

Building up the Body of Christ

CALVARY TODAY

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Fall 2023

Welcoming the Class of 2027!

Throughout Welcome Weekend, the ResLife team helped incoming students connect with professors and staff, find their way around campus, and move into the dorms.

This year, ResLife looks forward to witnessing another fruitful semester in which many new Resident Life leaders will experience leading the student body for the first time. The ResLife team's theme for the 2023 fall semester as they lead the student body in weekly devotions is the thoughtful application of wisdom literature, specifically focusing on having a correct understanding of the sacrificial love of Christ and how

He has lavished that love upon his children.

This year, incoming and returning students can also look forward to exciting campus improvements thanks to Student Senate and the Deans Department! These include new furniture in the student lounge, an updated look in the lounge area of Madison Hall, and newly remodeled women's restrooms in the Pyramid Athletic Center. ■

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Fall 2023 Campus Life



Katie McGee and Julie VanderWoude, members of the praise band, lead a time of worship during chapel.



Jordan Gordon helped represent Kamp Keirse, one of over forty ministries present at the Ministry Fair.



Samuel Butler, a sophomore, makes a pass.



Elle Davis prepares for the attack, as the women's volleyball team continues their strong season.



Our mission is to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and the world according to the biblical worldview.

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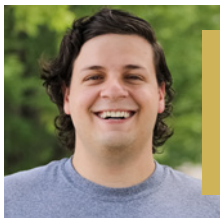


Nora Gianinetti spends time in prayer for Calvary alumni missionaries during Haystack's weekly prayer time in the lounge.



Katelyn Roach reminds Dean Josh Johnson that his speaking time is almost up.

Staff Update

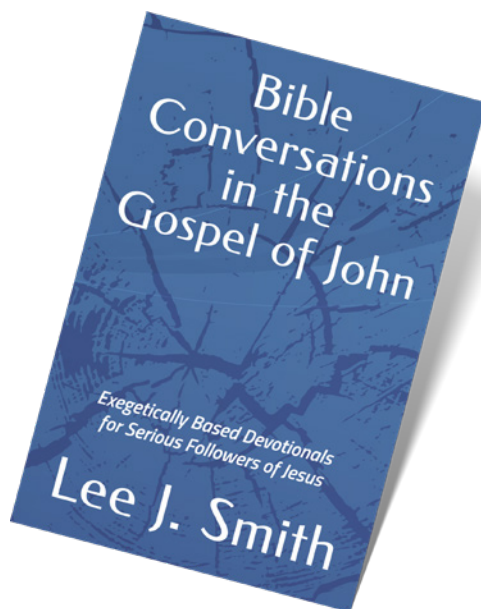


Chris Stolberg has stepped into a new role as Director of Admissions at Calvary University. With a Bachelor's (CU18) and a Master's degree (CU23) from Calvary, he brings a comprehensive knowledge of the school, in addition to his time working in Calvary's development department. ■

Bible Conversations in the Gospel of John

Lee Smith is a retired pastor and current author who recently collaborated with Calvary University Press to publish *Biblical Conversations in the Gospel of John: Exegetically Based Devotionals for Serious Followers of Jesus*. Lee graduated from Calvary Bible College in 1970 with a B.A. in Pastoral Studies, received his Th. M. from Dallas Theological Seminary in 1974, and earned his D. Min. from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in 1990.

Lee grew up in rural Iowa in a family of farmers. At seven years old, he received Christ. He describes his mission to pastor small town churches as a "growing conviction" that remained even when he was in seminary and other students questioned him: "They thought I was crazy - asking me why I'd want to do that instead of choosing to pastor bigger churches. I chose rural churches because that's where my passion was, and I've pastored them for forty years."



Bible Conversations in the Gospel of John can be found on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Lee's experience as a pastor played a major role in his evolving career as an author. Besides his most recent work, he has published three books: *Getting Along with People: A Manual for Pastors*, *Reflections of a Small Town Pastor: Engaging in God's Mission in Smaller Places*, and *Bible Conversations in Genesis*. With the biblical knowledge Lee has gained throughout the years as both a pastor and an author, his new book is filled with insightful knowledge.

