

DENVER SEMINARY

M A G A Z I N E

LEAD

Wisely

departments

- 3 Campus News
- 7 Alumni
- 11 Faculty
- 12 Students
- 15 Alumni and Friends
- 17 Resources
- 18 Chancellor's Corner

5



Developing Wise Leaders

Dr. Alex Mekonnen discusses the need and biblical precedence for leaders who are wise.

By Alemayehu Mekonnen, Ph.D.

9

A New Era of Leadership

Denver Seminary Magazine interviews Dr. Mark S. Young, Denver Seminary's seventh president, to learn more about him and his hopes for the future.

By DJ Turner



13



A Joint Venture: Training Students to Lead Wisely

Dr. David Buschart and his wife Nancy explore the concept that developing wise leaders is not something we can do alone.

By David Buschart, Ph.D., and Nancy Buschart, M.A.

15

Biblically-Based Estate Planning Seminar

Preston J. Branaugh, an estate planning attorney, speaks from a biblical perspective on what you need to know to achieve a God-honoring, desirable future for your loved ones and yourself.



in your church

Visit www.denverseminary.edu/magazine for *In Your Church* thoughts, questions and suggestions and for the opportunity to discuss articles in this issue with others from the Denver Seminary community.

in the next issue...

The Fall/Winter issue of Denver Seminary Magazine will explore exciting developments in Denver Seminary's initiatives, including Hispanic, Korean and African American Initiatives as well as the Vernon Grounds Institute of Public Ethics.

If you would like to interact with DSM, or if you would like to send comments or thoughts to the editor, please visit www.denverseminary.edu/magazine.

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president's message

by Mark S. Young, Ph.D.



Prayer for wisdom may be my most frequently voiced request. In this complex, fast-paced, 21st century world I find myself facing a daunting array of choices in just about every area of life. It's no wonder that I frequently feel the need to ask for help in sorting through options and making the best choices. (Would someone remind me why we need to be able to choose from seven different kinds of pizza crust?)

But seriously, doesn't the complexity of modern life seem overwhelming at times? It is perhaps more so in the life of a leader whose decisions affect the livelihoods of dozens of others. Leaders instinctively and acutely feel that they can't possibly know all that they ought to know when facing serious decisions. Thus, we cry out to our God for wisdom. As I begin my new role at Denver Seminary my sense of need for wisdom in navigating complex challenges and decisions grows daily.

Some may be tempted to reduce wisdom to simply "making the best choices." That's a mistake. Leading wisely encompasses much more. In the third chapter of his where-the-rubber-hits-the-road epistle, James reminds us of that. He writes:

"Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such 'wisdom' does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness." (James 3:13-18)

We too often gauge a leader's wisdom solely by the efficacy of his decisions. Isn't that what we're often asking the Lord for when we pray for wisdom—decisions that lead to the outcomes that we have envisioned? Yet James tells us that wisdom is more about virtue than vision. Leading wisely brings people together in communities characterized by humility, mercy, mutual submission, fairness and peace in order to pursue a common goal. A leader who gets the job done but leaves behind battered and wounded co-workers cannot possibly be considered wise.

In the pages that follow you'll find meaningful reflections on the third of Denver Seminary's core mission outcomes: think biblically, live faithfully and lead wisely. My prayer is that you'll find encouragement and challenge from the gifted leaders who have shared their hearts with us about what it means to lead wisely.

Blessings,

Mark Young



“Path of Paul” Trip

From May 16-June 1, 2009, a group of 40 Denver Seminary students and friends traveled many miles to the countries of Turkey and Greece to study the locations Paul visited during his missionary journeys. The trip was organized and taught by

Dr. Bill Klein with assistance from Seminary alumnus Jim Bultema and Dr. Craig Blomberg. From singing the doxology in St. Peter's cave church in Antioch where believers were first called Christians, to walking the streets of Ephesus, to reaffirming baptisms at Lydia's baptism site, to sharing in communion at Corinth, the trip unquestionably enriched the lives and faith of each

traveler. Focus was placed on the Acts of the Apostles, the letters of Paul, and the seven churches of Revelation, along with some areas of Old Testament interest including a Neo-Hittite site and various ancient inscriptions. The trip ended with a visit to the British Museum in London to explore more artifacts from the sites visited. The reality of what one reads in Scripture is overwhelming when standing on the land where Paul and the first followers of Christ stood. The Denver Seminary community was abundantly blessed by visiting the countries of both Turkey and Greece.



194 Graduate at 2009 Commencement Ceremony

Denver Seminary's 58th commencement ceremony was held May 16, 2009 at Southeast Christian Church in Parker, Colo., and included the largest graduating class in Denver Seminary's 59 year history. The graduates, commissioned by Interim President Gordon MacDonald and the board of trustees, included 175 master's level candidates, eight doctoral candidates and 11 certificate candidates. The ceremony was attended by numerous family members and friends. Pastor MacDonald gave the commencement address titled, "Wanted: Prophetic Leaders."

Numerous awards were presented, including the Raymond McLaughlin Preaching Award, given to Benjamin Ward Knox; the Richard S. Beal Missions Award, presented to Jennifer Townsend; and the Carey S. Thomas Award for Excellence presented to Douglas S. Rowland. The training and mentoring department awarded an Excellence in Mentoring medallion to Shirley Lindsay in recognition of her outstanding and continued service as a mentor. Kimberly Claire was the student recipient of the Excellence in Mentoring medallion. Join us in congratulating the class of 2009 and praying for them as they begin the next chapter of their lives and ministry.



Alumnus Named President of Trinity International University

Denver Seminary Alumnus, Dr. G. Craig Williford (M.A., '02) has been named president of Trinity International University in Deerfield, Ill., by a



vote of the Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA) Leadership Conference in Eden Prairie, Minn., on Tuesday, June 25, 2009. Trinity is a private, Christian university comprising four schools and two centers. The institution has more than 2,900 students. "Carolyn and I are humbled and pleased to have the privilege of serving as the presidential couple here at Trinity International University," said Williford. "We express our sincere thanks to the Board of Regents and the EFCA for determining that God has called us to this role."



Gordon and Gail MacDonald

Honoring Gordon and Gail MacDonald

On June 4, 2009, the Board, faculty and staff gathered together for a special luncheon to honor Gordon and Gail MacDonald for their service to Denver Seminary this past year as Gordon filled the role of interim president. Several members of our community acknowledged their gratitude to the MacDonalds for the personal impact they had on individuals, campus groups and the Seminary as a whole.

"I'm personally so thankful for the privilege of seeing a gifted and godly leader in action serving those much younger than himself and modeling what John 13 looks like!" said Dr. Scott Wenig. "Gordon gave of himself to me – and to the rest of the faculty – on so many occasions, and his contribution will always be remembered and appreciated."

In this past year of transition we were grateful to have such a godly couple pour their time and energy into the inner workings of Seminary life. Their care and consideration for the Seminary community will always be appreciated. We look forward to many more years of close connections with the MacDonalds as they continue to actively support Denver Seminary.

Historic Premillennialism Conference Draws 200 Attendees

More than 200 attendees joined Denver Seminary in April for the International Conference on Historic Premillennialism, which was graciously underwritten by a friend of the Seminary. Five speakers, led by Dr. Craig Blomberg as plenary, shared their eschatological perspectives of premillennialism. Please visit our website to download these lectures at www.denverseminary.edu/ichp. You can also visit the Seminary bookstore to pick up the accompanying book on this topic written by two of our professors: *A Case for Historic Premillennialism: An Alternative to "Left Behind" Eschatology*, by Craig Blomberg and Sung Wook Chung (Baker, 2009).



