

Curriculum Vitae

J. Kent Edwards

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Education:

PhD. studies
2009 - present
Cook School of Intercultural Studies, BIOLA University
La Mirada, CA
Intercultural Education

Preaching Fellow
1999
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary,
South Hamilton, Massachusetts with Dr. Haddon Robinson

D. Min.
(With Distinction)
1998
Denver Conservative Baptist Seminary,
Denver, Colorado

D.Min. Thesis-Project
The Relationship between a preacher's understanding of the Old Testament Narrative Literary Genre as it impacts both Hermeneutics and Homiletics and the Preachers Skill in Preaching sermons from the Old Testament Narratives. (Supervised by Drs. Keith Willhite, Bruce A. Demarest and Scott A. Wenig.)

This thesis-project examined the relationship between an understanding of the Old Testament narrative literary genre, as it impacts both hermeneutics and homiletics, and selected preachers' skill in preaching from Old Testament narrative passages of Scripture. This thesis-project assumed that biblical genre should influence both hermeneutics and homiletics, but lengthened the logical line of influence to ask, "Does an enhanced understanding of the relationship between genre and hermeneutics and homiletics improve the actual skills of preaching?" Project participants completed cognitive and practical tests before and after taking a course in Old Testament narrative genre taught by this researcher. There were statistically significant differences in the participants pre-course and post-course test scores. A correlation between an increased understanding of Old Testament narrative genre and the skill of preaching from that literature was established.

M.Div. (Honors)
1989
Tyndale Seminary (formerly Ontario Theological Seminary),
Toronto, Ontario

B.Th. (Honors)
1981
Canadian Bible College,
Regina, Saskatchewan

Professional Experience:

2005 - present
Woodland Hills Neighborhood Church, Woodland Hills, CA
Senior Pastor

This part-time position involves the re-planting of a C&MA congregation outside of Burbank, California. In addition to weekly preaching and leadership responsibilities, I oversee a full-time associate pastor an administrative assistant and a part-time pastoral intern. I am currently spearheading a \$500,000 building renovation program.

2004 – present

Talbot Theological Seminary of BIOLA University, La Mirada, CA

*Professor of Preaching and Leadership
Director, Doctor of Ministry Programs*

During my time at Talbot I have taught the following master level courses: *Expository Preaching, Contemporary Biblical Preaching and Narrative Preaching*. To ensure that this instruction occurs within the context of relationship, I have invited to my home for dinner. In addition, my wife has been significantly involved in *Talbot Wives Fellowship* and we have hosted numerous events for faculty wives and husbands in our home.

I evaluated Talbot's existent D.Min and introduced a 'revitalized' D.Min program to better meet the needs of students and participating faculty. This has involved the preparation of extensive written and budgetary documentation as well as the creation of seven new Doctor of Ministry specialty tracks. I have also designed a new Talbot D.Min web page, created numerous D.Min brochures and written a new D.Min Student Handbook. The revitalized D.Min program is now Talbot's second largest and fastest growing program with over 150 students. I supervise two full-time employees; Dr. Bruce Seymour (Assistant Director) and Dominic Vincent (D.Min Associate.)

I have taught the following Doctor of Ministry courses: *Character and Leadership Development, Research Methodologies and Data Interpretation*. I currently serve as the faculty-mentor for the Ministry Skills, and Preaching the Literary Forms of the Bible D.Min tracks.

I was promoted from the rank of *Associate Professor-3 to Professor-1* in January 2008.

2000 – 2004

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, MA

Director, Doctor of Ministry Programs; Administrative Faculty

As Director of the D.Min. programs, I oversaw Gordon-Conwell's 27 specialist tracks and its 630 enrolled students. During my tenure as Director, enrollment has more than doubled. In addition, ten new tracks received institutional approval, a partnership with Pyongyang Seminary in South Korea was initiated, a partnership with Tyndale Seminary in Toronto was negotiated and institutionally approved and the *Institute for Ministry Excellence* has been established. The projected net revenue for our D.Min. programs for my final year was \$1,250,000 with a profit of over \$670, 000.

As a member of the faculty, I taught homiletics extensively at the M.Div., Th.M., and D.Min. level. My courses included: *The Preacher and the Message* (S. Hamilton), *The Preacher and the Audience* (S. Hamilton,) *Preaching the Narratives of the Old Testament* (S. Hamilton,) *Dramatic Preaching* (S. Hamilton & CUME,) and

Preaching as Listeners Like it for Ockenga / Oasis. I also created served as faculty mentor for the Doctor of Ministry track: *Preaching the Literary Forms of the Bible*.

