



*Can one's studying the Scriptures provide an answer for all that life puts forth? Dr. Rae purports that they can and gives some suggestions in this issue's Speaking Freely.*

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. II Timothy 3:16-17

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- + Professor Scott Rae discusses the use of the Bible in challenging ethical dilemmas.
- + Student Judy Camp purports the need for churches to remain intellectually strong.
- + Alumnus Nathan Gann tells how his Talbot MA Philosophy education helps him minister to those looking for answers.

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## SPEAKING FREELY: THE USE OF THE BIBLE IN ETHICS

DR. SCOTT B. RAE

Christian ethics begins with God revealing His character and corresponding moral principles in the Bible. The foundation for Christian ethics is the character of God, on which moral principles and rules are based. The goal of Christian ethics is to emulate the character of God, and the specific moral principles and rules help spell out more precisely what that involves.

As a result, Christian ethics will be a blend of virtue ethics and deontological ethics. The Bible is clear that God's revelation of His

character and commandments is not confined strictly to the Bible, as the discussion of natural law suggests. But natural law functions as a supplement to the Bible as a source of God's self-revelation. Thus, the Bible is a central source of information for Christian ethics, and when it speaks to a moral issue, it does so with authority.

However, it is one thing to recognize that the Bible is the authoritative source for Christian ethics. It is quite another to use it correctly. To insist on the centrality of the Bible does not justify simplistic proof-texting, often done out of context, to address complex business ethics problems. Rather, one goes to the Scripture primarily to discover broader principles that then can be applied

## ETHICS (CONT'D)

to specific situations encountered in business.

It is true that the Bible has a good deal to say about money and materialism. Although the Bible does address some business practices, those practices occurred in the ancient world, with an economic system very different than a globalized market economy. Much of the Bible's teaching on money has more to do with what a person does with his or her wealth and their attitude toward it than some of the specific issues in the practice of business today. All that is to say that applying the Bible in ethics can be complicated.

The Bible was written in an ancient context, in which life was predominantly agricultural. Most people lived in small villages, centered around their extended families.

Government was usually by a monarch and individuals had little if any input into the laws that regulated their lives. There were no stock markets, no sophisticated financial tools, no equivalent of the banking system, and nothing remotely resembling a mass communications network like the internet. Though there was international trade, most economic activity was directed at subsistence. There were many economic abuses, exploitation of the vulnerable and resulting cries for economic justice in many places in the Bible.

The economic world of the Bible was very different than that of today. It is unreasonable to expect that the Bible would directly address complex issues such as insider trading, mergers and acquisitions and consumer safety, since these are relatively new issues, far removed from the sociological world of Biblical times. However, it does have a good deal to say about general principles of economic justice,

fairness and integrity in one's business dealings. As long as there have been human communities, there has been economic activity, and the Bible boldly addressed economic injustices of its time. Though the specific issues certainly have changed, there is nothing new about Biblical ethics addressing economic life and business practices.

When interpreting the Bible and applying it to contemporary business, one should recognize that the Bible

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*Though the specific issues certainly have changed, there is nothing new about Biblical ethics addressing economic life and business practices.*

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was written in different types of literature, each of which has its own distinctives. Much of the Bible was written in story, or narrative format, making its point by telling a story. Other types were written in poetry, which includes the Psalms and much of the prophets, using vivid figurative language that was designed to evoke an emotional as well as rational reaction from the reader. Wisdom literature, especially the Proverbs, were intended as short, pithy sayings whose primary goal was to be memorable, not technically precise. The Proverbs are intended as "rules of thumb" which have periodic exceptions.

The Law of Moses, contained in the books of Exodus-Deuteronomy, records God's legislation to set up the nation of Israel, and is written as

a body of laws in a unique time in Biblical history, when Israel was what was called a theocracy, that is, when the law of God was automatically the law of the land. The letters, or epistles of the New Testament were written in the form of a pastoral letter, which uses a combination of warm personal comments and compelling rational argument to make its point.

In general, the goal of interpretation of any Biblical passage is to discern the intention of the original author for the original audience. To understand the intent of the original author, you must realize that the Bible was written within a specific cultural context. For example, the command to wash one another's feet makes little sense in today's culture since today roads are paved, we don't wear sandals and don't get places very often by walking long distances. There are numerous commands in the Bible that fit in this category. In fact, some of the commands that apply most clearly to business practices, such as the year of Jubilee (which required that all land be returned to its original owners every 50 years—think of what that would do to today's real estate markets!) need to be understood within the context of a predominantly agricultural society in which raw land was the principal, and often, only, tangible asset a person would have.