Volunteer Retires After 25 Years of Faithful Service

On April 22, 2009, Denver Seminary hosted an intimate reception to honor long-time library volunteer Herb Hotchkiss. Gifts were presented, and Dr. Vernon Grounds prayed for Hotchkiss and his wife Wanda.



"We estimate that Herb repaired about 20,000 books for the library over his 25 years of service," stated Dr. Keith Wells, director of the library and professor of theological bibliography and research. "He's become a wonderful part of our team, and we are sad to see him go."

"I guess I'll have Wednesday mornings to do something else, now," Hotchkiss stated among both tears and chuckles, "I'll probably start pulling weeds. But I am going to miss the people here... the people, the coffee and sharing puns with Dr. Wells."

Thank you, Herb, for your years of faithful service to Denver Seminary and its students.



Herb and Wanda Hotchkiss

DEVELOPING WISE LEADERS

by Alemayehu Mekonnen, Ph.D.

In my reading of many leadership books, I rarely come across authors whose focus is to make leaders or readers wise. Topics on motivation, assertiveness, power, organizational culture, human behavior, decision making, vision, strategy, planning, etc., are very common. However, the wisdom that the Scripture emphasizes and the teachers of Israel hammer on the minds and hearts of their pupils is difficult to come by from the pens and pulpits of Western teachers and pastors. I often wonder whether we have focused on the peripherals and lost the fundamentals of leadership.

“Israel’s teachers were persistently passionate in their concern to lead their students in the right path. They argued, badgered, reasoned, illustrated, pleaded, and commended in order to make their points. In short, they cared... Wisdom for them was a matter of nothing less than life or death. It was a way in which children of the covenant with Yahweh were to live. And it was the only course in life that made both present and ultimate sense.” (Hubbard 1982:43)

Being children of the new covenant, living between the now and the not-yet in creative tension, I argue that our need for wisdom cannot be less than the children of Israel. And leaders need a double dose of wisdom in our time.

Wisdom is key for survival and success in life. To those who embrace it, wisdom both *shields* them and *leads* them to victory in the battle of life; it *guards* the course of the just, *saves* from the ways of the wicked and *protects* understanding, guarding us as we try to live by right choices and decisions (Proverbs 2:1-16). To highlight the importance of wisdom, God described it in military nouns and verbs. To deliver and rescue is wisdom’s chief mission. Without having wisdom to shield, guard, protect and save us, we often take psychological pills to boost our leadership image and self-confidence to perform our duty, and in the heat of battle, we end up being a Goliath before David.

For those of you who are hungry for wisdom, I encourage you to study the wisdom literature in the Bible, Proverbs in particular. This book warns against perverted speech, loose sexuality, ungodly self-reliance, greed, hastiness, lying, laziness, disruptive social behavior, bad company, etc. These ungodly motives and behaviors are fatal viruses that have ruined the leadership careers and families of many. Instead they could have used their God-given intelligence and time for worthy causes such as inventing medicine; alleviating the burden of the poor; giving hope to those who are languishing in hunger and disease; creating opportunities for education for the world’s illiterates; improving communication and transportation systems in the majority world; being an ambassador of Christ to spread the Good News of salvation; and discipling converts into Christ-like maturity. Those who hate wisdom waste their lives in unproductive, shameful and regrettable ways. The Bible calls these people fools. The best epitaph that fits the description of their lives would say: “The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast. He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly” (Proverbs 5:22-23). Listen to those who thought they had



made it in life and then enjoy the pleasure of this world with lack of wisdom and end up in addiction, divorce or insurmountable debt. Watch those whose children followed a self-destructive lifestyle and now know nothing but making poor choices and bad decisions—these children are bitter and lonely as a result of being neglected by their own parents. Spend time with a congregation whose leader committed adultery or embezzled money while the news is reported by international media, and listen to them with empathy for their bitter disappointments and heart-wrenching grief. Then, and only then, you appreciate the value of wisdom. Wisdom explicitly warns against destructive motives, behaviors and actions. Wisdom describes her assets this way:

“Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoever finds me finds life, and obtains favor from the Lord; but he who sins against me wrongs his own soul; all those who hate me love death.” (Proverbs 8:34-36, NKJV)

The book of Proverbs contains not only warnings but also exhorts knowledge, diligence, wisdom, prudence, discretion, learning, listening, hard work, saving, respecting parents and teachers, trusting God, and fearing God.

In contrast to the ABCs of things that we learned at home, society and school, to succeed in life, for the students of ancient Israel, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge” (Proverbs 1:7). In the culture in which we grew up, fear often has a negative connotation. We are groomed “to fear nothing but fear itself.” As David Hubbard explains it:

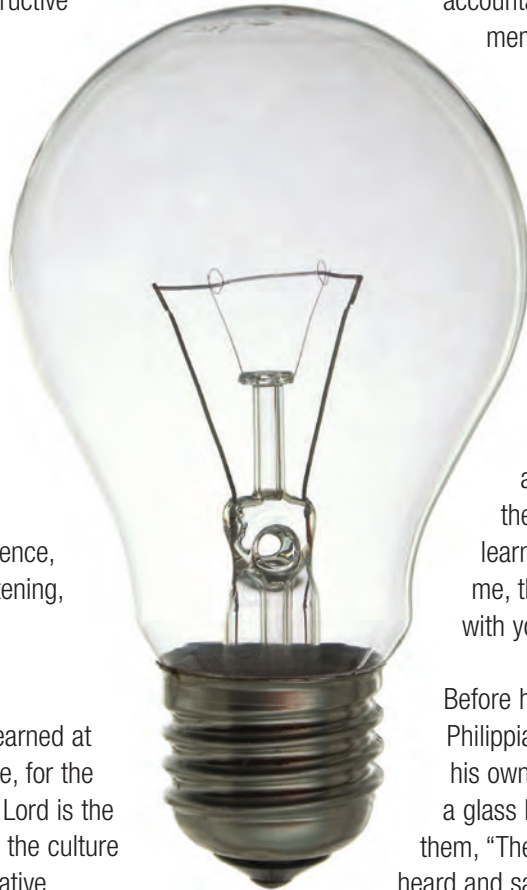
“Fear includes worship, it does not end there. It radiates out from our adoration and devotion to our every conduct that sees each moment as the Lord’s time, each relationship as the Lord’s opportunity, each duty as the Lord’s command, and each blessing as the Lord’s gift. It is a new way of looking at life and seeing what it is meant to be when viewed from God’s perspective... The point is that obeying God is the ceiling as well as the foundation of life. It should lead to knowledge, and in turn, all knowledge should enhance it.” (1982:48)

Knowing God, obeying His commands and being willing to apply His teachings in our daily lives and service are “the ceiling as well as the foundation of life.” As foolish and backward as it may sound to a “modern” mind, the leadership program at Denver Seminary is anchored on this eternal truth.

Both secular and religious organizations are suffering not because their leaders are lacking degrees, money, prestige, or even success stories, but because their leaders lack wisdom; they are killing the trust of those who put them in the very post of influence, power, responsibility and service. Leaders are entrusted to accomplish their duties with integrity and diligence. Wise leaders avoid perverted speeches so that they may not offend their listeners and lose respect in the eyes of their followers. Wise leaders reject the ungodly self-reliance that leads to pride and destruction.

Unblemished character, integrity, truth, reputable friends, accountability, and happy and contented family members are results that edify followers and glorify God; they are the ornaments of wise leaders. In setting an exemplary example of life to others in word and deed, wise leaders exhort people saying:

“...whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue, and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.” (Philippians 4:8-9, NKJV)



Before he expected these virtues in the lives of Philippian Christians, Paul had demonstrated it in his own life while he lived among them. His life was a glass house. With authority and credibility, he tells them, “The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.” Wisdom has pedagogical character, hence, Paul taught them. Wisdom is not irresistible; it has to be voluntarily received by its people. Wisdom is observable, and teachers have the primary responsibility to show it. Wisdom is not mere theory; both teachers and students can and should apply it. There are approved and disapproved workers, and the line of separation between the two divides wisdom and folly (2 Timothy 2:14-26).