When speaking on what inspired Lee to write *Biblical Conversations in*

the Gospel of John: Exegetically Based Devotionals for Serious Followers of Jesus, he stated it was ultimately God's Word because "that is what will change people's lives." He also added that he's always had a special appreciation for the book of John because of its emphasis on the gospel, John's practicality in his writing, and how "Jesus speaking to the disciples throughout the book of John is still very relevant for all of Christ's followers today."

Lee's purpose for his new book is two-fold. First, he desires his readers to gain a deeper understanding of the gospel as presented within the book of John from an intellectual and spiritual perspective. Secondly, he wants his book to inspire readers to "grow in their walk with Christ, all for the glory of God."

Do you have a story to tell about God's work in your life? Do you have scholarly research to share? Calvary University Press is specially positioned to partner with you in the publication process. Let us support you in your ministry and the path God is leading you on. ■

Grace Murphy
Staff Writer



"Pastor Lee Smith writes with the skill of a careful exegete and the heart of a pastor-teacher. *Bible Conversations in the Gospel of John* is Pastor Smith's second volume in his "Bible Conversations" series. Not intended as an in-depth commentary, this study of the Gospel of John still touches on the significant exegetical issues in the text while challenging the reader to respond to the truth in the text. Written by a pastor-teacher, this volume speaks to the reader with a conversational tone, and then encourages the reader to life-change. As with the first volume, *Bible Conversations in the Gospel of John* is for "Serious Followers of Jesus" — those who seek to be changed by their study of God's Word."

- Dr. Dodds, Director of CU Press



Why is Calvary University Needed?

Part 2: The Weapons of the Enemy

Christian higher education cannot and could not be demolished in a day. Instead, those who wished to see it disappear adopted a prolonged plan of attack that first set up an alternative system and subsidized it, the weapon of utility; emphasized inquiry about the scripture rather than studying the scripture itself, the weapon of research; and, finally, divorced theology from other branches of learning and relegated it to a lesser status, the weapon known as science.

Utility

The first weapon used to attack Christian higher education was the Morrill Act of 1862. This act gave land-

grants to colleges and universities and thereby paved the way for new, more democratic schools. The subsidy of land from the government acted as an endowment that was used to maintain and support colleges open to the industrial class that focused on teaching agriculture, military tactics, and the mechanic arts as well as classical studies. These institutions revised the higher education curriculum to fulfill their democratic mandate for accessibility, openness, and service to the toiling peoples. Today, there is one land-grant institution in every state and territory of the United States, and several are among the

nation's most prestigious public research universities.¹

This development was not solely positive. Land-grant institutions were not tied to a religious denomination or charter, and they ultimately evolved into secular state institutions for the humanistic education of the masses. Every year, millions of Christian students enroll at public and land-grant institutions because of their academic reputation, affordability, and promise of a good job. But the education they receive teaches evolution as fact and biblical creation as myth. The average Christian sitting in church has been indoctrinated for years in the secular

¹ J. Gregory Behle, "Educating the Toiling Peoples: Students at the Illinois Industrial University, Spring 1868," in *The Land-Grant Colleges and the Reshaping of American Higher Education*, ed. Roger L. Geiger and Nathan M. Sorber (New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2013), 73-75.

K-12 and university classrooms to not interpret the Bible literally.

Sadly, faculty at Christian colleges and universities that have been educated at secular institutions can often struggle to integrate faith and learning. They readily find in theistic evolution a reconciliation of their faith and secular learning. This, of course, begins to be taught in the classroom at our Christian colleges and universities. Students then graduate not believing in biblical creation, and our churches are filled with more congregants that do not interpret the Bible literally. It is a vicious circle.

Research

The second weapon used to attack Christian higher education was the rise of German higher criticism. This form of scholarship was founded on interpreting the scripture based on reason rather than revelation. Originally, higher criticism was simply a scholarly approach to studying, evaluating, and critically assessing the Bible as literature in order to understand it better. However, it soon began to denigrate the Bible into fable and myth and joined forces with naturalism and other contemporary philosophical trends to de-historicize Scripture.

Christian colleges and universities began to question and deny the inspiration (1 Cor. 2:7-14; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21), authority (1 Cor. 2:13; 1 Thess. 2:13), inerrancy, and infallibility (Matt.