Most Biblical principles have "shoe leather" on them, that is, they are embedded in real life in that culture. Usually the specific practice expresses a broader moral principle. For example, believers in the New Testament are commanded to "greet one another with a holy kiss," "wash one another's feet," and "work with their hands." A holy kiss applied the principle of hospitality, foot washing applied the principle of willingness to perform lowly service, and manual



## AS I SEE IT

DR. SCOTT RAE, DEPARTMENTAL CHAIR

In getting ready to start my day on a recent morning, I looked out the kitchen window and noticed that the flowers in our yard were blooming and I could hear birds chirping somewhere nearby. Now in the two-season region of southern California where I live, this isn't an abnormal occurrence. Yet, it did remind me of the fact that spring was on its way. There is a changing about in our yard as the days grow longer and the nights grow shorter that is causing plants to grow and motivating birds to nest.

Similarly, I sense a movement about in our society when I pick up a copy of *US News* or hear a news report on the radio. Citizens are no longer willing to sit quietly in the midst of courts deciding cases like Terri Schiavo's this past winter. No longer are our churches able to watch on the sidelines and allow the denizens of the world decide what is okay to say and what isn't. Some within our country

are demanding answers for why they have lived their lives in such a way for so long. It appears as if we are on the edge of something big.

As you read this issue of *With All Your Mind*, may you grasp the immensity of the opportunity with which our nation is presenting the church, not only in academia but within the local scene as well. This opportunity is well captured in this issue of *WAYM*. In response to a number of concerns received about the Schiavo case, I was asked to comment on the use of the Bible in ethical dilemmas and provide some guidelines and cautions in the faculty feature article. Current student Judy Camp writes a similar article on the need for our churches to remain intellectually strong and provide a beacon of hope and truth to not only its congregation but those in the community. Wrapping up this issue is alumnus Nathan Gann's (2004) "letter home," where he talks a lot about what

Judy's article calls the church to do.

Clearly, there are murmurings of something brewing, people asking questions on philosophical topics that they had not previously considered nor in which they had any interest. When God calls us to "make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you," as Peter writes to the scattered believers, may we be ready (I Peter 3:15)! May we be ready for whatever God is calling us to do and help raise His banner of truth, humility and grace above this nation, and the world. And, perhaps even more importantly, may our minds and souls be aligned close enough to the Father's so that we, like the flowers, can begin to prepare when we sense these changes.

Yours,

Dr. Scott Rae

## ETHICS (CONT'D)

labor applied the principle of working hard to support oneself and one's family. Principles are the intermediate step between specific practices in the ancient setting and specific practices in today's setting.

To apply the Bible correctly, you should distinguish between general principles and specific practices. Many times the specific practice is conditioned by the culture and is not normative for today. But the general principle is usually a moral norm for today and can be applied a different specific situation today. For example, to apply the principle of hospitality,

we greet with handshakes instead of kisses.

As a general rule, if the practice still communicates the underlying principle, it is likely that the practice is to be taken as a norm for today. To put it another way, the greater the similarities between the ancient context and today, the more likely it is that a command of the Bible is still a norm. So for example, in many cultures, a greeting kiss does not communicate hospitality, so the principle can be expressed in a culturally appropriate way. Or working hard to support one's family can be expressed through many

different ways, not simply through manual labor. Many of the commands of the Bible are culturally conditioned in this way. When that is the case, the goal of application is to seek the underlying principle and attempt to apply it to today's setting. Principles are not the end point, but the goal is the application of principles to real life.

## DEPARTMENTAL HAPPENINGS

IN AND AROUND MA PHIL

### PH.D. ACCEPTANCES

Recent MA Philosophy graduates have received an unprecedented number of acceptances in Ph.D. programs as of late. As of press time, graduates from the past two years reported Fall 2005 acceptances (and where they plan to attend this fall):

**Paul Gould (2003):** Loyola University Chicago, Purdue (Purdue)

**Shannon Holzer (2003):** Baylor

**Jesse Newton (2003):** University of Virginia-Charlottesville and Florida State University (UVA)

**Greg Bock (2004):** University of

Tennessee-Knoxville

**Martin Drumm (2004):** Baylor

**Greg Finley (2004):** Oxford

**Paul Franks (2004):** Oklahoma

**Beth Johnson (2004):** Colorado, UC-Santa Barbara, Oklahoma (Colorado)

**Andrew Nam (2004):** Purdue, Baylor, Bowling Green (currently attending

Baylor)

**Brian Pinkston (2004):** Virginia, Florida State University, Tulane, Rice and Miami; (currently attending Virginia)

**Josh Rasmussen (2004):** University of Texas-Austin, UC Irvine, UC Boulder, Notre Dame (currently attending Boulder,

transfer to Notre Dame this fall)

**Tomas Bogardus (2005):** City University of New York, UC Davis, Indiana, UT-Austin (Austin)

**Joseph Pak (2005):** UC Irvine

**Garrett Pendergraft (2005):** Missouri

**Luke Van Horn (2005):** UT-Austin, Notre Dame, Purdue (Notre Dame)

**Josh Wilkinson (2005):** University of Houston Law Center

Congratulations, graduates and alumni, on this achievement! The *With All Your Mind* community is praying for you as you make a major life transition.

### PAST COLLOQUIA

We had the opportunity for three colloquia this semester by Drs. Robert Audi, Richard Davis and Bill Dembski.