Through integrated academic curriculum, spiritual formation classes, mentoring, immersion in the globalization program, communal life and chapel services, we attempt to equip leaders to lead wisely. In all we do in the leadership program, our ultimate goal is to develop leaders who know Christ first before they attempt to make Him known. Jesus is the embodiment of wisdom. **DSM**



Dr. Alex Mekonnen joined the faculty of Denver Seminary in 2008 as associate professor and director of the leadership program. He brings extensive knowledge of and experience in leadership, missions, and cross-cultural communications.

To read his blog, please visit www.denverseminary.edu/alex-mekonnens-blog/

from students to leaders:

by Natalie Corbin

alumni share their wisdom

What does it mean to be a graduate of Denver Seminary? In a style befitting Jesus, let us answer this question with another, “What does it mean to be a follower of Christ?” Certainly this question is for all Christians regardless of seminary education. However, having had the benefit of years devoted to Christ-centered study, Denver Seminary alumni should pursue the answer to this question with the confident discernment of a well-equipped leader—one who can think biblically, live faithfully and lead wisely for a lifetime, bringing glory to God. The combination of training, education, gifts, passions and experience result in faithful followers who have learned how to lead with wisdom.

lifetime of serving

At 72 years of age, **Dave Cauwels**’ (MRE, ’61) life experience and devotion to the Lord makes him an unmistakably wise leader. A graduate of Denver Seminary, and a man mentored by many, including Vernon Grounds, Cauwels humbly defines wise leadership as, “a lifetime of faithfulness, a lifetime of being available, a lifetime of being teachable, and living biblically.”

It is with these very principles that Cauwels and Chuck Colson began Prison Fellowship. Through his service on the board Cauwels discovered that his passion for people extended especially to those in prison. Today, retired from the world of business, Cauwels continues to be an example of wise leadership. He pursues the passions God planted in his heart many years ago as he visits prisoners every week. “If you want to see what God is doing, just look at what He’s doing behind the walls—the church behind the walls.”

Examining his own life Cauwels reflects, “I try to think biblically, I try to live my life as a faithful servant, an available servant, as a teachable servant. I think I learned that at Denver Seminary. I’m just trying to participate in what God is doing across the street and around the world.”

dying to self

After graduating from Denver Seminary’s Counseling Ministries program, **Delene Thomas** (M.A., ’98) returned to her home country of Zimbabwe to put into practice what she had learned through her years of preparation. Through the organization Youth for Christ, she pursued what truly captured her heart—working with women and children in crisis in the poorest neighborhoods of the city.

“Leading wisely means trying to walk that narrow line of having your ear in tune with the Lord and seeing what He’s saying to you when you see somebody else—it’s actually seeing somebody with His eyes. It’s trying to find Him in those people and then listening accordingly. And then also to make sure that my life is right, because without that I can’t do it.” Denver Seminary has played a vital role in this process. Thomas reports, “It was here that I found

so much of that support from professors, and particularly in the counseling department.”

Thomas has continued her work with women and children through the Zimbabwe Foundation. Through it all, she leads by Christ’s example. “To lead wisely for me means to come alongside people in a very special way,” reflects Thomas, “To come alongside them not with my own agenda, but with God’s agenda. I know that ego often gets in the way, and one really has to be listening.”



vision first

Graduate of Denver Seminary and president of Chinese Children Adoption International, the largest Chinese adoption agency in the world, **Joshua Zhong** (M.A., ’89) became a leader when he decided to follow God’s calling. Today, Chinese Children Adoption International has found loving homes for more than 8,300 Chinese children, placing almost two children every working day. All of this began with a vision from God and with leadership from a trusted mentor, Denver Seminary Senior Professor Dr. Ralph Covell.

His deep devotion to vision is something Zhong points to as key for wise leadership. “You have to envision what God would want it to be and then you have to have the strategy of how to accomplish that God-given vision, that God-given goal,” states Zhong. “There is managerial skill. Be humble. Be loving. Be caring. These are all important, but I think they are secondary to vision.”

Leading wisely as a Christian must involve acting globally. Zhong says, “Christianity is about acting—not only in your own community, neighborhood, city, province or country but also globally. I think it is so important to have that enthusiasm. We need to think differently. Go beyond the theological boundary. Be simple-

minded for God. God wants you to reach out. I pray that I will continue to have the enthusiasm and energy to do that.”

a balance of boundaries & practice

With passions for missions, young adults and the local church, Denver Seminary alumna and current adjunct professor **Fran Blomberg** (M.A., '98) has much wisdom to pass on by way of her various roles in leadership on campus, at Scum of the Earth church in Denver, and as board member of missions networking organization MP3.

“I think we live in a very changing world,” states Blomberg. “If we cannot change and maintain integrity at the same time we will be lost in ministry. Leading wisely to me is knowing the boundaries we have to conserve as unchangeable in our theology, and what we must change in our practice in order to continue reaching out to an unbelieving world.”



As a former student and current professor, Blomberg highly values Vernon Grounds' statement that promotes the “freedom to think within the bounds of Scripture.” Blomberg says, “I think that summarizes my main concern: that there needs to be incredible discernment about what is negotiable and what isn't. I think Denver Seminary does an excellent job in maintaining that balance.”

a fight for joy

Denver Seminary alumnus **Jeff Nikkel** has seen the fruits of leading wisely since his graduation from the Master of Divinity program in 2004. He is currently the pastor of the missionary Mennonite Brethren church plant Trailhead.

Nikkel has a three-fold perspective on wise leadership: “I think it really starts with humility. That all I am and all that I have are from God, for God. It means living a life that's worthy of emulation. I have to embody the mission and vision and values of Trailhead. The third thing is to just genuinely love people. What I really want for our folks is to experience all that God has intended for them. I want to fight for their joy.

“My years at Denver Seminary taught me to think theologically and live biblically. The importance of servant leadership, permission to think outside the box, and the freedom to think, dream and ask good questions developed at Denver Seminary for sure.” Nikkel goes on, “There's a lot of integrity among the professors: what they were

teaching and how they were living. When there's that integrity, education is that much more powerful, meaningful and full of impact.”

reality check

As Editor and Chief of the Leadership Media Group and Vice President of Christianity Today International, Denver Seminary alumnus and current Seminary board member **Marshall Shelley** (M.Div., '82) brings a voice of wisdom to church ministry leaders through a diverse branch of media outlets.

Shelley states, “Leading wisely is to be able to accurately define reality. That means, describing where we are currently in history and in our culture and where we are physically and spiritually. To be able to trust that God is redeeming whatever situation we face, that too is part of reality. To be able to understand historically from where we've come and how the culture has changed, that too is part of our reality. And to recognize that God is up to things that

we probably can't fully grasp right now, but we will be able to do down the road.” Shelley stresses that “our authority and credibility comes from God's Word. Understanding how God has communicated in the past, how He's communicated through Scripture, and how He continues to guide us through the Scripture is really at the core of what it means to be a leader.”

Shelley's time at Denver Seminary prepared him to engage and view reality with theological vision. “I think Denver Seminary has done a good job of helping me see things theologically, which is not the way most people see things, but it's a part of reality—being able to see how God is involved in the daily life.”

in conclusion

Caring for widows, orphans and prisoners; spreading the message of Christ to the world; pushing followers to grow in their faith; training leaders; loving the believing and unbelieving; being theologically and practically relevant—leading wisely. This is what it means to follow Christ. This is what Denver Seminary alumni exemplify and inspire. **DSM**

Natalie Corbin is pursuing her Master's Degree in biblical studies, with a New Testament emphasis and plans to graduate in 2010.