I also taught extensively in the area of ministry. At the M.Div. level I taught a course in *Pastoral Ministry* (S. Hamilton) while serving as faculty mentor for two *Pastoral Skills for the 21st Century* D.Min cohorts. I also created and served as faculty mentor for the Doctor of Ministry track, *Advancing the Church*.

My commitment to teaching preaching internationally during this period remained strong. I accepted invitations to teach preaching at seminaries in Moscow, Manila and the highlands of Papua New Guinea.

2002 – 2004

Haverhill Alliance Church, Haverhill, MA.

Interim Pastor

This part-time position involves preaching and leadership responsibilities for a congregation of 200.

2001 - present

Alliance Biblical Seminary, Manila, Philippines

Adjunct Professor of Preaching

I regularly teach intensive two-week module courses in one of the leading evangelical seminaries in the Philippines. Courses taught include *Dramatic Preaching* and *Preaching the Narratives of the Old Testament*.

1991 - 2000

Valley View Alliance Church, Newmarket, Ontario

Founding / Senior Pastor

Not wanting to always “build on someone else's foundation,” my family and I moved to southern Ontario to plant a church in this highly secular area near Toronto. Since its inception, God has blessed our church with remarkable spiritual and numerical growth. In June of 1995, we planted a daughter church in a nearby community. In March of 1997, I led our congregation through a successful building project that involved a move into new enlarged facilities. When I resigned from Valley View, it was a leading church in the community with four full time pastors on staff.

1995 - present

Tyndale Seminary (formerly Ontario Theological Seminary), Toronto, ON

Adjunct Professor of Preaching

One of my lifelong goals has been to assist pastors become effective biblical communicators. I began accomplishing this goal by regularly teaching a variety of master's level homiletics courses at Canada's largest seminary. Until moving to South Hamilton, I taught an average of six courses per year at Tyndale. While living in the Toronto area I developed and taught five sequential preaching courses for Tyndale: *Introduction to Preaching*, *Advanced Preaching*, *Preaching The Narratives of the Old Testament*, *Dramatic Preaching* and *Preaching to the Post-Modern Mind*. I have continued to teach one course per year at Tyndale Seminary since coming to Gordon-Conwell.

1996 – present

Canadian Theological Seminary, Calgary, Alberta

CTS – East, Toronto, Ontario

Adjunct Professor of Preaching

I teach at least one course per year at the denominational seminary of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada. Courses taught include *Introduction to Preaching*, *Advanced Preaching*, *Preaching the Narratives of the Old*

Testament, Narrative Preaching, Dramatic Preaching, Preaching to the Post-Modern Mind and First-Person Preaching.

- 1988 - 1991 **Beverly Alliance Church**, Edmonton, Alberta
Senior Pastor
- 1984 - 1987 **Redwater Alliance Church**, Redwater, Alberta
Pastor
- 1981 - 1984 **Hope Manor**, Petersburg, Ontario
Program Co-ordination / Chaplain
- 1981 - 1983
(part-time) **Lincoln Heights Missionary Church**, Waterloo, Ontario
Assistant Pastor

Professional Activities:

Papers and Publications

- 2009 Selected to present juried paper, "Deep Preaching: Creating significant sermons within community" at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Homiletics Society, October, 2009.
- 2009 Authored *Deep Preaching: Creating Sermons that Go Beyond the Superficial*, published by B&H Academic. (August 2009)
- 2009 I wrote and recorded a series of eight 15-minute Bible video presentations for the Gideons International in January 2009. These highly professional segments enjoy worldwide distribution.
- 2009 Serving as General Editor, I published the inaugural edition of *The Journal of Christian Ministry*. This juried publication is the journal of the Association for Doctor of Ministry Education (ADME.)
- 2009 Presented juried paper *Deep Preaching* at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) in Rhode Island.
- 2008 *What will I serve for Dinner?* Lead article in the Jan/Feb 2008 edition of *Preaching* magazine.
- 2008 Book review accepted for publication by JEHS - Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society.
- 2007 *What will I serve for Dinner?* Article printed in Fall 2007 edition of Talbot's Sundoulos magazine.
- 2007 Book review accepted for publication by JEHS - Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society.
- 2007 "Stories for Adults" was the featured article on the PreachingToday.com website in April 2007.
- 2006 Presented juried paper, "Stories are for Adults: Equipping preachers to communicate Biblical narratives to adult audiences," at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Homiletics Society. This paper won the 'Willhite Award' as the most outstanding paper of the conference.
- 2006 Selected by Zondervan to endorse the back cover of Kenton Anderson's new book: 'Choosing to Preach.'
- 2006 Elected to serve as founding editor of 'Journal of Ministry' the academic journal of the Association of Doctor of Ministry Education.
- 2006 Presented 'Doctor of Ministry Pedagogy' workshop at the annual meeting of the Association of Doctor of Ministry Education.
- 2006 Two book reviews accepted for publication by JEHS - Journal of the Evangelical

Homiletics Society.

