, offering one- and two-bedroom apartments. For students who commute during fall or spring semesters, bed space is available for 1-4 nights per week.

Southern Seminary’s on-campus residents enjoy designated parking and easy access to all facilities, with the comfort of 24-hour protection from campus security (www.sbts.edu/current-students). The charge for most residential units includes high-speed Internet, private telephone, cable television and utilities (www.sbts.edu/housing).

An application for student housing is available from the admissions office (www.sbts.edu/admissions). Although we cannot confirm on-campus housing until you have been officially accepted for admission, students are encouraged to submit the application for housing when applying for admission. Once you have been admitted, we will assign housing in the order that housing applications and deposits are received.

Financial Assistance

When it comes to finances, Southern Seminary is one of the best values in theological education thanks to thousands of churches that support us through the Southern Baptist Convention’s Cooperative Program. Southern Baptist students receive a 50 percent tuition discount, but even non-Southern Baptist students, who pay a higher tuition rate, find Southern to be one of the most affordable schools for ministry training.

Still, we know that students often feel a financial pinch. That’s why Southern Seminary administers scholarships, short-term loans, and emergency assistance to encourage you as you prepare for ministry. Scholarships are awarded annually to qualifying students and are subject to conditions established by donors and the seminary. Past and present Southern Baptist missionaries may qualify for additional scholarships.

In addition to scholarships offered by the seminary, state Baptist conventions, veterans’ organizations and lending organizations offer additional funds. Southern Seminary will help you find and apply for such funds.

While you are training for ministry, we are here to assist with your housing and financial needs. For more information email housing@sbts.edu and financialaid@sbts.edu or visit our websites www.sbts.edu/housing and www.sbts.edu/financialaid.

Costs and fees

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS – BOYCE COLLEGE

Per Hour – SBC student $270
Per Hour – Non SBC student $540
Internet course fee – $250 (additional fee per semester)

PROFESSIONAL DEGREE (MASTER’S) AND DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

Per Hour – SBC student $209
Per Hour – Non SBC student $418
Internet course fee – $250 (additional fee per semester)

Doctoral degree programs

Costs vary based on program of study. More information available at www.sbts.edu/costs.
Women at Southern

At The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary we recognize the vital role that women play in God’s Kingdom. We have a variety of programs and ministries that address women’s interests, gifts and call to ministry.

The School of Church Ministries offers three degrees with a special emphasis in women’s ministry – the master of divinity with a concentration in women’s leadership, the master of divinity in Christian education and leadership, and the master of arts in Christian education. Our courses in women’s leadership include women’s ministry in the local church, biblical womanhood, leadership skills development for women, and women and evangelism (www.sbts.edu/scm).

The Women’s Ministry Institute offers women the opportunity to improve their skills and ministry through a variety of classes geared toward women’s ministries in the local church. Participants in this program are awarded a Certificate of Ministry Studies through Boyce College upon successful completion of eight units. This is accomplished through 3-5 day seminars with assignments due after each seminar (www.sbts.edu/women).

Great Commission Women was established to minister to women in the seminary community who are interested in future service in the areas of missions, evangelism, church growth and church planting. Throughout each semester, a variety of events and fellowship groups with faculty wives are offered to help inform female students and student wives as they seek to fulfill the Great Commission, both now and in the future (www.sbts.edu/bgs).

The Seminary Wives Institute is an innovative program designed to prepare the wives of seminary students for roles in the ministries of their husbands. Through this program, student wives have opportunities to network with one another and study with faculty wives. Courses are designed to give students biblically-based and practically-applied instruction. Courses are taught by our own seminary faculty as well as faculty wives and guest speakers (www.sbts.edu/women).

The Pendergraph Women’s Ministry was created to meet the need for fellowship and sharing of common concerns among wives of seminary students and female students. Pendergraph events focus on such topics as serving others in the home, friendship, and serving others as a spiritual discipline (www.sbts.edu/women).

All our women’s programs are designed to meet the unique needs of Christian women with excellence and devotion to Christ.
Online Learning

When family, ministry and work commitments make it difficult to relocate to Louisville, another option for ministry training is The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary’s online programs (www.sbts.edu/online).

