



RESUMÉ

DR. PHILLIP R. BETHANCOURT

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PERSONAL

BORN: January 8, 1982 Freeport, Texas

RAISED: Moved 11 times throughout Texas and Connecticut

WIFE: Cami Lynn Bethancourt | Married January 8, 2005

CHILDREN: Nathan (10), Lawson (9), Weston (7), and Hudson (4)

BAPTIZED: FBC Midland, Texas, 1990

CALLED TO MINISTRY: August 2002

LICENSED: Central Baptist Church, Bryan, Texas, 2006

ORDAINED: Central Baptist Church, Bryan, Texas, 2012

INTERESTS: Traveling, Texas A&M, friends, food, reading, church and sports

EDUCATION

Ph.D. | Systematic Theology | The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (2008-2011)

Dissertation: *Christ the Warrior King: A Biblical, Historical, and Theological Analysis of the Divine Warrior Theme in Christology*

M.Div. | The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (2005-2008)

M.S. | Finance | Texas A&M University (2005)

B.B.A. | Accounting | Texas A&M University (2005)

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, ERLC (2013-PRESENT)

Executive Leadership

- Transformed organizational strategy after crisis presidential transition
- Recovered organizational vision to equip and advocate for the SBC
- Implemented staff transitions and training to restore organizational culture
- Shifted target audience of initiatives to focus on the next generation
- Reset key institutional programs while growing budget 36% in five years
- Functioned as primary denominational liaison for connections and conflict

Academic Partnerships

- Expanded ERLC Research Institute to include 60 scholars from 25 institutions
- Launched ERLC Academy for Christian ethics training with 7 schools
- Established doctoral ethics partnerships with 4 SBC seminaries

Church Equipping

- Served as “pastor to pastors,” helping hundreds navigate complex issues
- Initiated ERLC Leadership Council to train 70+ SBC leaders annually
- Coordinated quarterly Nashville Leadership Lunches with local leaders
- Oversaw explosive growth of equipping content in digital, social, and print
- Developed resources to serve thousands of Southern Baptist churches on the subject of abuse
- Coordinated the Caring Well Conference to train over 1600 leaders on abuse prevention and care

Strategic Initiatives

- Launched and led the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to equip Southern Baptist churches on abuse prevention and care
- Launched comprehensive conference strategy to equip thousands
- Conceptualized MLK50 Conference, with over one million online views
- Supervised policy efforts for the nation’s largest protestant denomination
- Participated in Pope Francis’s Vatican Symposium on marriage and gender
- Advocated for religious freedom throughout the world

Fundraising

- Raised \$1.5 million for MLK50 Dream Forward minority scholarships
- Secured \$250,000 to fund Sexual Abuse Presidential Study Group
- Received \$500,000+ to place ultrasounds through Psalm 139 Project
- Generated \$2.3 million in new ERLC funds over five years

RESUMÉ (CONTINUED)

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT AND STUDENT LIFE, SBTS (2011-2013) | DEAN OF STUDENTS (2012-2013)

Enrollment Management

- Led 30 staff in admissions, advising, financial aid, registrar, and student life
- Set new student and overall enrollment records for 4 consecutive semesters
- Elevated Texas from #7 to #3 sending state for new students
- Enhanced student retention rates by revamping student success office
- Coordinated high school dual enrollment to strengthen undergraduate college
- Operated academic division's decennial accreditation reaffirmation

Academic Innovation

- Pioneered Seminary Track BA where students earn BA and MDiv in 5 years
- Implemented first-ever modular PhD program in 10+ concentrations
- Instituted dozens of church-based theological training partnerships
- Conceptualized hybrid courses, mixing on-campus and online training
- Introduced first full Spanish language MDiv amongst SBC seminaries
- Launched Alumni Academy to offer continuing education for graduates

Student Life

- Served as Dean of Students, handling student development and discipline
- Founded 1937 Project as first-ever seminary community service project
- Overhauled student life office and added female student life team
- Worked with interoffice task force to coordinate student safety strategies
- Handled instances of sexual misconduct or harassment

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY, SBTS (2011-PRESENT)

- Taught core and elective courses at the masters and undergraduate levels
- Lectured on many subjects, including systematic theology, ethics, biblical theology, preaching, hermeneutics, economics, and research methods

RESUMÉ (CONTINUED)

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

SUMMARY: Served in a wide variety of ministry roles over more than a decade in a range of ministry contexts from urban to rural, from megachurch to small church, and from revitalization to church plant.

