

Walter Bo Russell, III

Personal Vitae

May, 2005

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Born: May 9, 1948 in Bolivar, Missouri
Trusted Christ: February 9, 1958
Married: August 18, 1973 to **Marty Megarity** in Columbia, Missouri
Children: **Elizabeth** (b. 1978), **Christopher** (b. 1980; d. 1982), and **Jonathan** (b. 1983)
Ordained: May 25, 1980 by Pantego Bible Church, Arlington, Texas
Present Position: Professor of New Testament, Talbot School of Theology, BIOLA University
(La Mirada, California)
Present Address: 5962 Short Street, Yorba Linda, CA 92886; (714) 779-1129

My wife **Marty** has a B.S. in Elem. Ed. from the University of Missouri (1971). She spent two years on the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ (1972-74) and has also taught elementary school for three years (1974-76; 1989-90). She earned an M.A. in Biblical Studies from Dallas Theological Seminary with highest honors in 1978. She was the Assistant to the Director of the Women's Ministry at the First Evangelical Free Church of Fullerton, California from 1991-1996. From 1998-2000, she was Assistant to the Director of Talbot Impact Ministries, Biola University, and the producer of Biola University's daily radio program, "Speak Up." She is an adjunct professor at Talbot School of Theology in Women's Ministries.

Education

B.S. in Business Administration	University of Missouri, 1970
Th.M. (Christian Education & New Testament)	Dallas Theological Seminary, 1978
M.A. in Theology (New Testament)	St. Mary's Seminary & University, 1987 (Baltimore, MD)
Ph.D. in Hermeneutics & Biblical Studies	Westminster Theological Seminary, 1991 (Philadelphia, PA)

Honors and Grants

Received P.T.A. Scholarship to college as outstanding graduate of my high school class of 465 (Raytown South H. S., Raytown, Missouri), 1966
Graduated with High Honors, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1978
Recipient of the Arthur C. Gannett Award in Christian Education, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1978
Recipient of the Timothy E. Knudsen Memorial Prize, Westminster Theological Seminary, 1986 & 1987
Recipient of Lilly Grant for Faculty Scholarship, 1991 and 1993
Recipient of Fieldstead Foundation Grant for Postmodernism Seminar, 1992-1993
Recipient of Dean's Incentive Award, Talbot School of Theology, May, 1994

Recipient of Biola University Research Grant, 1996, 1998, 2000
Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2004, 2005.
Biola University Faculty Excellence Award, Alumni Association, December, 2001

Professional Membership

Evangelical Theological Society
Society of Biblical Literature
Institute for Biblical Research
The Catholic Biblical Association

Professional Presentations

- March, 1990 Eastern Regional Meeting of Evangelical Theological Society (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
- November, 1990 National Meeting of Evangelical Theological Society (New Orleans, Louisiana)
- November, 1991 National Meeting of Evangelical Theological Society (Kansas City, Missouri)
- November, 1994 National Meeting of Evangelical Theological Society (Chicago, Illinois)
- November, 1995 Annual Conference of American Society for Church Growth (Chicago, Illinois)
One of three keynote speakers evaluating "Church Growth at the End of the 20th Century"
- September, 2000 The Christian Heritage Lecture, Biola University

Parachurch Ministry Experience

- 1971-74 Campus Director, Campus Crusade for Christ, University of Mississippi
- 1970-71 Campus Staff, Campus Crusade for Christ, University of South Carolina
- 1979-81 Seminar Instructor, Walk Thru the Bible Ministries

Pastoral Ministry Experience

- 1974-75 Youth Ministry Intern, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas
- 1976-78 Associate Pastor, Forest Meadow Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas (focusing on evangelism and young couples)
- 1978-80 Director of the University of Texas at Arlington Ministries, Pantego Bible Church, Arlington, Texas
- 1980-87 Church planter and co-pastor, Grace Fellowship Church, Baltimore, Maryland
- 1988-90 Church planter and co-pastor, Grace Evangelical Free Church, Lynchburg, Virginia
- 1990-2005 Guest and interim preacher in over 30 churches in southern California
- Summer, 1995 Elder Consultant, Church of the Saviour, Wayne, Pennsylvania
- 2001-2003 Elder Consultant, Granada Heights Friends Church, La Mirada, California

Community Ministry Experience

My wife and I were involved in the Pro Life movement in our area and worked with the Crisis Pregnancy Center in Baltimore. We also had an unwed teenage mother live with us for six months and saw her through her delivery and the adoption of her baby by a Christian couple. We have also had a ministry of way-of-life-discipleship to a succession of fourteen college and post-college age singles who lived with us from 1982-1990 and 1996-2004.