To read full articles on the alumni highlighted above, visit www.denverseminary.edu/magazine/



a new Era of Leadership

by DJ Turner

Denver Seminary Magazine recently sat down with new president, Dr. Mark Young, to learn more about him and his hopes for the future.

How has God equipped you to lead Denver Seminary?

When Priscilla and I first received the opportunity profile for the position, there was an uncanny convergence of the need of Denver Seminary and the experiences that we'd had. We never agonized over whether this was how we should proceed; it fit perfectly with our experiences.

Care to share some of those experiences?

Early on, we did non-formal theological training in the former Soviet Bloc, and we saw the power of theological education in the lives of people who had a passion for the gospel but little training. Those years cemented for us a vision for giving our lives to theological training as a way to enhance the expansion of the gospel worldwide.

During my doctoral program at Trinity International University, we worked with a world-class educator who helped us think about what true transformation in the educational process means. He helped us move beyond seeing educational ministry as "giving people good stuff" to seeing education as the process of entering into someone's thinking and value system so that they feel the need to change toward an end that is closer to Kingdom values. We learned to ask: how can an educator create a truly transformative experience for learners?

From there, we went to Poland to put these ideas into practice. In 1990, with Polish pastor Dr. Zygmunt Karel, we started the first

interdenominational evangelical theological seminary in that region. We were engaged in every part of the process—from creating the vision, designing the curriculum, raising the money, setting up the accounting system, hiring faculty, finding facilities, and even painting the stairs... It gave me experience in essentially every dimension of the operation of a theological education program.

And there were marvelous moments of blessing, like when we opened the doors the first semester. It was an incredible responsibility; these students were giving us their lives, because they had given their lives to Christ, and we had the privilege of shaping them for the sake of the gospel. That first semester was like living out my dream.

It is gratifying to see that school still serving the Lord faithfully in Poland. Its current leaders are all from that first group of students that we admitted back in 1990, so we watched those students become the leaders of the Church in Poland.

During that period, too, Priscilla and I experienced the power of our home in the lives of students as we invited them into our lives. Many of those students came from homes that had been wrecked by alcoholism and divorce. Some of them would tell you that the most transformative dimension of their experience was being in our home—seeing a Christian husband and wife interact with one another for the sake of the gospel. Some of them even lived with us—I like to say that our front and back doors were always open, and students, cats, dogs and children just flowed through our living room on a regular basis. It was a wonderful testimony of the

life-on-life transformation that I think is critical in theological education.

When we came back to the U.S. we were reacquainted with the more formal institutional models that are a part of this culture. During the 14 years I've been back in the U.S., I've developed a growing concern that much of what we do in theological education reflects an unawareness of or unwillingness to admit that the society around us has changed dramatically. So dramatically, in fact, that the way we approach theological education in the U.S. is no longer wholly relevant. Many don't seem to want to admit that we live in one of the most rapidly secularizing countries in the world and that the Church has become a marginal voice in our society. We can no longer ignore this reality as we educate people to take leadership roles in the Church and the mission of the Church worldwide.

Then, of course, I had the classroom experience... I love those "aha" moments when students realize how their ignorance, fear or bias has limited their awareness of what God is about in their lives, when all of a sudden they come face to face with what they can be if they're willing to submit themselves to the work of the Spirit. That's what a teacher lives for.

In 2001, we started work at Stonebriar Community Church where I exercised my gifts in an executive leadership role that I hadn't gotten to use since we left Poland. I was reacquainted with the importance of clear goal setting, godly relationships, vision casting, motivating people toward an end that God has laid before them, and the joy of seeing people give generously for a vision. It reignited our love for pastoral ministry and the importance of a parish in God's plan.

How would you describe your leadership style?

The foundation of leadership is trusting relationships. Obviously vision-casting and helping people believe that together you will accomplish a grand goal is what drives us forward, but I'm not sure you can call yourself a leader unless the accomplishment of that vision is grounded in relationships of trust. These relationships are built on

integrity. They are about seeking the good of others and honoring them as they are, helping them find those places in the organization and mission in which they are most able to express themselves fully for the sake of the Kingdom.

It also involves helping people see their weaknesses—compassionately and honestly pointing out when they aren't contributing positively to the accomplishment of the mission.

Clarity is also a key value for me in leadership; a leader has to not only clearly communicate where we're headed, but a leader also has to communicate why we're headed there, how we're getting there, and how we're doing along the way. Everything has to be "on top of the table" in order for trust to develop.

What qualities do you think a "wise leader" possesses?

The fear of the Lord is the foundation of knowledge, so wise leadership is keenly aware of and committed to the prosecution of God's purpose in the world. Wise leadership moves away from any hint of self-interest or gain and is wholly committed to a vision that is grander than any individual's purpose. A wise leader recognizes the mission of God and is able to bring all activities in line intentionally with that purpose.

Beyond that, there is discernment—being willing to carefully consider as much information as you can as you make decisions. It means not responding rashly or emotionally when personally challenged or attacked, but maintaining a sense of the importance of the mission even above one's reputation or ego.

Leading wisely forces leaders to be self-aware; you have to be willing to admit your limitations and surround yourself with those who can help guide the organization toward the mission. There's a real humility engaged in that as well.

What advice would you give to students for wise leadership?

Wise leadership is developed in the crucible of leadership itself. In other words, we can

help create an image of a wise leader in the minds of students, but we won't know if they'll lead wisely until the weight of responsibility creates the emotional and mental burden that a leader faces in order to affect the lives of other people. When you're faced with that responsibility and the complexity of the problems that surround it and you are willing to step back from your own ego, fears and goals to pursue the mission of the organization, then you are leading wisely.

What most excites you about joining Denver Seminary?

When we first considered the Seminary, the optimism about the future of the Seminary on the part of the board and the existing leadership was important to us. It is thrilling to work alongside a group of people who believe in the mission of the school. We're just building on what's already in place. We don't see this as stepping into a crisis situation; it is stepping into a richly equipped and resourced environment with people, facilities and existing leadership that will take us to a place that the Seminary has never been before.

What do you envision for the first months of your presidency?

My first responsibility is to nurture and strengthen relationships, both internally and externally. At the same time, I desire that we begin to think inside-out. Theological education doesn't have a rationale for existence apart from the bigger purpose of God in the world, so we need to make sure that we locate the outcomes of our training in the lives of those who do not yet know Christ. We want to turn our training from the inside outward and make sure that as we teach, train and mentor, we are constantly in touch with the real world, the world that is moving away from valuing the truth of the gospel. **DSM**

For more information about Dr. Mark Young and his appointment as Denver Seminary's seventh president, visit www.denverseminary.edu/presidential-transition/.



Chaplaincy: LEADING INSTITUTIONAL

by Jan McCormack, D.Min.

Change FROM WITHIN

“Chaplain, what’s the ethical implication of this liver transplant?” “My wife doesn’t like when I work with a female officer. Can you get me a new partner?” “I’m expected to attend a goodbye-party at a strip club!” Who would have thought these would be some of the real-world issues I would address as a chaplain? What would my advice do to the person? How would it affect the institution?

A chaplain’s privilege is taking ministry into the institutions in which others work. They are not typically religious institutions and doing “church activities” is not the chaplain’s primary role, nor are they typically welcomed by secular or pluralistic institutions. In the USA, the reason for chaplaincy is found in the second clause of the first amendment to the Constitution: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or *prohibiting the free exercise thereof*...” Chaplains exist to support the “free exercise” of the worker’s religion. Since one’s spiritual health involves their entire being, why would it not include their work lives?