Bi-vocational Preaching Pastor

- Redemption City Church | Franklin, TN (2014-present)
- Carried out a variety of preaching, teaching, shepherding, and training roles under Lead Pastor Jed Coppenger at a growing, dynamic SBC church plant

Bi-vocational Preaching Pastor

- Vine Street Baptist | Louisville, KY (2012-2013)
- Contributed regularly to preaching and teaching needs at a small, previously-dying SBC church that was attempting a revitalization

Associate University Minister

- Central Baptist Church | Bryan, TX (2004-2006)
- Led the largest church-based college ministry at Texas A&M, with a focus on discipleship, evangelism, and missions

Collegiate Missions Advocate

- Southern Baptists of Texas Convention (2004-2006)
- Coordinated and mobilized international, national, and local missions opportunities for college students throughout the SBTC

Nursery and Children's Ministry Volunteer

- 9th and O Baptist Church, Louisville, KY (2006-2008) | Highview Baptist Church, Louisville, KY (2008-2012) | Redemption City Church, Franklin, TN (2013-present)
- Committed to ongoing service in children's ministry as a way to serve our church and invest in our youth

International Ministry Involvement

- Involved in a variety of international missions and ministry opportunities
- Locations: The Vatican, Israel, Greece, London, Indonesia, Amsterdam, Paris, Vancouver, New York City, Egypt, Mexico, and elsewhere

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PUBLIC AND MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Appeared in public and media outlets such as these:

- ABC World News Tonight
- NPR's All Things Considered
- MSNBC
- Politico
- The New Yorker
- USA Today
- Christianity Today
- Relevant Magazine
- Christian Post
- Baptist Press

SERVICE, AWARDS, AND STATEMENTS

Best Practices in Combating the Opioid Epidemic: A Conference with State and Local Leaders (2018) | The White House

- Strategized with senior White House officials on state-level opioids initiatives

Hurricane Harvey Relief Coordinator (2017)

- Deployed ERLC's Harvey relief efforts through Houston's Farrington Mission

Nashville Statement on Biblical Sexuality (2017)

- Convened meeting of approximately 80 scholars and leaders to ratify definitive statement on biblical sexuality and gender

Gospel Opposition to White Supremacy Statement (2017)

- Coordinated TN state and local leaders to oppose white supremacist activity

American Enterprise Institute Values and Capitalism Advisory Board (2014-2017)

- Collaborated on strategies to engage faith-based universities

Texas A&M 12 Under 12 Award (2016)

- Received the most prestigious award given to recent graduates for leadership

Protecting the Future of Religious Higher Education Statement (2016)

- Organized pivotal letter rebuffing California legislative threat to religious liberty

Here We Stand: An Evangelical Declaration on Marriage (2015)

- Coordinated definitive evangelical response to the Obergefell decision

Interreligious Colloquium on The Complementarity of Man and Woman (2014) | Vatican

- Participated in gender complementarity symposium, hosted by Pope Francis

International Educational Study Trip Leader

- Led study abroad trips to Greece (2012) and Israel (2015)

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BOOKS

Phillip Bethancourt and Russell Moore. *Exalting Jesus in Genesis. Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2019.

Phillip Bethancourt and Russell Moore. *Christ-Centered Parenting: Gospel Conversations on Complex Cultural Issues*. Nashville: Lifeway, 2017.

Phillip Bethancourt and Andrew Walker. *Religious Liberty: How the Gospel Shapes Our First Freedom*. Nashville: Lifeway, 2016.

REPRESENTATIVE ARTICLES

- The Top 10 Religious Liberty Threats for Christian Higher Education | ERLC
- What Southern Baptists can Learn from the Catholic Sexual Abuse Scandal in Pennsylvania | ERLC
- Four Updates on the Sexual Abuse Presidential Study Group | ERLC
- How to Talk to Your Kids About Sexual Assault and Harassment Scandals | ERLC
- How to Talk to Your Kids About the First Baptist Sutherland Springs Shooting | ERLC
- The Opioid Crisis is the Pro-life Issue Evangelicals Aren't Talking About | ERLC
- The Mid-Degree Crisis and the Value of Work During Seminary | The Gospel Coalition
- Rough Country: How Texas Became America's Most Powerful Bible-Belt State | The Gospel Coalition
- Five Reasons Why Indiana is the Perfect Place for the Left to Boycott | First Things
- 10 conexiones entre Jesús y el reino de Dios | Coalicion Por Evangelio

