Dennis J. Horton  *Associate Professor of Religion*

Associate Director of Ministry Guidance Dennis\_Horton@baylor.edu

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| **Office Address:**  Baylor University Department of Religion One Bear Place #97284 Waco, TX 76798–7284 | | **Phone and Fax Numbers:**  Home: (254) 655–4010 Cell: (254) 495–7366  Office: (254) 710–6323  Fax: (254) 710–3740 | | | | | | |
| Personal Data | | | | | | | |
|  | My hometown is Grand Prairie, Texas. My wife Sara also grew up in Texas just north of Houston in Conroe. We have been married for 30 years and have two sons, Joshua and Joel. Sara has taught on all levels from Kindergarten to graduate school and now enjoys working as a photographer, digital designer, and Photoshop consultant. | | | | | | |
| Education | | | | | | | |
| Baylor University, Waco, TX | | | | | | |
| Ph.D. in Biblical Studies (New Testament)  Minor in Philosophy | | | August 1995 | | | |
| Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY | | | | | | |
| Master of Divinity in Biblical Studies | | May 1988 | | | | |
| Baylor University, Waco, TX | | | | | | |
| Bachelor of Arts Double Major: Religion and Greek | | May 1984 | | | | |
| Academic Awards and Honors | | | | | | | |
| * *The 2013 Frank P. Forwood Award for Academic Excellence in Presented Research* awarded March 9, 2013 by the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion for the paper entitled “Short-Term Mission Trips: What the Long-Term Missions Personnel Really Think about Them” * Recognition by the Phi Kappa Chi fraternity as one of their 2012-2013 Baylor Faculty and Staff honored for "significant contributions to our academic and personal development" (also received the same recognition in 2009–2010) * Recognition by the Chi Omega and Kappa Kappa Gamma sororities, honoring "Distinguished Faculty Members," 2012–2013 * Recognition by the Alpha Delta Pi sorority for "dedication to excellence in teaching" and "top 100 Baylor administration," 2008–2009 * *The 2009 Frank P. Forwood Award for Academic Excellence in Presented Research* awarded March 7, 2009 by the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion—Southwest for the paper entitled "Resurgent Calvinism among Young Conservative Christian Leaders and Its Implications for Women in Ministry" * Howard Payne University award for Teaching Excellence, 2004–05 * Brewton-Parker Department of the Year (three-member religion department), 1999–2000 * Brewton-Parker College Teacher of the Year, 1998–99 | | | | | | |
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| Professional Experience | | | | | | | |
| **Associate Director of Ministry Guidance**  **J. David Slover Professor of Ministry Guidance**  **Department of Religion, Baylor University** | | | | | | **June 2005–Present** |
| I presently teach ministry courses in the practical studies area while performing administrative duties for the Ministry Guidance Office which include directing the undergraduate ministry placement program and coordinating ministry-related conferences. | | | | | | |
| **Associate Professor** **of Missions and Supervised Ministry**  School of Christian Studies, Howard Payne University | | | | | | **Fall 2001–Spring 2005** |
| Howard Payne gave me further opportunity to develop my administrative abilities while continuing to equip students for vocational ministry. Both the missions and the ministry courses sought to wed academic training to its practical application within the actual ministry context. | | | | | | |
| **Assistant Professor of Old Testament**  **Religion and Philosophy Department**  **Brewton-Parker College** | | | | | **Fall 1996–Summer 2001** | |
| My primary responsibilities at Brewton-Parker were teaching in the biblical studies area (with a concentration in Old Testament) and ministry courses (preaching, church administration, internship/supervised ministry, and ministry seminars). I also served as the In-Service Guidance Director and oversaw the ministry internship program. | | | | | | |
| **Pastor, Ailey Baptist Church** | | | | **November 1997–July 2001** | | |
| **Chair, English Department**  **Yonok College, Lampang, Thailand** | | | | **Summer 1995–Spring 1996** | | |
| Supervised the work of Yonok's undergraduate English Department consisting of ten faculty members, established the curriculum, supervised the MBA English program, and facilitated Baptist mission work among the students. | | | | | | |
| **Adjunct Professor of Biblical Studies**  **Lutheran Theological Seminary**  **Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong** | | | | **Fall 1994–Spring 1995** | | |