Teaching Ministry Experience

- 1978-80 Instructor, Religion Department, University of Texas at Arlington
- 1979-81 Lecturer, Walk Thru the Bible Ministries
- 1983-84 Lecturer, Baltimore School of the Bible
- 1981-87 Director/Lecturer, Grace Discovery Center (Baltimore, MD)
- 1986-2004 Lecturer, U.S. Center for World Missions' "Perspectives on the World Christian Movement" Course
- 1987-90 Assistant Professor of New Testament, Liberty University
- 1990-2005 Associate, and now Professor of New Testament, Talbot School of Theology, BIOLA University

Publications

Journal Articles and Review Articles

- "The Anointing with the Holy Spirit in Luke-Acts," *Trinity Journal* 7 NS (Spring, 1986) 47-63.
- "An Alternative Suggestion for the Purpose of Romans," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 145 (Apr.-Jun., 1986) 174-84.
- "The Holy Spirit's Ministry in the Fourth Gospel," *Grace Theological Journal* 8 (1987) 227-239.
- "Who Were Paul's Opponents in Galatia?" *Bibliotheca Sacra* 147 (1990) 329-350.
(also included in the anthology *Vital New Testament Issues: Examining New Testament Passages and Problems* [Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1996] 146-164, 271-276; Roy B. Zuck, gen. ed.)
- A Review of Jouette M. Bassler, editor, *Pauline Theology, Volume 1: Thessalonians, Philipians, Galatians, Philemon* (Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1991) *Steadfast* 6:5 (March, 1992) 7.
- "Rhetorical Analysis of the Book of Galatians, Part 1," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 150 (July-Sept., 1993) 341-58.
- "Rhetorical Analysis of the Book of Galatians, Part 2," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 150 (Oct.-Dec., 1993) 416-439.
- A Review of Richard N. Longenecker's *Galatians* (Word Biblical Commentary 41), *Westminster Theological Journal* 55 (Spring, 1993) 159-161.
- "Does the Christian Have 'Flesh' in Galatians 5:13-26?" *The Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 36 (1993) 179-187.
- "Insights from Postmodernism's Emphasis on Interpretive Communities in the Interpretation of Romans 7," *The Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 37 (1994) 511-527.
- "The Apostle Paul's Redemptive-Historical Argumentation in Galatians 5:13-26," *Westminster Theological Journal* 57 (Fall, 1995) 333-357.
- A Review of Anthony Thiselton's *New Horizons in Hermeneutics. The Theory and Practice of Transforming Biblical Reading* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992, 703 pages) in *Trinity Journal* 17NS (1996) 241-243.
- "Forty Years of Church Growth: A View from the Theological Tower," *Journal of Church Growth* 6 (1995) 17-41.
- A Review of Timothy George's *Galatians. The New American Commentary, Volume 30* (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1994) in *Themelios* 23 (October 1997) 83-85.
- "Is There Healing in this Application?" in *Christian Research Journal* 27:1 (Feb., 2004) 58-59.
- A Review of Vern S. Poytress & Wayne A. Grudem, *The Gender-Neutral Bible Controversy* (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000) in *Philosophia Christi* 6:1 (2004) 177-181.

“Psalm 2:7: The Created Meaning of the Created Son,” in *Christian Research Journal* (2005) forthcoming.

Popular Magazine Articles

"What does this verse mean to you?" *Sundoulos* (Winter, 1992).

"What It Means to Me," *Christianity Today* (October 26, 1992) 30-32.

(reprinted in *Herald of Holiness* [November, 1993] 14-17).

(also reprinted in *Vista Holiness Digest* [October 23, 1994] 2).

(also reprinted in *Pathways for Young Adults Student Guide* [March, April, May, 1995] 8-11).

(also reprinted in *What About the Bible?* [Dialog Series Books; Kansas City, MO: Division of Sunday School Ministries, Church of the Nazarene, 1996]).

(also reprinted in *Why Small Groups?* [Study Book Series; Gaithersburg, MD: People of Destiny International, July, 1996] 121-127).

(also reprinted in *Discover the Word. Reading the Bible for All Its Worth*, Everett Leadingham, editor [Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City, 1997] 83-90).

"Matthew 24:14 - Do We Need to Evangelize ALL Peoples before Christ Returns?" in *Adoption: A Practical Guide to Successfully Adopting a People Group*, Bruce K. Camp, editor (Pasadena, CA: U.S. Center for World Mission--Mobilization Division, Nov., 1993) 10-12.

(reprinted in *Mission Frontiers Bulletin* 16, nos. 7-8 (July-August, 1994) 14-16.)

(also reprinted in *Alliance Life* [C & MA] 130, No. 2 [Jan. 18, 1995] 8-9, 12 under the title, "When Will Christ Come?").

"My Theological Concerns about the Church Growth Movement," in *Sundoulos* (Spring, 1997) 2-5.

"How I Learned to Love God's Word," *Discipleship Journal* 123 (May/June, 2001) page 59.

"Avoid Every Appearance of Evil," *Biola Connections* (Summer, 2003) 31.

