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**Faith Theological Seminary's
Eighty-Second Annual Commencement
Saturday, June 1st at 10:00 AM**



**Guest Speaker:
Dr. David Anderson, Pastor, Bridgeway Community Church**
Event will be held at the Seminary

A Monthly Newsletter of the Faith Theological Seminary **May 2019**

ftsconnection



Be Strong in the Lord!

When any Christian seeks to win the lost to Christ he or she will not go unnoticed. When an institution like Faith Theological Seminary seeks to train students to take the Gospel to the world, there is one who watches from a distance, lurking and plotting against those plans, hoping to see them fail and their efforts amount to nothing.

In Ephesians 6 the Apostle Paul encourages the Christian to be in a constant state of preparation for battle against Satan and his demons. Paul writes in verse 10, *“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.”* The words, “be strong” are in the Greek voice that communicates “be continually strengthened.” The idea is, “to clothe one’s self with strength as you put on garments to protect yourself against the elements.”

The phrase, “in the Lord,” defines the kind of strength the Christian is to be strengthened with...it is “Christian strengthening.” Expositors Bible Commentary says, “This kind of strengthening can only take effect as one is in union with the Lord.” So Paul is saying that our strength comes from the Lord; be strengthened in Him! At the end of verse 10 Paul says that not only should we “be strong in the Lord;” we should be strengthened in the “power of His might.”

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Social Media Campaign

The mission of Faith Theological Seminary is to teach the inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God efficiently and training and produce graduates, who do the work of the ministry as missionaries, pastors, and theological teachers.

Our social media campaign is a coordinated marketing effort to reinforce or assist this goal using one or more social media platforms. It is our desire to use social media platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram as communication vehicles to foster awareness about our unique seminary and programs.

How Can You Help?

If you have accounts on any of these platforms, you can participate in this campaign by following Faith Theological Seminary and regularly sharing our posts. The social media handle on most of the social media platforms where we have a presence is “@faithseminary”. Simply search for FTS using that keyword and “follow” or “like”.

We also invite you to share one of our encouraging memes that have been posted on social media. A “meme” is defined as “a humorous image, video, piece of text, etc., that is copied (often with slight variations) and spread rapidly by Internet users.” This is one of the easiest and most inexpensive ways to spread the word about what God is doing at our seminary. Each social media venue will have its own method of sharing a meme. If you need assistance, email c.brooks@fts.edu.

“Our goal is to increase enrollment by 100 students by the end of 2019.”
~ Dr. Norman Manohar,
President of Faith Theological Seminary



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@faithseminary

www.fts.edu

Another way to spread the word about FTS is to post an encouraging message, share a flyer or announcement about an event being held at FTS, sponsored by it, or attended en masse by Faith Theological Seminary students.

Lastly, you can support and spread the word about FTS by writing a positive rating in the reviews section of the social media site that you use. Let's work together to increase FTS enrollment by 100 students by the end of 2019!

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Rev. Ron Rivers

"Son" of Faith Theological Seminary

The mission of Faith Theological Seminary is to prepare men and women for the dissemination of the Gospel of Jesus Christ locally and globally. An example of that local "dissemination" is found in the ministry of Rev. Ronald Rivers, a current student pursuing his MDiv at FTS.

Rev. Rivers discovered FTS as he drove by the seminary but heard more about it through one of the ministers of the Huber Memorial Church where he attended. Ron met with Dr. Norman Manohar, the president of FTS and was immediately impressed. As Rev. Rivers tells of this meeting he says, "I worked in sales for many years and knew genuine authenticity when I saw it." He had also been involved in teaching ministries and as a result of speaking with Dr. Manohar he was challenged to get better equipped and recommended by Dr. Manohar to serve as an Assistant Pastor at the Cub Hill Bible Presbyterian Church in Parkville, Maryland.

What experience at FTS has been most impactful for Ron? Bible Archeology has helped to make the entire story of the Bible more fulfilling to him. For example, there was the encounter that Jesus had with His disciples on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. Luke 24:27 says, "beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself." Examining the physical layout of the city of Jerusalem and how it was set up, "broadened the depth of understanding this encounter".

Faith Theological Seminary has helped Rev. Rivers, as he says, "to get my theology right," particularly when it comes to the "Five Solas" He is no longer emotionally driven as he was in the earlier days of his ministry. He is now "Scripture-driven".

Some time ago someone told him, "Even while we are studying, we are to be as deeply involved in ministry as we can...the time to be involved in God's work is now." This profoundly impacted Ron's life. Rivers said, "Whatever you are learning, you need to learn it to the glory of God."



Student Testimonies

Each month in the *ftsConnection* we will try to share testimonies from students whose lives have been enriched through their involvement at Faith Theological Seminary. This month we will introduce you to Gloria Freeman, a Master of Divinity Student at Faith.



Faith Theological Seminary is a gateway to the Word of God. I am among the few who have been blessed to become a part of this family of believers.

The experiences I have had in the last two years at FTS have just increased my awareness of who I desire to be in Jesus Christ

and my love for the Gospel.

The role that FTS is fulfilling in this community as a place of religious learning and its profound teaching of systematic doctrine contained in Scripture is breathtaking. I am so enriched by the opportunities afforded to me to be a part of this great religious academic and to expose to great teachings under such qualified and devoted faculty. Thanks for affording me this opportunity and many more that will follow me. God bless FTS.

Be Strong in the Lord!

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Paul is speaking of the outward manifestation of the "might" that is inherent in the Lord.

In other words, the Christian is to "be constantly strengthened in the Lord and in the power that is found only in Him." It is the Christian that the Spirit of the Lord indwells and gives power to battle with Satan. There are no multivitamins to take in order to fortify you for this fight. Spending time at the gym won't do you any good on this battlefield.

A Glock, Uzi or AK-47 won't do you any good in this spiritual battle. In verse 11 we find the reason for putting on the whole armor of God; "that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." The phrase "stand against" is a soldier's expression, used for standing one's ground rather than taking to flight. "Wiles" is a word (*methodeia*) that means, "cunning arts, deceit, craft, trickery." And so the Christian is commanded to stand against the devil's deception. Are you standing against the devil's deception? Are you holding your ground? ~CB

Faculty Spotlight



George Lawson, B.A., M.Div.

Pastor George was born and raised in Albany, New York. The Lord graciously confronted George's hypocrisy and hopes in false religion during his college years, and gave him a passion to see lives transformed by the word of God.



After relocating to Maryland, he attended Hope Bible Church, where he began to teach weekly Bible classes, preach in the senior pastor's absence, lead a small group and serve as the Outreach Coordinator. During this time, he also studied at Washington Bible College, where he received a B.A. in Bible and Theology (2006).

After earning his degree, he moved to Southern California to pursue an M. Div. from the Master's Seminary (2010). While there, he served as vice president for the student body and as a deacon and lay leader at Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, CA.

Upon graduation from The Master's Seminary, George joined the staff of The Bible Church of Little Rock, as an associate pastor. In 2012, George moved back to Maryland to establish Baltimore Bible Church which officially launched in July 2013.

George's primary ministries include expository preaching, the supervision and development of Baltimore Bible Church, the training of leaders and the shepherding of the members at BBC. George and his wife Jennifer have been married since 1998, and have had the joy of raising three children: Charis, Micah and Kara. In addition to George's pastoral ministry, he serves as an adjunct professor at FTS.

God is not going to give victories until men are engaged in battles. Satan will not leave unless men resist. Light is more powerful than darkness, and truth is more powerful than error, and the Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit.
~ Dr. Carl McIntire