Mendel H. Stewart, Jr. M.Div., Th.M., M.Ed., Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

Doctoral: NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, NEW ORLEANS, LA

Doctor of Philosophy 2012

Dissertation: An Examination of Exemplary Leadership Practices and Church Growth Measures in the

Georgia Baptist Convention

Graduate: NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, NEW ORLEANS, LA

Master of Theology 2010

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, WAKE FOREST, NC

Master of Divinity with Biblical Languages 2003

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY, CLEMSON, SC

Master of Education 1995

Administration and Supervision

Undergraduate: CLEMSON UNIVERSITY, CLEMSON, SC

Bachelor of Science 1989

Science Teaching

CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Name of Institution: New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary: New Orleans, LA

Dates of Employment: 2018-present

Title of Position: Ministry-Based Associate Professor of Discipleship

Director of the Orlando Extension Center

Dates of Employment: 2013 – 2018

Title of Position: Associate Professor of Discipleship

Administration: Director of the Doctor of Education Degree Program

Director of Spiritual Formation

Subject Areas: Strategic Church Development, Discipleship, and Spiritual Formation, Leading Adults,

Contemporary Context of Christian Education, Family Ministry in Church Life, Small Group

Ministry, Christian School Administration

Dates of Employment: 2010

Title of Position: Adjunct Professor
Subject Areas: Christian Education

Name of Institution: Bryan College

Dates of Employment: 2012

Title of Position: Adjunct Professor Subject Areas: Christian Ministry

K12-EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Name of School: Central Florida Christian Academy

Dates of Emplyment: 2018-present Title of Position: Headmaster

Administration: School budget development and oversight, School Committee liason, Nurture the spiritual

direction of school, Hiring and evaluation of staff/teachers, Communicating the educational philosophy to all constituents, Responsible for all curricula and accreditation processes

Name of School: Wakefield High School, Wake Forest, NC

Dates of Employment: 2001-02

Title of Position: High School Biology Teacher
Name of School Easley High School, Easley, SC

Dates of Employment: 1998-2000
Title of Position: Assistant Principal

Administration: student disciplinarian, teacher supervisor/evaluator, director of buses routes

Name of School: Tamassasse-Salem High School, Tammassee, SC

Dates of Employment: 1996-98

Title of Position: Athletic Director/Varsity Basketball Coach

Administration: Budgeting, scheduling, and eligibility of teams and athletes

Name of School: West-Oak High School

Dates of Emplyment: 1991-96

Title of Position Chemistry/Physical Science teacher/assistant coach for football, basketball, and golf Adminstration: Faculty Interview Team, School Improvement Committee, Student AT-RISK Co-Coordinator

Administrator in training/supervision

Name of School: Nyeri Baptist High School, Kenya

Dates of Empolyment: 1989-91

Title of Position Science Teacher/Journeyman Missionary

Adminsitration: Leading and development Masterlife Discipleship groups with Students

CHURCH MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

Name of Ministry: Church at the Cross, Orlando, Fl.

Dates of Employment: 2018-present

Title of Position: Executive Pastor/Headmaster of Central Florida Christian Academy

Administration: Church financials/budget oversight, Human resources/personnel, Lead team member, Managed

church education/discipleship ministry of children and adults

Name of Ministry: Brainerd Baptist Church: Chattanooga, TN

Dates of Employment: 2010-2013

Title of Position: Education Pastor/Executive Pastor

Administration: Budgeting, Purchase order approvals, enlistment, Team-building, Hiring staff, Communicating

vision/mission, Creation/adoption of Great Commission Equipping Center with SEBTS

Name of Ministry: Longview Heights Baptist Church, Olive Branch, MS

Dates of Employment: 2005-2010

Title of Position: Minister of Education

Administration: Community strategy development, Assimilation of church members, Cultivation of learning

venues; Budgeting and planning

Name of Ministry: Hernando Baptist Church, Hernando, MS

Dates of Employment: 2004-2005

Title of Position: Minister of Education/Administration

Administration: Comprehensive development of an educational strategy for church, Day-to-day operations

Name of Ministry: Riverside Baptist Church, Greer, SC

Dates of Employment: 2003-2004
Title of Position: Education Pastor

Administration: Equipping/developing educational ministry for all ages, systematic development of outreach

ministry

Name of Ministry: Mount Vernon Baptist Church: Raleigh, NC

Dates of Employment: 2002-2003

Title of Position: Education Ministry Intern

Name of Ministry: Pickens First Baptist Church

Dates of Service 1991-2000

Title of Position: Adult Sunday School Teacher, Deacon

Name of Ministry: International Mission Board, Kenya, East Africa

Dates of Employment: 1989-1991

Title of Position: Journeyman Missionary

Name of Ministry: International Mission Board, South Korea

Dates of Employment: Summer 1988

Title of Position: BSU Summer Missionary

Name of Ministry: South Carolina Baptist Convention: Columbia, SC

Dates of Employment: Summer: 1984-1987, 1996
Title of Position: Camp McCall Camp Counselor

PUBLICATIONS

- AN EXAMINATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LEADERSHIP PRACTICES OF SENIOR PASTORS AND CHURCH GROWTH MEASURES IN THE GEORGIA BAPTIST CONVENTION, NOBTS DISSERTATION, 2012.
- RUNNING THE RIGHT RACE, PARENTING TEENS MAGAZINE, JULY 2014, LIFEWAY PUBLISHING.
- COLLEGE INSTRUCTOR: WHAT STUDENTS NEED FOR COMMITMENT AND INTEGRITY." PARENTING TEENS MAGAZINE, JUNE 2014, LIFEWAY PUBLISHING.
- "DISCIPLESHIP IN SMALL CHURCHES" IN SMALL CHURCH, EXCELLENT MINISTRY, ED. JEFF C. FARMER, 2017, WIPF AND STOCK.
- TOGETHER WE EQUIP: INTEGRATING DISCIPLESHIP AND MINISTRY LEADERSHIP FOR HOLISTIC SPIRITUAL FORMATION, CO-EDITORS WITH JODY DEAN, 2018, WESTBOW PRESS.
- "ESSENTIAL PLAYERS IN THE DISCIPLEMAKING PROCESS" IN INDESPENSIBLE: BECOMING AN MVP IN DISCIPLEMAKING, EDS. RANDY STONE, JOHN MCCLENDON, AND JIM ESTEP, 2018, CREATIVE PLATFORM PUBLISHING.