"Is There Healing in this Application?" in *Christian Research Journal* 27:1 (Feb., 2004) 58-59.

A 4-Part Series on Hermeneutics in *Boundless*, a Focus on the Family Webzine (www.boundless.org):

"The Hazards of Reading on a Battlefield," November 12, 2003 in *Boundless*.

"'Indians Slay Tigers' and Braking for Genres,' December 18, 2003 in *Boundless*.

"Overcoming Verse-bite Christian Culture," January 22, 2004 in *Boundless*.

"Grave Lessons about Application," February 19, 2004 in *Boundless*.

"Facing the Pain of Dementia," *Biola Connections* (Summer, 2004) 16-17.

Chapters in Books and Study Notes

Introduction and Reference Notes on "Romans" and "Galatians" in *The Life Recovery Bible* (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992).

"The Apostle Paul's View of the 'Sin Nature'/'New Nature' Struggle," "A Response to David M. Cioocchi," and "A Response to Sherwood Lingenfelter" in *Christian Perspectives on Being Human: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Integration*, edited by J. P. Moreland and David M. Cioocchi (Baker Book House, 1993) 207-228, 112-114, and 147-149.

"Literary Forms in the Hands of Preachers and Teachers," in *Cracking Old Testament Codes. A Guide to Interpreting the Literary Genres of the Old Testament*, edited by D. Brent Sandy and Ronald L. Giese, Jr. (Nashville: Broadman/Holman Press, 1995) 281-298.

"Romans" and "Galatians" in *Top Picks of Commentaries on the New Testament* (Biola University, 1999) 17-20, 25-28.

"Kingdom Confusion: The Concern for Ethnocentrism in the Book of Acts," in *Institute of International Studies Reader* (Pasadena, CA: Institute of International Studies, 2003) forthcoming.

"What Does it Mean to Say, 'Jesus is Messiah?'" in *The Apologetics Study Bible*, forthcoming.

"Notes on Galatians," in *The Apologetics Study Bible*, forthcoming.

Books

📖 *Tracing the Blessing of God: A Survey of the New Testament and the Intertestamental Era* (U. S.

Center for World Mission, 1997).

📖 *The Flesh/Spirit Conflict in Galatians* (Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1997).

📖 *Playing with Fire: How the Bible Ignites Change in Your Soul* (Colorado Springs, Co: NavPress, 2000).

📖 *The Grander Plan: A Mission-Sensitive Survey of the New Testament and Intertestamental Period* (in process).

I see publications as a part of my contribution to the renewal of the church and to world evangelization. All of my writing centers around **my three life themes**: the primacy of the Great Commission in the life of the church, the renewal of the church through the development of dynamic community, and the strengthening of the church through vibrant teaching of the Scriptures. I see these as great needs that I want to help meet as a writer.

Courses I Have Taught

University of Texas at Arlington: O.T. Survey, N.T. Survey, Acts, Revelation, The Life of Christ (4 gospels), Bibliology, Ethics, Life and Theology of Paul, Christology

Walk Thru the Bible: Walk Thru the Old Testament, Walk Thru the New Testament

Baltimore School of the Bible: N.T. Survey (over two semesters)

Grace Discovery Center: Bible Study Methods, O.T. Survey, N.T. Survey, Theology of Luke-Acts, Life and Theology of Paul, Christology

Liberty University: *Undergraduate*: Greek Grammar II, N.T. Survey I and II, New Testament Life and Literature, Romans (English Bible), and Theology Survey II

***Graduate*:** Greek Exegesis of Romans 1-8, Greek Exegesis of Galatians, Greek Exegesis of Philippians, Greek Exegesis of Colossians, Romans (English Bible), The Old Testament in the New Testament, New Testament Literature (extra-biblical and biblical genre), Seminar in Pauline Theology, Hebrews (English Bible), Acts (English Bible), and Hermeneutics

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary (Brea Campus): New Testament Introduction I and II.

Biola University: *Undergraduate*: N.T. History and Literature, Elementary Greek, Greek Exegesis, Pauline Theology: Romans, Psychology and Christian Thought, The Bible and Spiritual Formation, The Life and Ministry of Jesus, Theology and the Christian Life (BOLD), Romans (BOLD), Acts (BOLD), N.T. History and Literature (BOLD), Galatians (BOLD).

***Graduate*:** Introduction to Exegesis, Exegesis in the Gospels, Exegesis in Acts and the Epistles, Exegesis of Galatians, Hermeneutics, Advanced Hermeneutics, Exegesis of Romans, Romans (English Bible), Galatians (English Bible), Survey of Matthew-Revelation, Hermeneutics and Spiritual Formation (Institute for Spiritual Formation), Biblical Theology of Leadership and Community, and Theology I: Foundations of Integration (at Rosemead School of Psychology).

Talbot Institute of Biblical Studies: Hermeneutics: How to Interpret the Bible, Adventures in Romans 1-8.