- 2005 Authored *Effective First-Person Biblical Preaching* for Zondervan. Released September, 2005.
- Selected by PreachingToday.com as honorable mention for 'Book of the Year' in 2005.
 - Selected by Preaching Magazine as one of 'The Best Preaching Books' of 2005.
- 2005 *Why Preach?* – article accepted for publication in June 2005 edition of the JEHS - Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society
- 2005 'Word for Word' – interview featured by Gene Edward Veith of WORD magazine for article on plagiarism in preaching, in WORLD - April 30, 2005 edition
- 2005 Contributed two chapters to *The Art and Craft of Biblical Preaching*, (Zondervan, 2005) Haddon Robinson and Craig Brian Larson, General Editors
- 2005 Book review accepted for publication by JEHS - Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society
- 2004 Book review accepted for publication in the journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society.
- 2004 *Blockbuster Preaching* article appeared in Gordon-Conwell's Winter 2004 CONTACT magazine.
- 2003 Contributor to "It's All About How You Tell It" (Baker, 2003) by Haddon and Torrey Robinson.
- 2003 My first person sermon, "Samson" was published in PulpiTalk, the audio journal of Gordon-Conwell's Centre for Preaching. This sermon, as well as an interview with Dr. Haddon Robinson, appeared in the July 2003 edition.
- 2003 My first-person sermon, "Eliab," appeared in the March 2003 edition of Preaching Today (part of the Christianity Today family of publications) in both written and recorded format. This edition also featured a 15 minute segment in which Brian Larsen interviews me about writing first-person sermons.
- 2002 Contributing author, *Perfect Illustrations for Every Topic and Occasion*, Tyndale House Publishers, Craig Brian Larsen ed.
- 2002 Cassette copies and video tapes of the five sermons I preached at the Gideon's 102nd International Convention were mass produced for their world-wide constituency. Transcripts of these sermons were also featured in their magazine.
- 2001 Presented a juried paper entitled 'Innovation and Communication' at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Homiletics Society.
- 2001 Published two book reports in the premier issue of the Evangelical Homiletics Society Journal.

- 2001 Presented a paper entitled '*Preaching the Narratives.*' at a public lectureship sponsored by Pyongtaek University in Korea. Paper was subsequently published in Pyonataek's journal.
- 2001 Published a series of articles for preachingtoday.com: *Language of Application, Jigsaw Puzzle Sermons* and *Good Sermon - Wrong Text.*
- 2000 Presented a written response to Robert McQuilkin's *Spiritual Formation Through Preaching* at a plenary session to the annual meeting of the Evangelical Homiletics Society.
- 1991 - 1999 Published numerous preaching articles for various Canadian C&MA publications.
- 1999 Published numerous illustrations with preachingtoday.com.
- 1998 Presented a juried paper entitled "The Need for Narrative" at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Homiletics Society.

Preaching & Presentation Events

- Aug. 2009 Workshop Leader, Presented two one-day seminars on preaching / communicating Scripture to the staff and senior laypeople at *The Rock Community Church* in Yorba Linda, CA.
- July, 2009 **Bible Hour Speaker - Gideons International 102nd Annual Convention The Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio**
Preached three sermons and lectured twice on leadership to an audience of over 5,000 people from 120 different countries. It was a special honor to be invited a second time speak at this venue.
- Jan. 2009 **Sams Visiting Professor of Preaching**, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, MA.
- Aug. 2008 **Conference Speaker**, Living Hope Community Church retreat, Idyllwild CA.
- Aug. 2008 **Plenary Speaker, Leadership in the 21st Century**, Gideons International, North Platte, Nebraska
- Aug. 2008 **Bible Hour Speaker**, Gideons International Zone 2 retreat Rapid City, South Dakota
- Aug. 2007 **Workshop Leader**, 'How to Teach/Preach Biographical Messages.' Evangelical Free Church, Fullerton CA.
- April, 2007 **Workshop Leader**, (Pedagogy in DMin Studies,) Annual meeting of the Association for Doctor of Ministry Education, Lutheran Theological Seminary,

Phil, PA.