Chaplains minister to two types of clients: the institution and the institution’s employees and families. Ministry *in* the institution is to employees and their families—much like church pastoring, but it often adds the need to help protect individuals from institutional harm and the institution from being harmed by individuals. What is unique to chaplaincy is that chaplains minister *to* the institution itself. Often the chaplain needs to influence the organization to change for the benefit of society or individuals, or is engaged in protecting the institution from harm. If morale is falling in a work center, it can affect the entire mission of the organization.

I was in a staff meeting in which it was reported that people were leaving a unit because morale was low. The commander asked me what I thought was wrong. I said that the top supervisors were both inexperienced and insecure in their decision making. I was surprised when he asked what *I* was doing to correct the problem. I answered that I walked the supervisors through each new type of counseling case. Thinking our conversation over, imagine my surprise when he asked me what *he* needed to do! I hesitantly replied that the head supervisor needed to feel the commander believed in him. He

immediately left to affirm the supervisor. Less than a month later, morale had improved, work separations ended and mission productivity rose. I finally understood that my ministry could affect change in the entire institution.

Yet chaplains have no authority except over their own pastoral care subordinates. They don’t make decisions for management, but they do advise managers. A chaplain is considered an expert on religious issues and may be called upon to help a manager decide if and how employee religious accommodations should be made.

In one company, Muslim workers asked management for, and received, additional break time at the end of their swing-shift in order to “break their day-long fast during Ramadan, where for a month adherents fast during the day.” This meant non-Muslim workers had to work more and longer. Two suits were filed: one by Muslim workers to assure their religious needs were met on the job, and one by the non-Muslims who asserted that they were unfairly treated due to the religious accommodations for the Muslims. Had they asked a chaplain’s advice, managers would have understood that although the Muslim worker’s request was a legitimate religious request, it should not have been accommodated as it was. Instead, managers should have explained the issue to all workers as one of safety, productivity and constitutional compliance: it’s not good or safe to have weak workers. Then the fairness principle needed to be applied. Could the same 15 extra minutes be given to every worker if it was spread across the entire shift with Muslim workers getting their share at sundown? It could have spared the company lawsuits, bad PR and employee ill-will while protecting the “free expression of religion.”

Yes, chaplains can lead change from within the institution! **DSM**



Dr. Jan McCormack joined the fulltime faculty of Denver Seminary in 2000. She is ordained by the American Baptist Churches, USA and is a retired air force chaplain. She also has experience as a hospital, police, prison, NASCAR, drag racing, crisis and trauma, and industrial chaplain.

For more information about Denver Seminary’s chaplaincy program, please visit www.denverseminary.edu/chaplaincy.

Uncommon Wisdom

by Mark Miller (D.Min. student)

wis-dom – noun – The quality of being wise; power of judging rightly and following the soundest course of action, based on knowledge, experience, understanding, etc.; good judgment; sagacity.¹

Over the last 25 years I have accepted from others, with no small degree of false humility, assertions of my possessing the gift of uncommon wisdom. I never really questioned the import of the word *uncommon*—whether it spoke to a spiritual versus worldly component of my gift, or to an above-normal degree of acquired wisdom which was being attributed to my leadership. Honestly? It did not matter. Something about being labeled as one with “uncommon wisdom” puffed me up in those insidious ways that are rarely obvious to others, but are both titillating and terrifying to the one upon whom such distinctions fall. In my youth (defined now as anything under 40) I quickly dismissed the terror and basked in the titillation.

But then I found myself approaching middle-age and suddenly surrounded by younger, smarter and more talented staff—not to mention the sheer scope of our ever-expanding ministry—and I began to wrestle at increasing levels with my capacity to lead wisely within such a context. In fact, I frequently find myself musing to others that I feel as if I know less today than 25 years ago when I entered into church leadership. But as the common paraphrase of Matthew 26:52 goes, “He who lives by the sword, will die by the sword;” and so I find myself needing to present “wiseness” in a season that leaves me feeling as if wisdom has failed me.

This present reality has prompted me to wrestle with a related component of Denver Seminary’s mission: “*Denver Seminary seeks to glorify God by equipping leaders to think biblically, live faithfully, and lead wisely for a lifetime.*” I thankfully and confidently attest to the diligent equipping role that the Seminary has played in my life and ministry over the last four years as I have pursued my current degree. I have received intentional education and mentoring that has stirred me to *think biblically, live faithfully, and lead*. However, I question the ability of the Seminary—any seminary or school of higher learning—to provide the “*wisely*” piece of the equation.

If, by wisdom, we are merely referring to the common worldly understanding as defined earlier by Webster which finds its source in “knowledge, experience, and understanding” then the Seminary can and has fulfilled its mission. My concern is born from the logical conclusion that from the worldly paradigm one must only increase a knowledge-base, experience-base, understanding-base, and capacity to assimilate those resources in order to grow in wisdom. The Word of God seems to indicate otherwise.

While both the Hebrew word and the Greek counterpart which are translated as “wisdom” seem to support the more common “worldly” meaning of the word as one who is skilled in the ability to know how to do something, the use of the word in both Old and New Testament contrarily seems to point more

towards a spiritual capacity to know what God would have us do. While the differences may appear to be subtle, and maybe even inconsequential, a cursory reading of Scripture indicates otherwise.

When speaking of wisdom, the letter of James indicates that such a capacity is needed when lacking, a gift of God’s grace, and will only be allotted when there is evidence of unwavering faith.

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without doubting.” (James 1:5-6a, NASV)

The book of Proverbs, resplendent with its personification of wisdom, even indicates that there is both worldly wisdom (common) and godly wisdom (uncommon) when it reveals that “there is a way (a “wisdom”?) which seems right to man, but its end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12, NASV). This wisdom suggests that all the knowledge, experience, understanding and capacity to assimilate still leads to a devastating decision—a decision that could be avoided by looking not inward to one’s own resources, but outward to the graces of God.

Biblical wisdom calls us then into godly attitudes and behaviors which draw us into the light of God’s glorious will; and out of the worldly attachments of personal aspiration and human agenda which have yet to see the light of God’s glory. Most things can be taught, others can only be “caught,” but the most glorious must be diligently sought for they come only as gifts—gifts of which we are never worthy, but with which we must always be faithful. **DSM**



¹ Webster’s New World College Dictionary, 4th ed. (Cleveland, OH: Wiley Pub., 2005), “wisdom.”

Mark Miller is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree in the leadership in community spiritual formation track from Denver Seminary.

For information about Denver Seminary’s Doctor of Ministry program, please visit www.denverseminary.edu/dmin/





A Joint Venture:

Training Students to Lead Wisely

by David Buschart, Ph.D., and Nancy Buschart, M.A.

Introduction

One of the questions for which the Seminary community needs to have a good answer is, “How does Denver Seminary prepare people to lead wisely?” In responding, wisdom clearly dictates that we begin by acknowledging that one issue of a magazine, much less a single article, simply cannot provide complete answers to these types of questions. We can, however, offer some insight into how the Seminary approaches this strategic and rewarding endeavor by considering one of our guiding principles: we can’t do it alone.

This principle needs also to be stated in the affirmative. If we can’t do it alone, how and with whom do we form students who will lead wisely? Simply put, forming students to lead wisely is a collaborative journey involving students, faculty, training and mentoring staff, the people of local churches, and, preeminently over all, the triune God.

