



# DMin CONNECTIONS

Doctor of Ministry Newsletter / Portland Campus

September 2010

## Five Questions with Dale Burke

Dale Burke is the senior pastor of First Evangelical Free Church of Fullerton, CA. In addition to his weekly ministry he is an author and the founder of “Dale Burke Leadership”, and presents his seminars to pastors and professionals nationwide and overseas.

### **When did you get interested in leadership?**

Ever since I was a kid, I have had a leadership bent. I was the one who organized. I was captain of the football team, student body president. When I came to Fullerton I realized I needed to drill down and figure out how to lead in a larger environment. People like Bob Shank helped me to grow in my leadership. I was exposed to leadership in both the secular and spiritual arenas. At one point I decided to tackle the whole subject of theology of leadership - figuring out the nature of leadership and coming at it from a pastoral perspective. Ever since then I have been speaking and writing on this.

### **Where are we missing it today when it comes to leadership?**

We are not doing a very good job of giving leadership away, so that others can lead. We tend to hold on to control. We may delegate but we are not so good at mobilizing. The other area we are missing is not working in our strengths. We have been taught to be good at everything. And we end up being good at nothing.

### **What leader in particular has influenced you?**

Howard Hendricks has had a significant influence as well as Bob Shank. Hendricks

instilled in me the centrality of scripture as well as creativity. Shank has taught me the importance of balance, life management, and going with your strengths. One other person I would add is Larry Osborne who has emphasized the practical side of leadership, creating a vision, and building teams.

### **You followed Chuck Swindoll. What is it like to follow after a nationally known pastor?**

You can credit my survival to how the church handled the transition. They took two years to help people move on, before bringing in a new pastor. They also made sure that the existing pastors on staff were ‘on board’. They wanted real buy-in. And then the church freed me to be myself. It didn’t hurt that Chuck and I are both Dallas grads and we both were impacted by Hendricks. Any changes I brought were done slowly, intentionally and with a clear agenda.

### **Why should a student take your upcoming course?**

I believe this class will enhance one’s leadership as well as develop the fun side of life. In other words, this course is aimed to provide balance - how to impact ministry as well as how to really live life.

## Study With Dale Burke

“Dale Burke is first and foremost a practitioner of leadership. He just does it. His experience successfully leading churches of different sizes and shapes confirms that the right principles, properly applied, lead to growth in people and in ministry.”

Dan E. Maltby, Ph.D., professor;  
Director, The Biola Leadership Project

Dale will be teaching our next DMin course at our Portland Campus on Nov. 15-18, 2010. This course is PTS 737T : “How to Lead and Still Have a Life” Please contact us as soon as possible if you would like to be registered for this exciting learning opportunity with Dale and other DMin students.



## Looking To the Future

**PDX and PHX:** We are continuing to work on creating a more effective partnership with Phoenix Seminary. We are increasing our course options for students and making the locations of our courses more flexible. Contact our office for more information on how you can take advantage of this new option in your DMin studies.

**New Study Options:** We are actively investigating the possibility of forming new Cohort options in both Multi-Cultural Ministry and in Pastoral Theology. This would be an opportunity to work in a close-knit group of fellow DMin students who are focusing on one particular area of Pastoral Ministry. It will also give students direct mentoring by a seasoned pastor who will work with the Cohort group throughout their DMin program. Want to hear more? Give us a call or email and let us hear your input and answer your questions.

**California Dreamin?:** We are also investigating hosting more of our DMin courses in California to better accommodate our California students. Keep posted for additional information in the coming months.

## What you are saying...

**Listen to what our students are saying about some of our recent courses and instructors:**

“I was so blessed by the wisdom, energy of our instructor.”

“The course was crafted well. It was a true Doctoral Seminar.”

“The faculty keeps getting better and better...I found new ideas and was challenged and stretched. I will be leaving with a renewed zeal and passion for preaching.”

“It is a real treat for {both professors} input. They are innovative, apostolic and thought provoking.”

“Being able to sit under his teaching is invaluable. His experience and knowledge was incredible.”

## Upcoming Instructors

Kent Hughes | Pastoral Leadership  
March 21-24, 2011

John Johnson | Study Tour of Israel  
Mar-Apr, 2011

John Johnson | Research Design  
Apr. 25-28, 2011

Ray Ortlund, Jr. | Shepherding  
May 2-5, 2011

John Coe | Pastoral Transformation  
June 13-16, 2011

David Fisher | Foundations  
September 2011

Wretlund/Chay | Exegetical Skills  
October 2011

Chad Hall | Leading from the Gut  
Nov. 14-17, 2011

Will Willimon | Jan 2012

Alex Kulpez/Abbott Smith | Mar  
2012

Larry Osborne | June 2012

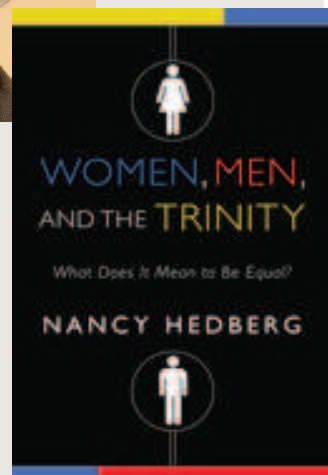
James Earl Massey | Sep. 2012

for full schedule of courses see our  
website  
[www.westernseminary.edu/dmin/](http://www.westernseminary.edu/dmin/)