- Sept. 2006 **Bible Hour Speaker**, Gideons Zone 9 Rally, Lancaster, PA
- Aug 2006 **Plenary Speaker** Leadership Summit, Gideons Zone 3 Rally, North Platte, Nebraska.
- April 2006 **Workshop Leader**, (Pedagogy in DMin Studies,) Annual meeting of the Association for Doctor of Ministry Education, Denver Seminary, Denver CO
- April 2006 **Plenary Speaker**, Korean Gospel Broadcasting Preaching Conference, Los Angeles, CA
- April 2006 **Bible Hour Speaker**, Gideons Zone 8 Rally, Shroon Lake, NY
- April 2006 **Bible Hour Speaker**, Gideons Zone Rally, Los Angeles, CA
- Feb. 2006 **Chapel Speaker** – BIOLA University, La Mirada, CA
- Dec. 2005 **Baccalaureate Speaker** – Talbot School of Theology, LA Mirada, CA
- Oct. 2005 **Chapel Speaker** – Talbot School of Theology, La Mirada, CA
- May 2005 **Plenary Speaker** – ‘Conversations with the Emerging Church’ conference, Biola University, La Mirada CA.
- Oct. 2004 **Presidential Address** – Evangelical Homiletics Society, Wake Forest, S.C.
- Oct. 2004 **Denominational Training** - Three-day in-service training event for the New England District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance
- Nov. 2003 **Lecturer** – Russian Center for Church Multiplication, Moscow.
Taught preaching to 25 Russian pastors and missionaries in a one-week intensive format. I will teach the same pastors in the same format for two additional years.
- Sept. 2003 **Bible Hour Speaker** - Gideons International Zone 9 Rally, Cherry Hill, NJ.
- March 2003 **Denominational Training** - Salvation Army, Sharon, MA.
Led an all day training event in preaching for the 350 officers of the Massachusetts Division of the Salvation Army
- Sept. 2002 **Chapel Speaker** – Nyack College, NY.
Preached to 1000 college students.
- Sept. 2002 **Workshop Leader** – “Getting the Story Straight: Narrative Preaching,” at Inaugural conference of Center for Preaching, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.
- Aug. 2002 **Conference Speaker - Okoboji Lakes and Bible and Missionary Conference, Arnolds Park, Iowa**
Preached at ‘Evening Celebrations’ and taught the Pastors Conference

- July 2002 **Conference Speaker – Missionary Aviation Fellowship, Madang, Papua New Guinea**
Preached six times to career missionaries serving with a variety of missions organizations.
- April 2002 **Bible Hour Speaker** – The Gideons International Zone 8 Rally, Shroon Lake, NY
- April 2002 **Speaker, Annual Scholarship and Friends Luncheon, Gordon-Conwell**
Spoke to 90 members of *The 1884 Philadelphia Society*.
- March 2002 **Conference Speaker** – “Vision New England Men’s Conference – Avon, CT.
- Aug. 2001 **Chapel Speaker** – Salvation Army Seminar on Counseling – Gordon Conwell
Spoke five times during this week-long conference
- July 2001 **Bible Hour Speaker - Gideons International 102nd Annual Convention**
The Convention Center, Charlotte, NC.
Preached five sermons to an audience of over 5,000 people from 90 different countries.
- June 2001 Preached via translator in two significant Korean churches in Seoul Korea.
- June 2001 **Conference Speaker. Rumney Bible Conference, Rumney, NH**
Preached seven times during a one-week conference at this historic bible conference grounds.
- 2000 **Conference Speaker. Staynor Camp, Staynor, ON.**
Preached ten times for the Evangelical Missionary Church during this one-week Bible Conference.
- 1999 **Keynote Speaker – Tyndale Seminary Pastoral Training Seminar:**
Tyndale Seminary: Toronto, ON.
- 1999 **Conference Speaker. Mishewah Family Camp, Killaloe, ON.**
- 1998 **Plenary Speaker.** National C&MA Vietnamese Conference
- 1997 **Plenary Speaker.** Eastern Canadian District, Christian & Missionary Alliance
- 1996 **Seminar Speaker.** General Assembly of the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada

Professional Designation and Association Memberships:

1986 - present	Ordination with Christian & Missionary Alliance Church
1997 - present	Evangelical Homiletics Society (EHS) – Past president. Elected member of executive from 2000–2005, 2006-2007
1998 - present	Academy of Homiletics
1999 – present	Association for Doctor of Ministry Education (ADME.) Elected annually to serve on the Executive Board since 2005. Elected to serve as the founding and General Editor of the academic journal <i>The Journal of Christian Ministry</i> .
2008-present	Evangelical Theological Society

Awards:

2007-2009	Marquis “Who’s Who in America”
2006	‘Willhite Award’ awarded by the Evangelical Homiletical Society for the outstanding paper presented at their annual conference: “Stories are for adults: Equipping preachers to communicate Biblical narratives to adult audiences.”
2006	Barnabus Award, from the Association of Doctor of Ministry Education

Ambition:

My goal is to glorify God by changing people’s lives with the word of God and help others do the same.

Interests:

Boating and scuba diving.