REPRESENTATIVE SCHOLARLY ADDRESSES

- Religious Liberty, Economics, and the Public Square | American Enterprise Institute
- Onward Christian Soldiers: Old Testament Violence and Evangelical Socio-Political Engagement | Institute for Religion and Democracy
- Crossroads: The Intersection of Faith, Culture, and Politics | Charleston Southern University
- Snakes on a Plain: Understanding Spiritual Warfare | Cedarville University
- The Future of Religious Liberty | Southern Baptists of Texas Convention
- The Gospel and the Future of Abortion | Welch College
- A Christian Approach to Religious Liberty | Union University
- God in the Dock: Is God a Moral Monster? | Southern Seminary

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REPRESENTATIVE SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- The Atonement as Vicarious Victory: Understanding the Warfare-Oriented Relationship between Penal Substitution and Christus Victor | Evangelical Theological Society
- Christ the Warrior King and the Conquest: Understanding the Canaanite Genocide in Light of a Biblical Theology of Warfare | Evangelical Theological Society
- Christocentric Compatibilism: Recovering the Christ-Centered Nature of Providence | Evangelical Theological Society
- Family Feud: Marriage, Sexuality, Family, and Spiritual Warfare | Evangelical Theological Society
- Onward Christian Soldiers: Understanding the Kingdom-Oriented Nature of the Church's Mission | Evangelical Theological Society
- Perspectives on the Doctrine of God | Southern Baptist Journal of Theology
- Home Game: An Accidental Guide to Fatherhood by Michael Lewis | Journal of Biblical Manhood and Womanhood
- The (Abstract) Art of Manliness | Journal of Biblical Manhood and Womanhood
- Preserving Biblical Gender Roles in a 'Pre-Adult' Culture | Journal of Biblical Manhood and Womanhood

REPRESENTATIVE PODCASTS, VIDEOS, AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

- ERLC Podcast on The Gospel and the Future of Theological Education
- MLK50 Panel discussion on Evangelicals and the Future of Racial Unity
- ERLC Video on The State of Racial Reconciliation in America
- The Eric Metaxas Show on evangelicals and the election season
- ERLC Podcast on The Pastor and Politics
- 9Marks Podcast on God, Politics, and Other Easy Topics
- ERLC Video on how leaders can intentionally cultivate a servant's heart and guard against the idol of power
- The Way Home Podcast on leadership, strategy, and vision
- ERLC Video on Shepherding the Flock: Faithful Ministry as Pro-Life Pastors
- The Reconnect with Carmen Fowler Laberge on the opioid crisis
- ERLC Podcast on how to handle church conflict
- In This Together Podcast on gospel conversations with children on complex cultural issues

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REPRESENTATIVE PREACHING AND SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES

TEXAS CHURCHES

- Central Baptist Church | College Station, TX
- Prestonwood Baptist Church | Plano, TX
- Northeast Houston Baptist Church | Kingwood, TX
- The Village Church | Flower Mound, TX
- Austin Stone Community Church | Austin, TX
- Providence Church | Frisco, TX
- Southside Baptist Church | Abilene, TX
- Fielder Church | Arlington, TX
- First Baptist Georgetown | Georgetown, TX
- Houston's First Baptist Church | Houston, TX

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Westminster Chapel | London, England
- Israel (Multiple Holy Land locations while leading study trip)
- Greece (Multiple Biblical locations while leading study trip)
- Blue Valley Baptist Church | Overland Park, KS
- West Jackson Baptist Church | Jackson, TN
- City Church | Tallahassee, FL
- Redemption City Church | Franklin, TN
- LifePoint Church | Smyrna, TN
- Englewood Baptist Church | Jackson, TN

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

- 2019 Caring Well Conference | Dallas, TX
- 2018 MLK50 Conference | Memphis, TN
- 2014-Present ERLC National Conference | Nashville, TN
- 2016-Present Evangelicals for Life Conference | Washington, DC
- 2017 The Gospel Coalition Conference | Indianapolis, IN
- 2016 Breakaway Ministries Institute | College Station, TX
- 2016 Glorieta National Collegiate Week | Glorieta, NM
- 2015 College Metro Conference | Nashville, TN
- 2016 Southern Baptists of Texas Convention Annual Meeting
- 2013-Present SBC Annual Meeting ERLC Events