Nearly all core requirements for the M.Div. are offered online, as well as many electives and courses specific to various degrees. To enroll in an online class, the only requirement is to be accepted as a student at Southern Seminary (www.sbts.edu/admissions).

While students cannot complete an entire degree online, around half of the M.Div. degree requirements can be completed. Online credit for other degree programs vary, but a student can typically complete up to half of their degree online (www.sbts.edu/online). Short-term courses, referred to as J-terms, offered in January, June and July on the Louisville campus are available to help online students complete their required on-campus hours.

Students registered for online courses access the course syllabus, assignments, handouts, list of required textbooks, contact information for professors, discussion forums and other vital course information via a secure class website. Students will receive class lectures in DVD format or via streamed online video. Additionally, library resources, technical support, advisors and virtual chapel resources are available via the course website and the seminary website (www.sbts.edu).

Our online course schedule follows the on-campus semester calendar for fall and spring semesters. Courses begin during the first week of the semester and end during the final week. The summer online schedule follows a 10-week format, running from the Tuesday after Memorial Day through the first week of August.

Each class has an established syllabus with reading assignments, quizzes, exams, papers and online forum discussions.

Online classes are billed at the normal tuition rate, plus a $250 Internet fee.
Extension Education

But that’s no problem. With more than a dozen extension centers across the South, Midwest and Northeast, we’re bringing The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary to you (www.sbts.edu/extension). Through this off-campus network, we provide fully-accredited master’s-level education for students who cannot simply pack up and relocate to the seminary’s main campus.

By supplementing extension center courses with on-campus short-term classes in Louisville, you can earn your seminary degree without ever leaving your current ministry or career position. To participate in these non-residential study opportunities, students must first be accepted as a student at Southern Seminary.

At Southern Seminary extension centers, assignments and classroom instruction will mirror what students receive on our main campus. Writing papers, taking exams, classroom interaction with professors and opportunities to engage professors outside class are all part of the extension center experience. Couple that with access to theological libraries near you and Southern’s extension education provides the tools needed for ministry preparation. The same faculty, the same foundational courses, the same lifelong relationships being built – just like you’d experience in Louisville, only closer to home.

Whether your goal is to become a pastor, teacher, evangelist, missionary, church staff member, church planter or denominational worker, Southern Seminary offers quality theological education in several locations near you.

Extension Centers

Auburn, Alabama - Lakeview Baptist Church (special permission required)
Northwest Arkansas - First Baptist Church, Springdale
Chicago, Illinois - Evanston Baptist Church
Columbia, Maryland - Baptist Mission Resource Center
Boston, Massachusetts - New England Baptist Convention Building
Fenton, Michigan - Baptist State Convention of Michigan
New York City, New York - Metropolitan New York Baptist Assoc. Office Building
Northeast Ohio - Cuyahoga Valley Community Church, Broadview Heights
Greenville, South Carolina - Edwards Road Baptist Church
Jackson, Tennessee - Union University
Nashville, Tennessee - LifeWay Christian Resources
East Tennessee (Knoxville Area) - First Baptist Church, Lenoir City
Washington DC - Capitol Hill Baptist Church
Burlington, Vermont - Christ Memorial Church, Williston
Southern Seminary at a glance

2008 - 2009 Enrollment
Students (all programs, all locations) - 4,176
Graduate and diploma students - 3,223
Boyce College students - 652
Certificate and other students - 295
Dually enrolled students - 6

Number of 2009 Graduates - 542

Number of States Represented
50 States
3 Provinces
District of Columbia

Number of Countries Represented - 41

Campus Acreage - 80

Number of Full-Time Faculty - 76

Location: Louisville, Kentucky
Population: 713,877 (city), 1,244,696 (metro area)

Note: Facts reflect student data from the 2008-2009 Academic Year
Over the past century and a half, Southern Seminary would indeed encounter unforeseen struggles, yet she has also received incalculable blessings. Many of those blessings have come from friends of Southern Seminary whom the Lord has raised up to stand with us as we seek to train ministers of the Gospel for more faithful service.