In February, Dr. Audi gave two lectures, speaking on "Divine Command Morality and the Autonomy of Ethics" and "A Decision Framework for Ethical Decisions in Business." Dr. Audi is David E. Gallo Professor of Business Ethics at the Uni-

versity of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business, where he teaches Conceptual Foundations of Business Ethics.

In April, Dr. Richard Davis lectured on "God and Propositions," where he discussed how propositions depend for their existence on a divine mind. He argued that since there clearly are these propositions, there must be an omniscient mind. Dr. Davis is Associate Professor at Tyndale University College in Toronto,

Canada. Also in April, Dr. Bill Dembski spoke on "Displacement and the No Free Lunch Regress." Dr. Dembski is associate research professor in the conceptual foundations of science at Baylor University and a senior fellow with Discovery Institute's Center for the Renewal of Science and Culture in Seattle.

For copies of Dr. Audi's handouts, see the response card on page 11.

### PRAYER OVER THE SUMMER

As the summer is just weeks away, please pray for the MA Philosophy community as its members look ahead to the many things that God will be doing in them and through them. The following is a small list of what is happening within the department:

#### Faculty writing and speaking events:

Pray for God to strengthen our faculty and give them wisdom as they write journal articles and book chapters and speak at various conferences.

#### Graduates starting Ph.D. Programs:

Ask the Lord with the MA Philosophy faculty for God to help our graduates in moves and adjusting to new environments in the process of starting Ph.D. programs.

#### New students enrolling for fall semes-

**ter:** As our new students come for the fall, pray similarly that their transition into southern California is seamless and that God grants them understanding as they start the rigors of the program in August.

**Staff working over the summer:** Lift up our staff as they work throughout the summer to assist our faculty and prepare the events and activities of this coming academic year.

### RECENT SOCIAL EVENTS

In December, the department held its annual Christmas Party at Biola in the Cafeteria Banquet Room. Students, faculty and staff and their families attended. In an effort to make the event more "kid-

friendly," this year's party was held after the traditional Biola Annual Tree Lighting, put on by Alumni Relations. A good time was had by all as they fellowshiped and ate (what else?!).

May brought not only good weather and

tunes of "Pomp and Circumstance" to the ears of our graduates, but also our annual Beach Party, held again at Corona del Mar State Beach in Corona del Mar, CA. Students enjoyed a BBQ dinner on the beach and being at the firepits into the night.



## HAVE WE LOST OUR MIND?

BY STUDENT JUDY CAMP

*In this issue of With All Your Mind, we caught up with current student Judy Camp, who graduates in May 2005. She and her husband Carl have been married for 28 years and have attended First Evangelical Free Church of Fullerton for 20 years. Judy and Carl have four children--Beth, Andrew Deborah and Anna--and one grandson, Matthew. In addition to Judy being a student at Talbot, Beth and Andrew are Biola alumni, and Deborah is a current student. The following is a précis Judy wrote for one of her classes:*

There is a critical lack of “christianly” thinking and scholarship in our society today, at both a personal and an institutional level. As a result, Christians have lost their voice in the intellectual arena, and are often openly assaulted there. Higher education has become an almost exclusively secularist venue, contributing to a great divorce between the secular and the sacred in the lives of Christians today. As education has become increasingly secularized, so too have the professions and careers which are promoted through the educational establishments, resulting in a society of “Christian schizophrenics,” who have ceased to be salt and light to their world. They have lost—or never been taught—the ability to think and act christianly in the different arenas of their lives.

This has not always been true. Our country has had a strong and deep spiritual heritage, which openly promoted higher education and strong scholarship from a profoundly Christian perspective. It was, in fact, the Church that founded the original universities of the United States, with the express purpose of promoting the Gospel and knowledge of God in and through higher education. By contrast today, there is not one major evangelical research university to promote Christian thinking in post-graduate research and theorizing. This is a loss of extreme significance for Christians, since the university in the western world directs and

dictates the life of ideas in the culture—from procedures and agendas, to literature and vocabulary.

This loss occurred over decades of time, as a result of numerous influences and movements. These include the rise of revivalism, as part of and following the Great Awakenings of the 1800’s; the separation of church and state; the Age of Enlightenment; and the rise of fundamentalism. Each of these contributed to a climate of anti-intellectualism. Of major significance also was the reorganization of academic life

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*The Church must encourage Christians to think deeply toward their convictions, to live every area of their lives fully as disciples of Christ, committed to Him in body, mind and spirit.*

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which followed the Civil War. Wealthy industrialists and entrepreneurs began founding and funding the universities, and staffing them as well. Christians were displaced, and Christian influence was lost.

The Church must begin now to mobilize against the secularist mindset of its members and of the universities. At an individual level, the Church must work to counteract “fire-insurance” conversions, and encourage Christians to think deeply toward their convictions, to live every area of their lives fully as disciples of Christ, committed to Him in body, mind and spirit. The Church must seek to promote deep and thoughtful Bible study across the whole scope of Scripture, including hermeneutics and apologetics. This is essential for all Christians, but most

especially for our high school students before they enter the intellectual arena of the secularist universities.