5:18; 24:35; John 10:35; 16:12-13; 17:17; 1 Cor. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; Heb. 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20-21) of Scripture. The belief that Jesus Christ represents humanity and deity in indivisible oneness (Mic. 5:2; John 5:23; 14:9-10; Col. 2:9) was disavowed. The teaching that our Lord Jesus Christ was virgin born (Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:23, 25; Luke 1:26-35) and that He was God incarnate (John 1:1, 14) was rejected. Naturally, the literal-grammatical-historical interpretation of creation in Genesis 1-3 was jettisoned. The embracing of the new critical views of Scripture led to the rejection of biblical truth and higher education in America was tragically transformed.

Science

The third great weapon leveled against Christian higher education was the parceling up of the curriculum into different sections that bore no relation to each other. Theology, previously considered the "queen of the sciences," and Bible, if offered at all, became courses like any other. Institutions began to promote the pursuit of scientific inquiry above all else and a fierce epistemological battle erupted between scientists who promoted natural theology and the glory of the Creator and scientists that excluded God completely. Darwin's publication of *On the Origin of Species* in 1859 forever changed the relationship between science and Christianity.

The incessant external pressure to

conform to this world's philosophies and ideologies and relentless internal attacks against divine revelation left many institutions in shambles. The educational curriculum was relegated to an assortment of secular and religious courses. Higher education increasingly became hostile towards its religious roots and divine revelation was no longer the foundation of a comprehensive educational curriculum. Instead, the curriculum was divided up into secular and religious courses where a Christian worldview was segregated from other academic pursuits. Without divine revelation as an anchor, colleges and universities promoted scientific research and elevated man's intellect and reason. Research devoid of God's glory as its goal became nothing more than the worldly creation, dissemination, preservation, and application of human knowledge for the betterment of a global society. Higher education's ultimate purpose became career training for self-promotion. ■

Alexander Granados

Alexander Granados
President



Research devoid of God's glory as its goal became nothing more than the worldly creation, dissemination, preservation, and application of human knowledge for the betterment of a global society.

The Steward's Pen



“It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High”

- Psalm 92:1 (NASB 95)

The Psalmist reminds us of what is good. To give thanks to the Lord. And to sing praises to his name. O Most High.

The three elements of the call from the Psalmist are instructive to the hearer. We, as stewards, are to be mindful of this instruction and to practice these elements in our lives.

We are praising God this fall because, during the spring months, the Five Loaves and Two Fish

campaign was a matter of prayer and trust before the Lord for the provision to finish the 22-23 school year well and be prepared for the 23-24 school year. We praise God for his provision as the challenge match of \$230,000 was more than met with \$310,000 in giving towards the campaign. Thank you to each one who participated.

The theme of the President's Dinner this year highlighted the goodness of God and that we have much to be thankful for and be singing his praises. His favor, mercy, compassion, love, grace, kindness, perfect timing, provision, and patience are just a few ways that we can gather and encourage each other with what God has done.

We gathered September 28th for a delightful meal, fellowship, and time reflecting on Elyon – Our Most High God. If you were not able

to join us, may we encourage you to take an evening, find a friend or two or six, and gather around for a meal. Share with each the praises of your thankfulness to the Most High God. How has he encouraged, supported, provided, or been at work in your life?

To spur our thoughts as a community, we have established a public place where you can go to [share your thankfulness](#). [Click the link](#) and share an attribute of God, what he has done, a favorite verse, or a song that God has used to encourage you. We look forward to hearing from you about what God is doing in our midst! ■

John McGee

Chief Development Officer



Alumni Spotlight

Todd Price

Todd Price is an International Bible Translation Consultant who is on a mission to bring the Gospel to the Roma people of Southeastern Europe. So far, he and his team have worked to translate fifty Bible stories and the Gospel of Luke. Todd

and his team are currently halfway done with translating the New Testament and are looking forward to continuing this translation project in hopes of more Roma people being transformed through the power of God's Word. Todd is an alumnus of Calvary, and has a B.A. and M.A. in biblical languages, as well as a Ph. D. in N.T. Greek and Corpus Linguistics.

Born and raised in Oklahoma, Todd attended Southern Baptist Churches throughout his life and



came to a belief in Christ at fifteen years old. Right from the beginning of his faith journey, God put on his heart a burden for the lost. After graduating high school, Todd moved to Dallas, Texas where he worked for a missions agency. Two years later, he pursued a B.A. in Biblical Languages at Calvary University, where he met his wife, Pamala, and the couple married before their graduation in 1991. After a year of pastoral ministry, Todd began working for Pioneers, a missions organization focused on reaching the unreached with the Gospel of Christ.