God has entrusted Southern Seminary with a sacred stewardship. This stewardship extends to more than 4,000 current students who will serve the church and penetrate mission fields for generations to come. We look to the future with anticipation that the Lord will continue to call out pastors, missionaries and assorted ministers of the Gospel for Kingdom service. Southern Seminary stands ready to receive them, train them and deploy them for faithful ministry.

Indeed, so many in this generation are answering the call to ministry. Given the size of our enrollment and the faithfulness with which these men and women are undertaking their studies and pursuing God’s call, this campus contains enormous Gospel momentum and ministry potential. The question is not whether God will call out his servants. The question is, will we prove faithful to train and support those whom the Lord has called? One individual can make a difference to our students and that individual might be you.

When the seminary began in 1859 it was an uncertain undertaking. Thankfully, 150 years later our mission remains clear, our confession strong, our work increasingly consequential and our calling certain. I ask you to join me in furthering this mission and enabling Southern Seminary to maximally train — in both quantity and quality — those whom the Lord is calling to ministry. It is more important than ever for us to keep tuition down and aid our students through a strong Annual Fund. Will you join me in supporting those training for ministry by making a contribution to Southern Seminary Annual Fund?

Thank you for all that you mean to Southern Seminary and for your faithfulness to support our students and the Gospel of Christ through this institution. We covet your prayers, cherish your friendship and appreciate your financial contributions.

Sincerely,

R. Albert Mohler Jr.
President

In “Southern Baptist Theological Seminary 1859-2009,” author Gregory Wills describes the seminary’s inception as, “an uncertain undertaking. Southern Baptists were not sure that they needed it, and many doubted its success. And opposition to it came from many quarters.” Wills’ assessment of Southern Seminary’s early days is spot on.
Georgia couple benefits Boyce College

By Emily Griffin

To the excitement of Denny Burk, dean of Boyce College, construction crews will soon invade Boyce’s Carver Hall complex, updating and renovating Boyce chapel.

The construction crew’s arrival signifies a monumental gift given to The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Boyce College – the gift of Ingram Hall. Ingram Hall will replace the Boyce chapel room and will serve as a much needed multi-purpose space. Dean Burk and Boyce faculty will be able to use Ingram Hall for worship, educational and extra-curricular activities.

Ingram Hall is named after its benefactors and longtime supporters of Southern Seminary, Otis and Stacy Ingram of Macon, Ga.

Burk said that Ingram Hall is the most significant upgrade to the college’s campus since the addition of Rankin Hall.

“This new space will give us our first large classroom and will also provide a new venue for dorm meetings and conferences,” Burk said. “This renovation is an unbelievable gift to the work we are doing, and I couldn’t be more grateful.”

“As an institution, we deemed it important to create a multi-purpose space that Boyce students can use in a number of ways,” said Jason Allen, vice president of institutional advancement and executive director of the Southern Seminary Foundation. “Over the last couple of years the institution has become increasingly aware of the need for this type of space. Ingram Hall is a perfect coalescence of the Lord’s providence and a donor’s desire to support.”

Allen said that Ingram Hall will house a wooden stage, a combination of contemporary and classic furnishings and upgraded, panoramic windows. Technological features of Ingram Hall include a complete heating and cooling system upgrade, a multi-use lighting system, state-of-the-art audio and visual systems and wireless internet capability.

“We are deeply grateful for the generosity of the Ingram’s,” Southern Seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. said. “The needs that are being addressed at Boyce College are just that — needs. This renovation has been needed for quite some time and it is a profound blessing to receive funds from a family that gives with a full awareness of the fact that an investment in Boyce College or Southern Seminary is unique because it is an investment in both education and eternity.”

Allen worked closely with the Ingram’s on the development of the project.

“Throughout the presidency of Dr. Mohler, Mr. and Mrs. Ingram have remained consistent institutional friends and supporters,” Allen said. “Their commitment to Christ is evident in so many ways, not the least of which is the manner...
in which they sacrificially support Southern Seminary. Dr. Mohler cherishes his friendship with Mr. and Mrs. Ingram and I have been blessed to get to know them and call them friends.

“Mr. and Mrs. Ingram not only evidence generosity; they also share the convictions that have come to characterize Southern Seminary. That being true, they believe in the urgency of the Gospel, the centrality of the preaching of God’s Word and the strategic role Southern Seminary has in training the next generation of pastors and missionaries for the Lord’s work.”