It is also vitally important that the Church begin to evaluate and counteract the very secularist attitude most Christians have toward higher education. We must reexamine the purpose of higher education—is it only for a future meal ticket, or is it for the full development of the life and mind of a believer to equip him for service in the Kingdom of God?

We must also work to develop community and discourse among the members of various professions to encourage them to think and develop christianly in their careers. These professionals must then become models and mentors to Christian students as they progress through their studies and enter their professions.

At an institutional level, Christian schools must begin to implement these principles. A strong model for this is being provided by the Torrey Honors Institute at Biola University. In this program, through a rigorous study of the great works of literature, the students are trained to think christianly and begin to address the false philosophies of the day, as well as to develop a passion for the Good and a commitment to service. This program is raising up scholarly students who are passionate in their faith and articulate in intellectual endeavors.

The church can no longer afford to abdicate the intellectual arena, but must exercise a concerted effort at both a personal and institutional level to regain it. The life the Christian mind is too valuable to lose.

*Editor’s note: Judy can be reached by email at [judy.camp@biola.edu](mailto:judy.camp@biola.edu).*



## WILLIAM LANE CRAIG

FACULTY UPDATE

Dr. Craig continued his yearly tradition of teaching a Philosophy of Religion course during January's Interterm session. In February, Dr. Craig was at L'Université Laval in Quebec, Canada, where he spoke in French on the resurrection of Jesus. He later debated that month at California State University, Fresno, with Austin Dacey. He also taught a weekend course on the evidence for Jesus' resurrection for Biola's MA program in Christian Apologetics.

In March, Dr. Craig was at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, responding to a debate on the historicity of the resurrection of Jesus between John Dominic Crossan, and N. T. Wright. He also participated in a dialogue at Rhodes College (Memphis, TN) with a philosophy professor on the need of God as a basis for morality. Dr. Craig also had the opportunity to be interviewed by the ABC television network for a documentary

on Jesus' resurrection to be aired May 18. March ended with Dr. Craig's debating Bishop John Shelby Spong on Palm Sunday evening at Bethel College (Mishakawa, IN) on "The Meaning of the Resurrection," which was telecast live to some 2,000 churches.



## GARRY DEWEESE

FACULTY UPDATE

In a February debate, Dr. DeWeese debated Dr. Kenneth Clatterbaugh, University of Washington Philosophy Department Chair, and Jim Corbett, president of American Atheists of Washington on the topic "Does God Exist?" Dr. DeWeese had the opportunity to team with alumnus Michael Gurney (1997), who is now professor of theology at Multnomah Bible College.

In March, Dr. DeWeese spoke on

"Veritas Meets Variety: The Gospel in a Postmodern Culture" at Biola University's Missions Conference, and also spoke on "The Culture of Intolerance" at a Stand to Reason fundraising event. Dr. DeWeese caught up with alumni Ben and Kari (Ensing) Dyer and Jason Nichols (all 2003) at April's American Philosophical Association Central Regional Meetings and attended the Society of Christian Philosophers Executive Committee meetings. In April, Dr. DeWeese gave

a presentation to Talbot's faculty on the "emerging church" and Brian McLaren's book *A Generous Orthodoxy* and also spoke on "Scientific Challenges to Theology" at an MA Christian Apologetics Defending the Faith lecture series.

In May, Dr. DeWeese spoke at the "Conversations with an Emerging Church" Conference, in conjunction with Talbot's Christian Education Department. He wrote "Origins: Time & Eternity" for *Ravi Zacharias International Ministries' Apologia* journal and reviewed *The Church in Emerging Culture: Five Perspectives* for *Christian Education Journal* (forthcoming).



## DOUG GEIVETT

FACULTY UPDATE

Dr. Doug Geivett continued his debating series with Dr. Michael Shermer, founding publisher of *Skeptic Magazine* and director of the *Skeptics Society*, at Stanford University in January. The debate, titled "Does God Exist?" was co-sponsored by a campus Christian club and the Rationalist Club.

Dr. Geivett also attended the 75th annual meeting of the American Philosophi-

cal Association, Pacific Division, in San Francisco, CA, at the end of March.

Be praying for Dr. Geivett as he travels this summer to Kenya, where he will be featured as a main speaker at Word of Truth Ministries Apologetics Conference in Nairobi. He will be speaking at this conference in late July thanks to the efforts of current student Peter Njoroge. Word of Truth Ministries is a Christian

organization based in Kenya's western city of Eldoret and aims at influencing the African continent with God's truth as revealed and taught in the Bible.