The Triune God

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10a). The first and foremost meaning of the phrase “We can’t do it alone” is a humble recognition that we can only presume to enter into the work of forming students to lead wisely as a result of worshipful submission to our lovingly sovereign God. God the Father calls us in Christ into new life as His spiritual children, a life of joyful service. And, He gifts us with the Holy Spirit to equip and empower us for this life and service. Thus, for example, the Apostle Paul prays, “I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. *I pray* that the

eyes of your heart may be enlightened” (Ephesians 1:17-18, TNIV, emphasis added). Everyone involved in the process of forming students to lead wisely—faculty, mentors, pastors, and, not least, students themselves—can genuinely participate in this process only if it begins and ends with “I pray...”

The People of Local Churches

When God graciously calls us to Himself, we become part of a family—the family of all those whom God has gathered to Himself as His spiritual children. No one follows Christ alone. We follow him, as the first disciples did, together. It is a “given” that the Seminary cannot form people to lead wisely apart from the people of local churches. One of the hallmarks of modern Western society is individualism, and all of us are under the sometimes subtle and subconscious influence of this culture. The only way to keep from being squeezed into this cultural mold is to consciously and intentionally seek out other members of the family of God for guidance and encouragement. Thus, the Seminary and its students actively seek and then welcome the people of local churches—laypersons and clergy—into the process of mentoring and forming of wise leaders. We can’t do it alone.

Training and Mentoring

Training and mentoring at Denver Seminary is based upon the conviction that ministry-skill preparedness and God’s transforming work in individual lives transpire in the context of community. We can’t do it alone. Thus, each student belongs to a mentoring community consisting of a mentoring director who stays with the student through the three- or five-semester training and mentoring experience, a faculty mentor who facilitates a two-semester small group (a peer-mentoring experience), and one or two external mentors, often from local churches. The student meets frequently with individual members of his or her mentoring community, and, every other semester, with the entire mentoring community.

One definition of a mentor is a person who offers “a brain to pick, an ear to listen and a push in the right direction.” Each mentor is watching, listening, seeking to discern how God is working to bring about Christ-like growth. A mentor is a companion who offers the wisdom of having traveled a similar

road and having learned from the obstacles lying in the path. Mentors also ask good questions inviting reflective and critical thinking that is integrative of all facets of life. At the culmination of the training and mentoring experience, having “tasted and seen the goodness of God,” students are invited to become mentors themselves and embrace a life-long mentored life of leading others, wisely.

Faculty

Wisdom is sometimes described as consisting in the right application of knowledge. Though knowledge is not the only thing necessary for wisdom, it is necessary. No one can live wisely or lead wisely without knowledge, specifically knowledge of God’s Word and God’s truths. That is why, for example, the earliest Christians “devoted themselves” to the apostles’ teaching (as well as to fellowship, the Lord’s Supper and prayer; Acts 2:42). Such knowledge is not an end in itself—it is pursued with a view toward right application, toward leading wisely. Faculty members in all academic disciplines seek to form students to lead wisely by modeling wise leadership in the classroom and beyond. From the “content” which is engaged in class sessions, to interaction with students outside the classroom, to overseeing assignments requiring students to engage both church and world, to participating in ministries beyond the Seminary, the faculty do not do their work “alone” but in concert with students, with each other and with the people of God, under God.

Students

The triune God is at work in students’ lives prior to their arrival at Seminary. For many students, the church has been the avenue through which God’s call has come upon their lives. Many students come having had countless mentors. Some of these have been people who have been identified specifically as “mentors,” and have had a structured mentoring relationship with the student. Others have profoundly shaped a student’s identity and character development in the context of a personal relationship, not necessarily described as “mentoring.” Still others are people whom a student may never have met—indeed, some of these people may not even be alive today—but they have exerted a formative influence nonetheless through, for example, their writings or their involvement

in the life of the church and the world, whether past or present. The contributions of all these people even prior to a student enrolling in the Seminary is an important starting-point for new contributors— faculty, mentors and local church congregations—who continue to invest in students’ lives. The convergence of multiple sources of input, both past and present, makes Seminary a place of whole-person growth.

A teachable spirit and a readiness to grow in the knowledge and wisdom of God are essential to incoming students. “Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me” (Psalm 25: 4-5, TNIV). Students grow in their capacity to lead wisely by being willing to be led. Those who lead wisely know that the first shall be last and the last shall be first (see Matthew 20:16, 27; Luke 13:30; Mark 10:31).

Conclusion

What strikes us in looking through this window into the way that Denver Seminary forms students to lead wisely is the fact that the basic principle—“We can’t do it alone”—is one which is applicable not only to the Seminary and its students, but also to each person who seeks to be a wise Christ-follower. First, the fear of God—humbly and confidently acknowledging His loving sovereignty—is the beginning of all wisdom. Second, we need the companionship, nurture and wise guidance of a local community of Christian faith, learning from both its “leaders” and its “followers.” And, third, we all need to be students, growing in wisdom by worshipping the triune God and studying His will and His ways in the fellowship of brothers and sisters in Christ. Recognizing that “I can’t do it alone” is itself a sign of wisdom. **DSM**



Dr. David Buschart has been a member of Denver Seminary’s faculty since 1998. He is professor of theology and historical studies, and also serves as an associate dean. His wife Nancy Buschart is an alumna of Denver Seminary (MA, ’02) who has mentored many students and currently serves as a mentoring director. She is an experienced teacher, spiritual director and retreat speaker. Both are active members of Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church.

To learn more about Denver Seminary’s approach to training students to lead wisely, please visit www.denverseminary.edu/lead/ or to read Nancy’s blog, visit www.denverseminary.edu/the-three-questions/.

GENEROSITY FORUM

by Doug Johnson of The Charitable Fund

The Generosity Forum began amidst a passion for inspiring and nurturing followers of Christ toward generosity. A small group met over the early months of 2008 sharing our experiences, hopes and dreams for a more generous community and praying for guidance and understanding of how both individual and institutional roles could advance that cause. The Generosity Forum arose out of that process with the idea of providing a venue where advisors, ministry and corporate leaders, donors, donor wanna-bees, students and other individuals could enter into conversation about what biblical generosity really means.

Looking back over our first year of monthly forums, which was sponsored by The Charitable Fund and hosted by Denver Seminary, we have hosted over 250 individuals sharing an early Monday morning meeting with speakers and colleagues desiring to understand the heart and practice of biblical generosity. Past speakers include local attorney Thom Scheffel, entrepreneur Tim McTavish, author and pastor Gordon MacDonald, ministry leaders Howard Dayton and Al Mueller, and Seminary professor Craig Blomberg, among others. The common charge to these speakers was clear: challenge us toward a deeper understanding of biblical generosity and turn us loose to discuss this with others. I am certain that as we remain faithful to His call to be generous towards others, our community will experience refreshing, even outrageous, moments of God's people being "rich toward God." Join us for our next Generosity Forum on Oct. 12, 2009.

Biblically-Based Estate Planning Seminar

You are invited to a unique estate planning event on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 to 11:30 a.m., in the Executive Board Room of the Graber Administration Center. Denver Seminary recognizes the tremendous potential to advance the gospel worldwide through the estates of Christians. Today only about half the population has even a simple will, and many have estate plans that actually will do more harm than good. We believe it will be a tremendous blessing to those who attend, even to those who already have an estate plan in place.

Our event speaker will be Preston J. Branaugh, an estate planning attorney with offices in Denver. Preston and his family are members of Arvada Evangelical Covenant Church. This subject matter will be presented from a distinctively biblical perspective. You will come away from this meeting understanding exactly what you need to know to achieve a God-honoring, desirable future for your loved ones and yourself. There is no cost to attend but we do need you to register ahead. Please call Brian Fort at 303-762-6924 to confirm your place as space is limited. Spouses are also invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

New E-Devotional

Begin your week with encouraging devotional thoughts from Denver Seminary's faculty, senior faculty and president. You are invited to subscribe to Denver Seminary's new email devotional. These short, thought-provoking devotions are designed to nourish, inspire, challenge and encourage through Scripture and reflection.

