A year of “Thinking in Public”

After ending “The Albert Mohler Program,” a daily national radio program last summer, R. Albert Mohler Jr. returned to the public conversation in September 2010. His podcast, “Thinking in Public,” features conversations about frontline theological and cultural issues with leading thinkers from across the socio-political spectrum.

“The very best conversations happen with people with whom you differ. The greatest opportunity for learning is having a conversation with a person who comes from a very different place. We got to talk to people who were very serious men and women of ideas. We were able to have honest, engaging conversations which were cordial but clear,” said Mohler about his first year of the podcast. “I thought the first season demonstrated that this kind of conversation can happen. I enjoyed thinking through the interviews as they happened, I enjoyed thinking about them subsequently and, interestingly, there are ongoing conversations that came from those initial talks, which is also fun. I was excited by the first season of “Thinking in Public.”

The fall season of “Thinking in Public” begins Sept. 6. More details are available at albertmohler.com. Below are those personalities with whom Mohler dialogued during his first year of “Thinking in Public”:

- The spiritual state of the emerging generation with Christian Smith
- Evangelical identity revisited with historians David Bebbington and Gregory Wills
- The meaning of yoga with Stephanie Syman and Doug Groothius
- A missing front in the culture war? A conversation about divorce
- Christian responsibility in the city of man with Peter Wehner
- Rethinking secularization with Peter Berger
- American grace: religion in America with Robert Putnam
- The anguish of Abraham Lincoln with historian Eric Foner
- The morality of bankruptcy with legal scholar David Skeel
- Soft patriarchy, firm realities with Bradford Wilcox
- A religious test for public office? with Damon Linker
- Seeking wisdom for a modern world with Leon Kass
- The meaning of Handel’s Messiah with Calvin Stappert
- The fate of ideas in the modern Age with Stanley Fish
- The age wave and its consequences with Ted Fishman
- Moral argument in modern times with Robert P. George
- Four centuries of the King James Bible with Leland Ryken
- What does philosophy say to our times? with Roger Scruton
- The persistence of place with John Shelton Reed
- Are we really just a blank slate? with Steven Pinker
- Looking forward, looking back with historian Martin E. Marty
- Media ecology and the modern mind with T. David Gordon
- Where have the men gone? with Kay Hymowitz
- What must we learn from the bloodlands? with historian Timothy Snyder
- Original sin in the twentieth century with Andrew S. Finstuen
- Evangelical fervor and the crisis of the Civil War with historian David Goldfield
- The moral crisis of secular culture with Mary Eberstadt
- Moral reasoning in a secular age with Professor Alan Dershowitz
- The fate of reading in a digital age with Sven Birkerts
- Is demography really destiny? with Joel Kotkin

*It is a thoughtful, insightful, intelligent person who has something to say and I was excited by the first season of “Thinking in Public” because we talked to people who are serious men and women of ideas.*

- R. Albert Mohler Jr.