Ingram joined the board of trustees of Southern Seminary shortly after R. Albert Mohler Jr. was elected president of the institution. When Ingram rotated off the trustee board, he joined the Southern Seminary Foundation Board. While on the Foundation Board Ingram has served two terms as vice chairman and is presently in his first term as chairman of the Foundation Board.

Ingram said that over the years he has been personally blessed through his involvement with Southern.

“Through my service on the Foundation Board I’m supposed to be serving with my prayer, time and talents and yet the seminary serves me, actually the seminary out-serves me,” Ingram said.

“Through my association with Southern, I have become a better husband, father, disciple of Christ and Christian businessman. Being affiliated with the seminary and spending time on campus has taught me a lot about theology, which I wouldn’t have known otherwise.

“I really believe that working and serving under Dr. Mohler for so many years, that he is the brightest evangelical, conservative mind of our century. I feel that anytime I can serve and be around that kind of Godly man, I am blessed.”

Ingram said his family chose to be involved in the project because they hope their actions will influence others to give to Southern and Boyce.

“Most people give at the time of their death, and that is tremendously generous, but we wanted to encourage others to pray about giving DURING their lifetime as well.

“God’s hand is very obviously on the seminary,” Ingram said. “When you are on the campus you sense God’s presence immediately. We would hope and pray that this space, Ingram Hall, is used to inspire students to learn the truth of God’s word in new ways so that they would then apply it to their life.”
They are the inaugural couple to contribute to the campaign which will allocate funds to benefit the seminary and its students in many capacities.

“The Harris’ have a deep love for the seminary, and we continue to be thankful for their selfless giving,” Jason Allen, vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the Southern Seminary Foundation, said.

Allen and the Foundation are recognizing the Harris’ by naming a suite in the Legacy Hotel and Conference Center in their honor. The Legacy Hotel is an on-campus center that is used year round for special events and provides accommodations for visitors.

Michael Harris says God began to prepare him to serve on the board of trustees at Southern Seminary long before his installation. While studying to be an orthodontist in the 1960s, Harris found himself in a Baptist church conversing with people who questioned the biblical miracles. Harris found his denomination’s drift from conservative values troubling.

In the 1970s Harris and his wife Rose moved to Elizabethtown to establish Harris’ orthodontic practice. The couple met U.S. Federal Judge Ron Meredith, who shared the Harris’ conservative theological beliefs and was serving on Southern’s board of trustees. As the conservative resurgence began to stir within the SBC, Judge Meredith approached Harris about serving on the board of trustees.

“We prayed about it and accepted the nomination,” Harris said. “The year I went onto the board the conservatives became the majority on the board. I was convinced that our denomination, led by our seminaries, had strayed from our commitment to a belief in the Bible being the inerrant, infallible Word of God and that a drastic, 180-degree turn was needed if we were to be true to God’s leadership.”

Harris served on the board for 10 years and remembers those years containing both gut-wrenching periods of conflict and euphoric, mountain-top worship experiences.

“We were told that the (conservative) changes we were seeking would result in the death of the seminary,” Harris said. “There were a few bad years during the transition in which those prophecies were somewhat true, but when you follow God’s leadership in faith, seeking to do His will, He will be found faithful.”

Harris counts it a blessing to of been able to watch Southern return to what it was founded to be — a place where men and women called of God can find a nurturing, Bible-believing environment in which to study.

“My service on the board has been just that of one among many,” Harris said. “The truth is that I had no particular positions of authority or influence. I was blessed to be given the opportunity to serve with a group of men and women who felt, as I, that God had prepared them and called them to execute the changes needed in our seminaries and our denomination, and who would not be deterred in accomplishing those changes.”

Harris went off the board of trustees due to term limits and promptly joined the Southern Seminary foundation board. Serving on the foundation board has given Harris yet another opportunity to assist Southern through gifts of both time and money.

This spring Rose Harris was nominated to join the Southern board of trustees. She has served in the Women’s Auxiliary and is filled with joy at the thought of being a part of awarding scholarships to female students at Southern.
THEOLOGY MEETS TECHNOLOGY
SBTS.EDU/RESOURCES