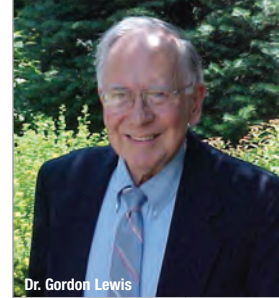
We started sending devotions on August 31; to see current and archived devotions, please visit our website at www.denverseminary.edu/devotions. This web page also contains a link to the subscription form so that you can have the devotions delivered to your inbox or RSS feeder.



Endowed Graduation Award in honor of Dr. Gordon Lewis and Dr. Doug Groothuis

Ian Colle ('09 M.A. in Philosophy of Religion) has established an endowed graduation award to honor Gordon Lewis, senior professor of Christian philosophy and theology, and Doug Groothuis, professor of philosophy. Colle says, "Some of the greatest moments of inspiration I received as a student at Denver Seminary were in classes taught by Dr. Lewis and Dr. Groothuis. At first glance, we knew students might have easily overlooked these seemingly mild-mannered professors of philosophy. Little did any of us know that we were about to begin learning at the feet of battle-hardened warriors in the fight against the powers of evil. They taught us that ideas have consequences and that intellectual warriors must join the fight by being able to defend their faith with sound arguments. Holing up in our Christian compound and ignoring what was going on in the world around us was never an option. Both men teach with a passion for the objective truth of Christianity and for equipping future leaders to defend that truth. By creating this endowment, I hope to ignite that passion in future generations of philosophers from Denver Seminary and ensure they remember the great shoulders upon which they are standing."

This award will be given at graduation to an outstanding philosophy of religion student. Colle encourages all students and alumni impacted by these two professors to make additional gifts to support this award fund. To make a gift, please contact Brian Fort at 303.762.6924 or brian.fort@denverseminary.edu, or send a gift directly to the Office of Advancement, noting that your gift is for the Lewis/Groothuis graduation award fund.



Dr. Gordon Lewis



Dr. Doug Groothuis

Charitable Beneficiary Designation

If you are concerned with potentially high estate taxes, the charitable beneficiary designation is a good choice because the benefit payment is generally excluded from your estate for tax purposes. One of the most tax-efficient ways to invest in Seminary students is by designating Denver Seminary as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, whether it is a 401(k), 403(b), IRA (individual retirement account), or other qualified retirement program. These assets could be taxed at a very high rate upon your death, therefore many advisors recommend retirement plan assets as the first to be designated for charitable purposes. A percentage of the policy or the entire amount can be designated. Life insurance policies can also be donated in the same way so there are many options available to use your estate to support Seminary students. Because you may change the beneficiary designation at any time, your decision is revocable. To make this change, simply go online or call the custodian of your account and ask for a "change of beneficiary" form.

Please let Denver Seminary know if you decide to make a gift in this way so we may add you to the Legacy Society. If you have questions, please contact Brian Fort at 303-762-6924 or brian.fort@denverseminary.edu. As with any decision involving your estate plans, we urge you to seek the advice of professional counsel when considering a gift to Denver Seminary.

Psalm 39:6—Man is a mere phantom as he goes to and fro: He bustles about, but only in vain; he heaps up wealth, not knowing who will get it.

7TH ANNUAL DENVER SEMINARY golf tournament



SEPTEMBER 28, 2009

Registration Deadline: September 11

Play golf while supporting students, and get a free pair of Callaway golf shoes!

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Registration, driving range, box lunch and shoe pickup

12:30 pm

Shotgun start

5:30 to 6:30 pm

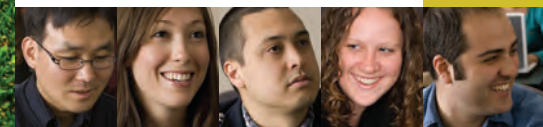
Clubhouse dinner, awards, door prizes, silent auction

TO REGISTER, VISIT

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Cristianos en la frontera/ Christians at the Border (Spanish Edition)

M. Daniel Carroll R. (Casa Creacion, 2009)

Immigration is one of the most pressing issues on the national agenda. This accessible book provides biblical and ethical guidance for readers who are looking for a Christian perspective on the immigration issue. As both a Guatemalan and an American, the author has immersed himself in this issue and is uniquely qualified to write about it. Drawing on key biblical ideas, he speaks to both the immigrant culture and the host culture, arguing that both sides have much to learn about the debate. This timely, clear, and compassionate resource will benefit all Christians who are thinking through the immigration issue.



Israelite Religions: An Archaeological and Biblical Survey (Korean Edition)

Richard S. Hess (Christian Literature Crusade, 2009)

Archaeological excavation in the Holy Land has exploded with the resurgence of interest in the historical roots of the biblical Israelites. *Israelite Religions* offers Bible students and interested lay leaders a survey of the major issues and approaches that constitute the study of ancient Israelite religion. Unique among other books on the subject, *Israelite Religions* takes the Bible seriously as a historical source, balancing the biblical material with relevant evidence from archaeological finds.

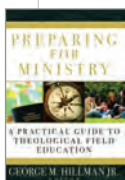


Jesus and the Gospels: An Introduction and Survey, second edition

Craig L. Blomberg (English version: B&H Academic, 2009)

This second edition of *Jesus and the Gospels* prepares readers for an intensive study of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and the events they narrate. Craig Blomberg considers the historical context of the Gospels and sheds light on the confusing interpretations brought forth over the last two centuries. The original 1997 book won a Gold Medallion Award from the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association,

and this updated version, factoring in new scholarship, debate, critical methods, and the ongoing quest of the historical Jesus, ensures the work will remain a top tool for exploring the life of Christ through the first four books of the New Testament. The book is available in English, Portuguese and Korean.



Preparing for Ministry: A Practical Guide to Theological Field Education

George G. Hillman, Jr., editor (Kregel, 2008)

Written for ministry students, Bible college and seminary professors, church leaders, and nonprofit organization leaders, *Preparing for Ministry* addresses many of the questions raised by field education, contextualized learning experiences and internship programs. Readers will learn about the value of theological field education, its purpose and challenges, the need for flexibility in education, and the resources available for students and instructors. Denver Seminary's Don Payne contributed to this book.



Seasons of the Soul: Stages of Spiritual Development

Bruce Demarest (IVP Books, 2009)

Every Christian is on an amazing journey. But the unfortunate truth is that many of us live largely detached from this fact. Days go by, but it can be hard to feel a sense of movement or growth. Sometimes, in periods of doubt and depression, we might feel stuck in the same place for months. Yet the truth remains that from the moment we give Christ control of our life, we set out on the most significant journey that exists: the journey of becoming like Jesus. In these pages, spiritual formation professor and New Testament scholar Bruce Demarest helps us grasp the whole picture of the journey we're on that we might live our days with intention and keep moving toward maturity in faith.



Transforming the World? The Gospel and Social Responsibility

Jamie A. Grant and Dewi A. Hughes, editors (Inter-Varsity Press, 2009)

Evangelical Christianity has long been plagued by a dichotomy between evangelism and social action. The debate about whether evangelicals should attempt to make this world a better place in tune with God's will, as well as prepare people for life in a better world, is the background to this stimulating volume, which seeks to demonstrate that there is no tension between the task of evangelism and the Christian's obligation to care for those in need. The issue should never have been one of "either/or" but rather should always have been voiced in terms of "both/and." The Bible's teaching makes it plain that God's salvific work is both spiritual and physical. Denver Seminary's Dr. Daniel Carroll R. contributed to this book.