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

- 16-20 – Fall Break
- 23 – Fall Semester Begins
- 28 – **Music Faculty Recital**

NOVEMBER

- 1 – Day of Prayer
- 3 – **Fall Theatre Fundraiser**
- 4 – **Fall Theatre Fundraiser**
- 9 – **Evening Lecture Series**
- 10 – **Julie VanderWoude's Senior Recital**
- 22-24 – Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER

- 1 – **Masterworks Chorus**
- 2 – **Winter Theatre Production**
- 14 – **Evening Lecture Series**
- 18 – Christmas Break Begins

For more details, visit
calvary.edu/calendar

Todd chose the Roma people to reach out to with Bible translation because, he stated, "As I've lived in Eastern Europe, I've observed that the Roma people lead a difficult life. They are looked down upon by society, and they endure much prejudice, making them a marginalized group. Seeing this reminded me of the Lord's burden for the poor and for the despised." Todd's passion to reach the Roma people has only grown stronger over the years, and the result of his and his team's hard work has made a powerful impact on the Roma community.

Seeing the transformative impact of the Bible in the Romas' own language has been a source of great joy for Todd. Many Roma individuals had previously encountered the Bible in languages like Croatian or Serbian but not in their native tongue. There are also many personal stories that Todd has encountered. For instance, one man told him he always gets goosebumps when the Bible is read in his own language, while others have told Todd that they understand the Bible better simply because it is in the same language they speak in their home.

Todd told a story of a man who had been going to church for several years, but all the teachings he had heard were in Croatian. One day, Todd played the translated audio version of Luke's Prodigal Son parable for this man, and he immediately sat up and listened. He later told Todd that he "understood every word" of the passage. Amazingly, he was impacted more by listening to one brief passage in his own language than all the years he had spent going to church and listening to sermons in Croatian.



Todd's vision for the future among the Roma people is ambitious. He and his team would love to see the whole Bible translated so that Roma Churches would be planted as well as become strong in their faith. Ultimately, Todd and his team's hope is that the Roma people would become strong disciples and learn how to feed themselves God's Word.

When asked what he would say to someone who is considering pursuing a degree in biblical languages, Todd stated: "Statistics are absolutely gripping. There are 1.4 billion people in this world who speak 4,670 languages that still need some or all of the Bible translated into their own language. There is a mission to be fulfilled, and you can play a part in that mission." He went on to say that pursuing a degree in biblical languages can open many career paths, from being a secretary for a missions agency to doing work such as he does. Ultimately, "Bible Translation is a big job that still needs to be done" and Todd encourages anyone interested to take the leap of faith and consider impacting people's lives with the power of God's Word. ■

Grace Murphy
Staff Writer

Alumni Updates

MARRIAGES

- Max Belcher and **SUZANNE "SUE" LAWRENCE (CBC88)**, June 24, 2023
- **SAMUEL COCHA (CU22)** and **DEBORAH CLIPPERTON (current student)**, September 1, 2023
- **JESSE HOUSE (CU21)** and Nyssa Peterson, June 1, 2023
- **ZACHARY PIHL (CU22)** and Emily Doyle, September 7, 2023
- **GRIFFIN SCHNETZ (CU22)** and Elizabeth Unruh, July 22, 2023

DEATHS

- **GORDON DEAN KATSION (KCBC58)**, February 14, 2023 (age 88)
- **MONNIE SCHRODER (MB57*)**, April 21, 2023 (age 91)

Memorial Gifts

IN MEMORY OF RALPH BEELER (CBC70)

Janet Meek

IN MEMORY OF ELAINE GRUBBS (KUDRIKOFF CBC73)

Richard Grubbs

IN MEMORY OF ANGELINE LOW

Carl Wong, Dorothy Jung, and South Bay Presbyterian Church

IN MEMORY OF ROSIE WONG

Carl Wong and Dorothy Jung

*Non-degree-holding

Do you have updates to share? Please visit calvary.edu/alumni and use the contact form to let us know what God has been doing in your life!

CONFERENCE on GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

January 22-24, 2024



Missions: For the Glory of God

"Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!"

1 CHRONICLES 16:28



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CALVARY UNIVERSITY

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:



Phil O'Day
President and CEO of
Avant Ministries



Dr. Rick Cross
Executive Director of
Acorn Global Advance

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