TRAINING AND EQUIPPING

Characteristics of Disciplemaking Teachers,

An Examination of the Curriculum Selection Methods and Curricular Issues in Christian Higher Education Institutions

Ministering to Students in an Academic Setting with Excellence

Critical Reflection of Twelve Principles of Adult Learning Theories

Biblical Foundations of Teaching

Teaching Students Effectively

Discipling Families in the 21st Century

Spiritual Conversations With Teenagers

Mission, Leadership, and People

Patterns of Spiritual Growth in a Believer's Journey

The Next Generation: Gen Z and What You Need to Know

God's Plan for Marriage

Developing Leadership Potential in Your Small Group

MISSIONS/VOLUNTEER ORGRANIZATIONS_

IMB Volunteer: Uganda, Peru, China, North Africa, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, South Korea

Church Education Consultant at the X-tended Missions Network, Mississippi

McCall RA Camp Pastor, South Carolina Baptist Convention

Church Health Team at the X-tended Missions Network, Mississippi

SBC Disaster Relief Service: Mississippi, Florida

Baptist Collegiate Ministry, Summer Missionary to South Korea

McCall RA Camp Counselor/Pastor, South Carolina Baptist Convention

CALL TO MINISTRY_

I accepted Christ into my life at a young age. As long as I can remember living, I remember attending church regularly, resulting in spiritual growth. I grew up in a Christian family with both parents, and all four of my grandparents committed to Christ. Even at a young age, I recognized sin in my life (Romans 3:23). I believed that I needed Jesus to live in my heart (Romans 5:8). Thus, I thank God that I was able at the age of eight to pray the sinner's prayer of salvation by asking Jesus to come into my life and forgive me of my sins (Romans 10:9-10). I distinctly remember my prayer with my pastor to accept Jesus as King of my life at this young age. I was able to be actively involved to mission work both internationally and locally for fourteen straight years from 1984 to 1997. Yet, in my early adulthood, I felt the Holy Spirit continue to remind me of God's word in Romans 12:1-2, which states, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will." Reaching God's perfect will became the essential

desire of my life. Many days I would pray the words in Philippians 2:13, which states, "For it is God who work in you to will and to act according to his good purpose." Through time and conviction of the Holy Spirit, I knew God led me to commit my life to him for vocational service as a minister. My wife Julie was led in the same direction by God and confirmed this call in our lives. After being licensed into the ministry of the gospel of Jesus Christ by my home church, we moved to Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in August of 2000 to pursue training and equipping for ministry as a Christain educator. I've been serving God vocationally in the local church and Christian schools for over 20 years now.

PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY

My philosophy of ministry is based on the special revelation of Scripture. The Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20) of Christ to "go and make disciples...and teach them all that I have commanded" is a clear mandate to guide an educational ministry with the body of Christ. The truth that Jesus is the only way to salvation (John 14:6) and the call to equip the body of Christ to use their gifts (Eph. 4:12) is incorporated into the ministry of a dynamic, growing church. This entire process of re-birth and growth in the kingdom of God leads believers to the point of a mature Christian worldview that does not conform to the secular standards of our culture.

The purpose of Christian education is to direct the process of human development toward God's purpose for man: godliness of character and obedience. Growth in godliness proceeds gradually from new birth toward full maturity "in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (II Pet. 1:5-8). Full conformity in Christ (Christlikeness) is the goal of Christian education (Rom. 8:29). In the Scriptures, God has commanded two institutions to educate: the home and the church. The Bible is clear that education begins in the home (Gen. 18:19; Deut. 6:7; Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:4; II Tim. 1:5; 3:15). This truth gives parents the responsibility for their children and charges them with the educational task. The New Testament indicates that the church's responsibilities include education and evangelism (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 2:42; II Tim. 2:2). The Scriptural representation of the church as the body implies a teaching function for this institution. The recognition of the gift of teaching by the New Testament (Rom. 12:4-7; I Cor. 12:28) assumes the necessity of teaching in local churches. The goal of Christian education in the local church is to train men and women to lead and equip church members to promote healthy, growing churches and families.

DOCTRINAL AND DENOMINATIONAL COMMITMENT_

My faith, personal life, and ministry are founded firmly on the absolute conviction that the entire Bible is the authoritative, authentic, infallible Word of God. I faithfully affirm and defend the "verbal plenary" position that all the words of the Bible are true because they were written down by men who were influenced and directed by the Holy Spirit (confluent inspiration). Therefore Scripture is truth without any mixture of error, and such it is eternally trustworthy (II Tim. 3:15-17). It is the final word of appeal in all areas of knowledge and understanding.

I affirm and support the following belief statements as true expressions of my faith:

- SBC Baptist Faith and Message 2000
- Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy (1978)
- Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood (1988)
- Colorado Statement on Biblical Sexual Morality (2002)
- Answers in Genesis Statement of Faith (Biblical Creationism)