Other Faculty Writings on Our Website

If you'd like to read other articles by some of our faculty—including the new President's Blog: "Living Inside Out"—be sure to check out the faculty blogs on our website (www.denverseminary.edu/blogs/) or read the latest book and commentary reviews on the Denver Journal (www.denverseminary.edu/dj/). New to the Denver Journal is a free email subscription service in which you can be automatically notified when new reviews are posted.

Editor's Note: Due to health issues, Dr. Grounds was not able to write the Chancellor's Corner for this issue of the Magazine, so Pastor Gordon MacDonald graciously offered to write a guest article. If you would like updates on Dr. and Mrs. Grounds' health, please visit www.denverseminary.edu/grounds-updates

WANTED: wise leaders

Three words connect like legs on a tripod when one speaks of leadership. The first is competence and speaks to the question of how one leads. The second is knowledge and it takes into account the information one needs to lead. And the third is wisdom; it focuses upon one's ability to discern reality in alignment with the heart of God.

We live in a time where the first two qualities—competence and knowledge—seem in abundance. But one suspects that the third—wisdom—may be in dangerously short supply.

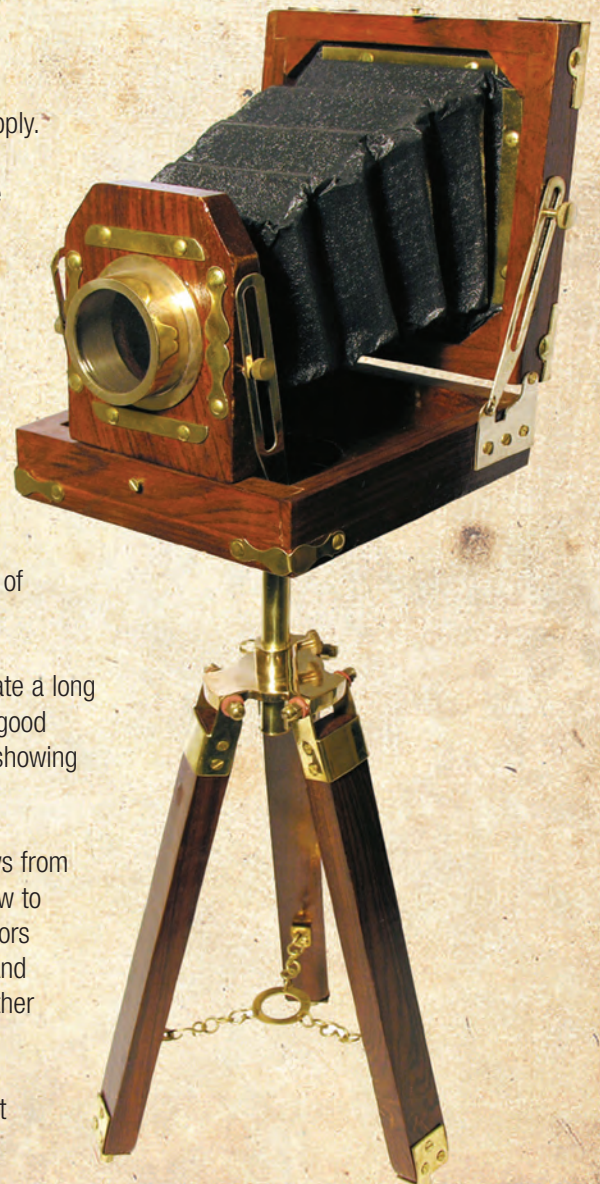
Because we are biblical people, we usually turn first to Scripture and allow it to influence our view of reality. When the theme of wisdom arises, both Testaments offer sterling examples of what the wise man or woman looks like. Joseph and Moses, for example, would top my list. And they would be followed by Nehemiah, Esther and Daniel as well as Isaiah, Jeremiah and Elijah. In the latter part of the Bible, I'd add Simon Peter (in his later life), Barnabas, James, and of course, Paul. Mary, mother of our Lord, should not be overlooked, and neither should Aquila and Priscilla, the mentors of Apollos. At the head of the Biblical parade of wise people: the Lord Jesus Himself.

Wise people are those who take seriously the idea that, if God pleases, they have 50 years of spiritual influence ahead of them. Fifty years to continuously learn and grow through study, experience, error and discipline. Fifty years to engage people in the name of Jesus and show them in word and action the truly Christ-like life.

Wise people understand the difference between substance and superficiality. They cultivate a long view of God's activity in the world. They challenge people by their own conduct to make good choices in alignment with a biblically-defined life. In short, wisdom in leadership means showing people how to respect God and His ways.

At Denver Seminary there is strong conviction that the development of such wisdom flows from several sources. It begins with sound teaching in the classroom where students learn how to think and dialogue about God's purposes in the world. It continues with designated mentors who help students integrate what they are learning with life in the so-called real world. And the massing of wisdom takes a leap forward when students head out to churches and other places of service and put what they've learned to work.

All of this happens when you, the Seminary's partners, pray, give and talk to others about what you see happening here.



If Denver Seminary has made an impact on you...

Imagine what we could do for your friends and family

If you know someone who might benefit from a Denver Seminary education, visit us online at www.denverseminary.edu/referrals and fill out the short referral form, or ask them to visit www.denverseminary.edu. We'll get them started on the journey of discovering how Denver Seminary might have an impact on them, too.



PRESIDENT'S LUNCH

Monday, September 21
Monday, October 19

Tuesday, November 17
Tuesday, December 15

Enjoy a complimentary lunch with Denver Seminary's President Mark Young, along with members of the staff and faculty. See into the lives of the leaders of tomorrow by hearing from some of our students. Find out how you can partner with us in equipping these leaders by becoming a prayer partner, volunteer or financial supporter. Come hungry for fellowship and food, leave satisfied and inspired by the work of the Lord on this campus and in our students, faculty and staff. RSVP one week prior to each luncheon you plan to attend at www.denverseminary.edu/lunch/ or 303-762-6949.

GENEROSITY FORUM

Sponsored by The Charitable Fund and hosted by Denver Seminary, the Generosity Forums are designed to encourage generosity that honors the life and work of Jesus. Each event is free of charge, and coffee and pastries are served. Everyone who attends will receive a free copy of the book, *Generosity: Moving Toward Life that is Truly Life*. Register online or listen to past forum presentations at www.denverseminary.edu/generosity/

Oct. 12 7-8:15 a.m. Mark S. Young, president of Denver Seminary
Check the website for future dates.



Chapel Schedule

- Aug. 31, Sept. 1 Welcome Celebration
- Sep. 7 Labor Day:
No Common Ground
- Sep. 8 Convocation
- Sep. 14-15 Spiritual Life Conf.:
Dr. Peter Scazzero
- Sep. 21 Fall Job Expo
- Sep. 22 Church Fair
- Sep. 28 Mathews Lectureship Series:
Dr. Robert Cutillo
- Sep. 29 Mathews Lectureship Series:
Dr. Gary VanderArk
- Oct. 5 Dr. Doug Groothuis:
Spiritual Warfare 1
- Oct. 6 Doug Groothuis:
Spiritual Warfare 2
- Oct. 12-13 Robert Gelinas:
Jazz Chapel
- Oct. 19-20 Midterm Break:
No Common Ground
- Oct. 26-27 Dr. Mark Young
- Nov. 2-3 Shannon Lectureship Series:
Dr. Ramona Spilman
- Nov. 9-10 Justin McRoberts:
Compassion Intl
- Nov. 16-17 Dr. Don Payne:
Imago Dei
- Nov. 23-24 No Chapel:
Thanksgiving Break
- Nov. 30, Dec. 1 Dr. Mark Young
- Dec. 7-8 Student Council Chapel

Chapel is held at 11 a.m. in the Simpson Chapel and is open to the public.