**DAVID HORNER**  
FACULTY UPDATE

Dr. Horner's recent activities included a good deal of preaching in January: delivering the sermons "The Bible's Greatest Worship Hit," at Calvary Bible Church of Boulder, CO, and "Why Theology Matters" to the young marrieds class at First Evangelical Free Church of Fullerton, CA. He also gave two lectures

for another Sunday school class at First Evangelical Free Church of Fullerton, CA in January. During this month, Dr. Horner spoke at the MA Christian Apologetics Program's Spring 2005 "Defending the Faith" Lecture Series in Simi Valley, CA, presenting on "The Certainty of Christianity in an Age of Unbelief."

In February, Dr. Horner gave a lecture to the Worship in Music bachelor's program here at Biola University and spoke at a March outreach presentation on the resurrection of Jesus at Artesia High School in Lakewood, CA.

Dr. Horner is currently preparing for his summer speaking activities at the Oxbridge 2005 Conference and teaching of classes at Campus Crusade's IBS.



**J.P. MORELAND**  
FACULTY UPDATE

Dr. Moreland recently wrote the chapters "Hume and the Argument from Consciousness" (to be published in *In Defense of Natural Theology*, edited by D. Groothuis and J. Sennett), "The Mind/Body Problem" (to be published in *Science, Religion, and Society: History, Culture, and Controversy*, edited by G. Laderman and A. Eisen), and "General Ontology and Theology: A Primer" (to be published in *For Faith and Clarity: Philosophical Contributions to Theology*, ed. J. Beilby) for publication later in 2005.

With fellow Talbot professor Klaus Issler, Dr. Moreland has co-authored *Get A Life* (tentative title), also to be published later this year. Dr. Moreland served as one of

five editors and contributed ten articles to the *The Apologetics Study Bible* (tentative title), expected to be published in 2006.

Dr. Moreland has written in two journals recently: "Truth, Contemporary Philosophy and the Postmodern Turn" in *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*, out this March; and "Four Grades of Postmodern Involvement" for the *Midwest Journal of Theology 3* (forthcoming, Spring 2005).

In October, Dr. Moreland spoke on "Worldview Struggle and the Crisis in Bioethics," "Bioethical Decision-Making," and "Contemporary Bioethics and Human Persons," at the Conference on Bioethical Issues, sponsored by Cedarville University

in Mount Vernon, Ohio. In November, he spoke on "Truth, Contemporary Philosophy, and the Postmodern Turn," at an invited plenary lecture at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society (San Antonio, Texas, November 18, 2004). He was also part of a panel discussion at the ETS meeting for apologetics organization To Everyone an Answer.

Oregon Theological Seminary in Salem, OR had Dr. Moreland speak in February 2005 on "Metaphysical and Ethical Issues in Philosophical Anthropology," at their Earl Radmacher Lectureship. He also spoke in March on "Postevangelicalism and the Current Worldview Struggle in Western Culture," at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Kansas City, MO), and on "Postmodernism and the Emergent Church" at Dallas Theological Seminary's Leading Edge Conference in March.



**SCOTT RAE**  
FACULTY UPDATE

This winter and spring season has been a busy one for Dr. Rae, particularly in light of the nation's recent bioethics issues such as embryonic stem-cell research and Florida's Schiavo case. In November and again February, Dr. Rae gave staff in-service sessions on "Ethical Issues in End of Life Care" at Western Medical Center in Santa Ana, CA. He also participated in November in a panel discussion on Biola University's campus at the undergradu-

ate Philosophy Club's Series on Current Issues entitled "The Moral Status of Embryos and Fetuses."

In February, Dr. Rae was a presenter at Trinity Law School's (Santa Ana, CA) Spring Lectures in Bioethics, where he presented on "Current Issues in Bioethics: Assisted Suicide and Reproductive Technologies." He also spoke to a group of residents at UCLA on end of life issues

that month.

Dr. Rae was published in the March 24, 2005 issue of the Los Angeles Times in an article entitled "Diverse Faith Find No Easy Answers," responding to the decision of a Florida State Supreme Court to remove Terri Schiavo's feeding tube. He appeared on the Fox News program, "Heartland" with John Kasich, on Saturday, March 26, to discuss the issue.

Dr. Rae continues his work as a medical ethics consultant with five southern California hospitals.

## ALUMNI UPDATES

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

**Scott Sevier** (2003) began studies in the Graduate Program in Philosophy at the University of California, Irvine this past fall and recently completed his first term successfully. Although the courses are stimulating, the philosophical community (both faculty and other graduate students) at UCI is very collegial, providing a great academic atmosphere and Scott is enjoying his time there. Scott's primary philosophical interests are in ancient & medieval philosophy and metaphysics. Because the department is very strong in modern philosophy (particularly early modern) and logic (UCI has a separate department for Logic and the Philosophy of Science), this affords Scott a great opportunity to develop academically outside his current areas of competency. Scott thanks



God for this wonderful opportunity. On the home front, Scott and his wife Jackie

*Scott, Jackie and Eliana Sevier in a recent family photo.*

(who serves as Program Administrator of the Institute for Spiritual Formation at Talbot) had a new baby girl, Eliana Hope, in March. They are both very grateful for their daughter, whose name in Hebrew means "God has answered our prayers", after hoping and praying for a child for many years. Scott and Jackie celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary in January. Contact Scott at [csevier@uci.edu](mailto:csevier@uci.edu).