## Doctor of Ministry Alumni Spotlight

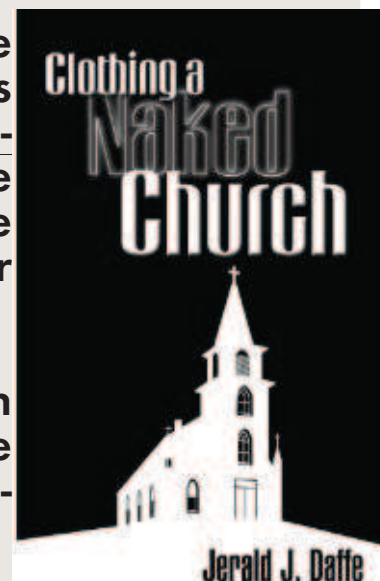


**Nancy Hedberg, D.Min.**, Vice President for Student Life at Corban University in Salem, OR has recently had a book published. Check out her new book Women, Men, and the Trinity: What it Means to be Equal, Wipf and Stock Publishers. This book is largely based on Nancy's dissertation research through her Western DMin studies. We encourage you to check out this new book and to congratulate Nancy along with us.



**Jerald Daffe, D. Min.**, Professor of Pastoral Studies in the School of Religion at Lee University, Cleveland, TN has also shared with us his recent publication: Clothing a Naked Church, Pathway Press. To use Daffe's metaphor, the church is "naked" and does not quite realize it, but the good news is that because this is Christ's Church, the power of God's Spirit can work with us to change our condition.

"This is one whose own love for God and the Church can be read through his imaginative words and between the lines as well. His pulse beats for the revival and reformation of the Church today." Terry L. Cross, Ph.D.



### LET US KNOW...

*We are always looking for ways to share with you the accomplishments of our alumni. If you have news to share of your ministry or are aware of other alumni who deserve a spot in our Alumni Spotlight, please let us know at [ccomp@westernseminary.edu](mailto:ccomp@westernseminary.edu).*

# Director's Corner

Dr. John Johnson, Program Director

Andy Stanley of North Point spoke on gaining and sustaining momentum, and the role of newness [at CatalystOneDay in Seattle]. Given that momentum is much to be preferred over “stuck in a rut”, I was interested in what he had to say. North Point, by all appearance, is a ministry on the move. Who doesn't want to be part of a movement? (Actually I can think of a few who don't, who much prefer familiarity over change, status quo over transformation—but that is another blog). What I have certainly learned is that staying with an unchangeable present is to live with a dying past.

Stanley's essential point was that new is what triggers momentum. And new is not about tweaking the old. Minor “newness” is a waste of time. Organizations that are lacking movement require something substantially new—new leaders (I'm getting nervous), new direction, and/or new programs. Nothing is off limits. The “new” must be noticeable—a new series, new look, new venues. Successful corporations and marketers understand this that people will stay with something, someone, if they know it/he/she is continually improving. If they find things do not change, they begin to look for something new. Coke tried this, with mixed results (remember New Coke?).

As I am prone to do at conferences, I take it all in, while trying to listen to the alarms inside. I have always lived in this tension—sometimes war—inside. I like to tell people I live somewhere between Hybels and Peterson. I thrive on certain books from the corporate world (Stanley seems to as well). But I also find myself back to books that bring me back to my roots, remind me I am a pastor (not a CEO); books like Peterson's Working the Angles, pastoral theologies like Oden's, that make the point that the best insights on momentum were actually written by the likes of Chrysostom and Luther.

It's not to say I did not value Stanley's presentation. I really like much of Stanley's thinking. His books on leadership and vision are well worth reading.

But before I head too far down this road, God seems to always lead me back to words that center me for ministry. This happened the next day, as I was finishing up Peterson's newest book, Practice Resurrection. It turns out (ironically) that he also had something to say about things new and improving:

“We live in an advertisement culture in which new products are continuously presented to us. This is a culture of built-in obsolescence. Nothing is designed to last. In order to keep the economy healthy we are conditioned to respond to the latest as the best: a new car, the latest fashion in clothes, the breakthrough model of computer, the newly published best-selling novel, the just discovered miracle diet. We have no sooner bought or tried one thing than we are off to the next. Quickly bored, we are easily diverted from whatever we have just purchased or the book that we have not quite finished or the church we joined two months ago. Highly skilled and lavishly budgeted attention getters target us tirelessly. Every latest is overtaken by another latest in dizzying succession.”

Now, catch Peterson's application to the church: “When this novelty mentality seeps into the church, we start looking for the latest in God, the latest in worship, the latest in teaching, the best preacher in town.” No wonder church shopping is an epidemic! As Peterson notes—“When religion as novelty spreads, maturity thins out.” We become like children, perpetuating our adolescence, indulging in spiritual novelties.

Holding to all of the above is the challenge. Aiming for newness, while avoiding novelty — leading change while holding dear to things that must not change — this is the stuff of wisdom.

## CONTACT Us

Dr. John Johnson, Program Director,  
jjohnson@westernseminary.edu

### Cris Comp, M.Div.

Administrative Assistant | Doctor of Ministry Program  
5511 SE Hawthorne Blvd. | Portland, OR 97215  
phone: 503-517-1868 | fax: 503-517-1859  
ccomp@westernseminary.edu