**Mark and Leanne Hansard** (2003) continue minister with Christian Leadership Ministries and have enjoyed a fruitful time of ministry, recently settling into the Dallas, TX, area. Mark was in Denver, CO, in early January to teach an apologetics seminar for the students at Campus Crusade's annual Christmas Conference. More than 200 students learned how to "Defend the

*Mark, Leanne and Baby Hansard around Thanksgiving 2004.*



Faith" in a lecture Mark gave. Also in January, Mark and Leanne attended

the annual Christian Leadership Ministries staff conference in San Diego. Leanne delivered their first child, Savannah Grace, on Wednesday, April 20, 2005. Mark reported an easy delivery and that the baby was born "a beautiful 6 lbs 10 oz., and she is 19.5 inches long!" Mark and Leanne ask for prayer as they meet new friends, get involved in new areas of ministry with CLM, and adjust to their role as new parents. Email Mark and Leanne at [mhansard@clm.org](mailto:mhansard@clm.org).

**Jeff Wisdom** (2001) married Angela Dean in August 2003. Jeff is finishing his spring semester, teaching two sections of Intro to Philosophy at Biola University and working full-time as the Library Acquisitions supervisor at Biola while Angela finishes her Master's degree in Spiritual Formation at Talbot. Jeff will start doctoral studies at the University of Connecticut this fall. Email Jeff at [jeff.wisdom@biola.edu](mailto:jeff.wisdom@biola.edu)

**Sam and Paula Carrigan** (2003) are continuing to do well as they serve in the Biola community. Sam is currently teaching Bible and physical education classes at Heights Christian Junior High School in La Mirada, CA, while also teaching one section of Intro to Philosophy for Biola's undergraduate philosophy program. Paula serves as manager of registration for off-campus programs in Biola's registrar programs. They recently bought a home in Whittier and are learning the joys of home repairs while attending Granada Heights Friends Church, also in La

Mirada, as their church home. Email them at [samcarrigan@gmail.com](mailto:samcarrigan@gmail.com).

**Toni Allen** (2002) is currently teaching as adjunct faculty member at St. Petersburg College in their philosophy program. She teaches analytic thinking, logic, Philosophy of Religion and Metaphysical Realism, which means she teaches "that lots of things exist which are not physical including human souls and God." Toni is building relationships with students through lunch and coffee appointments, allowing her to share her faith when asked. Last summer, Toni taught a six-week segment in apologetics for InterVarsity and focused on the axiological argument, concentrating on the idea of justice and the concepts related to it. She made the argument that, because human beings intuitively recognize injustice, it follows that we must have some idea that the Justice as a virtue is real. She hopes to develop this seminar into a day-long workshop that can be used throughout InterVarsity. She writes "My desire is for it to become an itinerant ministry and I welcome any one who wishes to collaborate together!" To contact Toni, email her at [Allen.Tonya@spcollege.edu](mailto:Allen.Tonya@spcollege.edu).

**Allyn and Traci Kyes** (1998) are both on staff with InterVarsity's Graduate and Faculty Ministries at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL. Alan works with grad students and faculty at the university, while Traci works for fellow Talbot MA Philosophy alumni and current InterVarsity National Director of Faculty Ministry, **Stan Wallace** (1994), as his program administrator. They moved to Florida from Idaho in January 2004 and are enjoying the warmth and waves which Florida provides. Their three girls are now 8 (Rachel), 5 (Taylor) and 3 (Emma). Email them at [akyes@gfmse.org](mailto:akyes@gfmse.org).

**Alumni, what are you up to now? Email WAYM at [ma.phil@biola.edu](mailto:ma.phil@biola.edu) and update us for the next issue of WAYM.**



## BRINGING TRUTH TO ALL CORNERS OF THE EARTH

A LETTER HOME FROM ALUMNUS NATHAN GANN

With *All Your Mind* got a hold of Nathan Gann (2004), Apologetics Pastor at Word of Life Church (Kansas City, MO). In this “letter home” below, Nathan gets us up to speed on how he is impacting his church congregation using the skills he learned while studying in our program.

Music from a strumming mandolin lilts into my office over the stereo. A Bob Dylan poster is framed on the wall to my left. Two students read on my office couch, we listen to *Chutes Too Narrow* by The Shins, and I get to read Plantinga’s *God, Freedom, and Evil* today. This is a typical glimpse into my daily life as a full-time local apologist at a 4,000 member church. A year ago, I would not have imagined myself ever doing such a job, but today I couldn’t be more satisfied. It’s that kind of “once in a lifetime” job that makes you feel like you’re stealing every other Friday, and one I’ll briefly describe.

I graduated from Talbot last spring, and I was working at Word of Life Church full-time by Monday, June 1, 2004. Immediately in that first week there was a deadline to create a brochure on *The Da Vinci Code* for an upcoming sermon. Two weeks later, we printed 2,500 copies of a brochure that listed 35 major errors contained in the book, and the ministry was off the ground.

I spent most of my time reading last summer, regretting that I did not take more apologetics classes. There is a universe of difference between preparing for doctoral work, and preparing to teach a class for laypeople at a church! The highlight of the summer was four nights of discussion preparing about 30 college students for the upcoming fall semester. *The Universe Next Door*, by James Sire, was a helpful introductory book. We also covered relativism and scientism. Two things struck me last summer like an asteroid plummeting into a land mass (sophistically, known as an “epiphany”). First, the realization that my three years

at Talbot put me light years farther than I thought. And more importantly, I soon found out how stressful it was for Professors Craig, DeWeese, Horner, Geivett, Moreland, Rae, and a host of others I left out, to plan each lesson for my classes. It is fairly easy to sit in class and take notes, but teaching is really hard!!!

In the fall things got really busy. I had daytime classes with our School of Ministry. This is a program for about 30 college-age church members who devote two years to a discipleship program. I taught “Doctrines” to the second year

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*There is a universe of difference between preparing for doctoral work, and preparing to teach a class for laypeople at a church!*

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students; and “Jesus and the Gospels” (using *The Divine Conspiracy*), and “New Testament Survey” to the first year students. Once again I had the humbling experience of seeing the difference between taking notes in a New Testament class, and teaching one.

In September, I started a three-week “General Apologetics” class on Tuesday nights. About 50 people showed up each week. We read portions of *Why I am a Christian* by Norm Geisler while I tried to communicate the main ideas. In October, we spent three weeks studying cults, including Jehovah Witnesses, Mormonism, and Islam. We covered “Science & Christianity” in November. These classes were helpful as mere information, but I came to understand that we needed to cover more fundamental

aspects of the “Christian mind.” Instances of this were exemplified when trying to explain what a cult believes about the Trinity, while most of the class did not have a basic understanding of what we believe concerning Pneumatology. The causal flip-side to this was seeing that a small minority valued a “mature Christian mind,” or knew about the habits needed to shape this kind of thought life.

As a result of this phenomenon I have continued the Tuesday night classes in February on “Sanctification of the Mind.” In both February and March, I taught from Moreland’s *Love God With All Your Mind* and portions of Willard’s *Renovation of the Heart*. It was fully promoted from the pulpit, and we had 150-200 people attend each week! Pray that the impact of these classes continues and that course attendees will go deeper than just apologetic informational content in the minds of the hearers. In April we studied C.S. Lewis, and in May, “Applied Ethics.”

Over the course of last fall, I encountered about 15 people who were more passionate about apologetics. In December, I recruited this core group for what we have decided to call *Veritas*. *Veritas* started in January; eventually, by word of mouth, we numbered 25, and it is something I am extremely excited about! The mission of *Veritas* is twofold. First, is the desire to follow the command to use our minds as we should. We read about five chapters a week, currently from *The Divine Conspiracy*, *Scaling the Secular City*, and *Love God With All Your Mind*.

We get together each Sunday afternoon to discuss the readings. Secondly, there are quite a number of ministry applications for the group. In March, we had a Q & A session with 300 teens from the youth group, who will be inspired to invite their disbelieving friends. Instead of the typical “ministry guy” against the world, I can equip members of *Veritas* to sit up on stage and answer questions as

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## CORNERS (CONT'D)

well. During this spring and summer, I am hoping that we can do more Q & A at the local college in an effort to advance Christian theism, and promote our college ministry. Certain *Veritas* members will prepare for these events, as well as mock debates on homosexuality, abortion, and euthanasia during the Ethics class in May.

Next December, J.P. Moreland will be coming to our church. On Thursday night, December 1, 2005, he will debate a local philosophy professor in a packed auditorium on the question: "Does the Christian God Exist?" Then on Friday

night, he will speak during our regular weekly service. We are attempting to invite a number of other well-known apologists to our church. If you happen to be around, we would love to have you join us!

Fortunately, our senior pastor, Brian Zahnd, values the mind a great deal! I believe we can be a leading church in the Midwest to illustrate what a successful local apologetics ministry looks like. It is a humbling honor to serve and equip this church. More than ever I revere the professors I was privileged to learn under at Talbot. Thank you so much for any prayers made on behalf of Word of Life

Church, the apologetics ministry, and *Veritas*.

*Editor's note: Nathan can be reached by email at [nathan.gann@office.wolc.com](mailto:nathan.gann@office.wolc.com).*

## THE SEMESTER IN PICTURES

A LOOK AT THIS SPRING'S EVENTS THROUGH FILM



*Clockwise from top left: Dr. Robert Audi at his February colloquium, students Dana Bort, Joe Gorra and Judy Camp with prospective student Ed Bort in a photo shoot for the updated Talbot website, students Sagar Athota and Bill Carrol in a photo shoot for the Talbot website, student Gary Osmundsen studying hard at the Philosophy House, and Dr. Richard Davis at his colloquium on "God and Propositions" with prospective students Anya Ferinnokova and Jordan Wessling and current student Eric Peterson.*



**MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP**  
A WORD FROM THE DEPARTMENTAL CHAIR

**DEAR FRIENDS,**

Recently, David Dockery of Chuck Colson’s Wilberforce Forum said that there is a need to examine the ways our society is moving so that it can be analyzed and possibilities of improvement introduced. He also pointed out that there is also a great need to “encourage excellence in producing quality art, outstanding literature, great music, serious scholarship, and first-rate research, while developing Christian scholars and students who can be salt and light in the academy” (see The Wilberforce Forum’s Winter 2004 *Findings* online). It is my hope that the Talbot MA Philosophy Program is helping to encourage this excellence in scholarship and research.

As our recent graduates move from the La Mirada area for distant lands with doctoral programs, I would hope that they would further scholarship and research in philosophy, bringing Christian thought to the

forefront of academia and allow it to battle the secular and anti-Christian ideals that it will find there. In communicating with our graduates that are in these battlefields, I know that our program is helping equip them in fighting this battle. When our program was envisioned, we never thought that it would be where it is now, defending Truth on as many college campuses as we are through our alumni.

Yet, God continues to bless us with much interest in our program and moved many of our students to defend the Truth of His name on college campuses, the media and local churches. And it is you we have to thank for so much of where God has lead our program. Without your continued prayers and support, we would not be where we are today, nor be able to assist top students who need financial assistance, receive much needed administrative support, bring knowledgeable scholars for lectures to our campus, or assist the continued ministry of the Philosophy

House. Did you know that MA Philosophy offers you the ability to give to the program using EFT so that your financial giving can be more consistent? Using this option, you allow us to debit an account you choose on a monthly basis, providing you with regular communication from our department. For more on this, please visit <http://www.biola.edu/admin/donations/eft.cfm>, contact our program administrator, David Costillo, at 562-777-4026, or complete the form below.

We are grateful for the prayers and assistance you give on behalf of our department and hope that God continues to use the ministry of MA Philosophy to encourage excellence in serious scholarship.

Blessings to you and yours,

Scott B. Rae  
Chair, MA Philosophy Program  
Talbot School of Theology

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**MA PHILOSOPHY COMMUNICATION FORM**

PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN BETTER SERVE YOU.

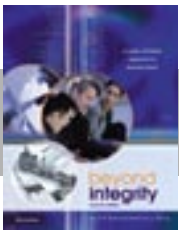
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Talbot Department of Philosophy  
13800 Biola Avenue  
La Mirada, CA 90639

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
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- I will commit to praying for the MA Phil Program. Please regularly send me a list of prayer requests.
- I would like to give financially to the MA Phil Program. Enclosed is my check made to Biola for \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- Please send me a copy of *Beyond Integrity: A Judeo-Christian Approach to Business Ethics*. I’ve enclosed a check for \$30.00 (includes \$3 for shipping and handling) made out to Biola University.
- Please send me Dr. Audi’s handouts from his February colloquium to my mailing address above.
- Effective on \_\_\_\_\_, my contact information changes to the following:

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 Please send me information on giving to MA Philosophy using EFT.



## BOOK REVIEW

BEYOND INTEGRITY: A JUDEO-CHRISTIAN APPROACH TO BUSINESS ETHICS

### ***Beyond Integrity: A Judeo-Christian Approach to Business Ethics***

Integrity is essential to Judeo-Christian business ethics. But today's business environment is complex. Those in business, and those preparing to enter the business world, need to grapple with the question of how integrity and biblical ethics can be applied in the workplace. They need to go "beyond integrity" in their thinking.

This second edition of *Beyond Integrity*, authored by own own Dr. Scott Rae and Seattle Pacific University's Dr. Kenman Wong, is neither excessively theoretical nor simplistic and dogmatic. Rather,

it offers a balanced and pragmatic approach to a number of concrete ethical issues.

Readings from a wide range of sources present competing perspectives on each issue, and real-life case studies further help the reader grapple with ethical dilemmas. The authors conclude each chapter with their own distinctly Christian commentary on the topic covered.

This second edition includes recent issues that have surfaced in today's constantly changing business culture. Revisions include:

- + Ethical implications of information technology, biotechnology, and other important new issues
- + Reflections on recent court cases

that shape the moral discussion  
+ Shorter text with increased accessibility to the reader

With the goal of helping readers arrive at their own conclusions, this book provides a decision-making model. *Beyond Integrity* equips men and women to develop a biblically based approach to the ethical challenges of twenty-first century business.

The MA Philosophy Program has a limited supply of copies on hand of *Beyond Integrity* available for your own reading and studies for a special price of \$30.00. Act now, however, as once they are gone, we will not be able to offer any more at this price! To order, see the response card on page 11.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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