| Taught the following courses: Usage of the Old Testament in the New, Introduction to the New Testament, Beginning and Intermediate Greek. | | | | | | |
| **Teaching Fellow**  **Religion and Philosophy Department**  **Hong Kong Baptist University** | | | | **Fall 1993–Spring 1995** | | |
| Taught courses in Old Testament Introduction and Major Biblical Themes. | | | | | | |
| **Pastor, Filipino/International Baptist Church, Hong Kong** | | | | **August 1993–May 1995** | | |
| **Circulation Department Supervisor**  **Moody Memorial Library, Baylor University** | | | | **June 1989–August 1993** | | |
| **Graduate Assistant, Baylor University**  **Supervisor: Dr. Jack Flanders, Professor of New Testament** | | | | **September 1988–May 1991** | | |
| **Pastor, West Fork Baptist Church**  **Madison, Indiana** | | | | **July 1985–June 1988** | | |
| **Youth Pastor, Kendrick Lane Baptist Church**  **Waco, Texas** | | | | **February 1982–May 1984** | | |
| Academic Research, Publications, and Presentations | | | | | | | |
| **Peer-Reviewed Books:**  *Death and Resurrection: The Shape and Function of a Literary Motif in the Book of Acts*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2009.  This work is a revision of my dissertation which posits that the death *and* resurrection of Jesus are inextricably tied together in Lukan theology as demonstrated through the motif of his death and resurrection in the book of Acts. The book is important to the field of ministry guidance due to the theological implications: both the suffering and resurrection of Jesus become paradigmatic for his followers, past and present. Contemporary followers of Jesus who are conformed to his image can expect suffering but also renewed life.  **Peer-Reviewed Traditional Articles:**  "Ministry Student Ages of Conversion with Implications for Childhood Evangelism and Baptism Practices." *Christian Education Journal* 7 (Spring 2010): 30–51.  In recent years, the age of conversion and baptism in North America has steadily decreased for most Christian faith traditions that practice believer's baptism. Several denominational leaders and Christian educators have expressed concerns about the possible negative effects related to these seemingly premature conversions. This article examines findings from a national survey of ministry students which provides evidence that early conversions of individuals within a strong Christian environment may not have detrimental effects on the individual's spiritual growth or long-term faith commitment. Nevertheless, some basic guidelines should be followed to encourage the most appropriate practices related to childhood evangelism and baptism. This article is particularly important for ministers who are working with children but also for Christian parents who belong to churches which practice believer's baptism.  "Resurgent Calvinism's Influence among Baptist Ministry Students and Its Implications for Women in Ministry." *Baptist History and Heritage* 45 (Spring 2010): 20–33.  This article documents the growing influence of Resurgent Calvinism among Baptist ministry students. The results of a national survey of ministry students provide a clear indication that Baptist ministry students who have adopted a strongly Calvinistic theological framework are much more likely to limit the leadership roles of women in the church. Christian educators need to be aware of this trend and its implications for women in ministry, especially given the fact that more than half of the ministry students in most Baptist universities are female. At Baylor, about 60% of our ministry students (1,200 of the 2,000) are female.  "Discerning Spiritual Discernment: Assessing Current Approaches for Understanding God's Will." *Journal of Youth Ministry* 7 (Spring 2009): 7–31.  The purpose of this article is to provide clarification on the subject of spiritual discernment by (1) explaining the major approaches to spiritual discernment currently being advocated, (2) identifying which decision-making factors are most important to specific groups of Christians, and (3) offering some guidelines to employ when teaching about spiritual discernment and Christian decision making. This article is particularly important for educators and ministers who are working with Christian young people (and especially ministry students) because of their desire to follow God's will coupled with the number of important decisions they make such as the ones about education, career path, and marriage.  **Peer-Reviewed Online Articles:**  "Death and Resurrection in the Book of Acts: A Foundational Motif for Discipleship."*The Bible and Interpretation* (May 2010): http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/ death357927.shtml.  This article, based on the premises in my book, offers further elaboration about the pivotal role of Jesus' death and resurrection as paradigmatic for contemporary discipleship. Like the message of the book, this article is important to the field of ministry guidance due to the theological implications: both the suffering and resurrection of Jesus become the pattern for his followers, past and present. Contemporary followers of Jesus who are conformed to his image can expect suffering but also renewed life.  **Other Publications:**  "Bible Comments" for Lessons 1-4. In *Going Viral: The Birth and Advance of the Church*  *A Study of the Book of Acts*. Dallas: BaptistWay Press, 2017.  "Bible Comments" for Lessons 1-4. In *Faith>Fear*. Dallas: BaptistWay Press, 2016.  "Bible Comments" for Lessons 1-4. In *Created for Relationships*. Dallas: BaptistWay Press, 2015.  "Bible Comments" for Lessons 5-7. In *14 Habits of Highly Effective Disciples*. Dallas: BaptistWay Press, 2014.  "Short-Term Mission Trips: What the Long-Term Missions Personnel Really Think about Them." In *The Year 2013 Annual Proceedings of the ASSR* (2013): 67–83.  "The State of Technology-Enhanced Learning," the "Annotated Bibliography," and "Appendix A: Environmental Review of Online Education" in "Engaging the Future of Higher Education," a report prepared for the Baylor University Provost by the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Committee, Spring 2013 (<http://www.baylor.edu/provost/doc.php/203521.pdf>).  "Is Love Enough?: A Phenomenological Study of Short-term Missions" by Heather Mustain, Johnny Jones, Gaynor Yancey, and Dennis Horton. This paper, originally presented by Heather Mustain at the National Association of Christian Social Workers Conference (St. Louis, Missouri—October 27, 2012), was selected to be featured in the NACSW Proceedings which became available in 2013 (<http://www.nacsw.org/Publications/Proceedings2012/MustainHIsLoveEnough.pdf>).  "How Should Churches Participate in Missions Abroad?" In the Round Table section of the inaugural issue of *Pastorum* (affiliated with Logos Bible Software) (July 2011).  "The Effects of Short Term Missions on Mission Team Members." In *The Year 2011 Proceedings of the ASSR-SW* (2011): 52–73.  "Call to Ministry." An audio of this script posted fall 2010 as a podcast on the Center for Effective Leadership's site for *Emerging Leadership*: (http://effectiveleader.org/resources/emerging-leadership). The Center for Effective Leadership is a branch of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.  "Time Management." An audio of this script posted fall 2010 as a podcast on the Center for Effective Leadership's site for *Emerging Leadership*: (http://effectiveleader.org/resources/emerging-leadership). The Center for Effective Leadership is a branch of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.  "Spiritual Turning Points: Ages of Calling into Vocational Ministry." In *The Year 2010 Proceedings of the ASSR—SW* (2010): 21–31.  "Resurgent Calvinism among Young Conservative Christian Leaders and Its Implications for Women in Ministry." In *The Year 2009 Proceedings of the ASSR—SW* (2009): 79–91.  "Spiritual Prodigies, 'Average' Ministers, and Late Bloomers." In *The Year 2008 Proceedings of the ASSR—SW* (2008): 101–111.    "The Quest for God's Will: Ministry Student Perceptions and Practices." In *The Year 2007 Proceedings of the ASSR—SW* (2007): 52–67.  "The Land of Achaia." *Biblical Illustrator* (Spring 1992): 16–19.  "Pharisee!" *Biblical Illustrator* (Winter 1991): 26–29.  **Papers and Presentations**    "Rice or Noodles? Findings from a Religious Ethnographic Study in Southeastern and Northwestern China," presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion (Irving, Texas—March 11, 2017).  "The Effects of Short-Term Mission Trips on Mission Team Participants," presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Missiology (St. Paul, Minnesota—June 18, 2016)  "Emerging Patterns of Baptist International Missions," presented at the annual meeting of the National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion (Waco, Texas—May 24, 2016)  "The Future of Missions," presented at the Waco Regional Baptist Association's Ministers Roundtable (Waco, Texas—January 13, 2016).  "Insights from Long-Term Missionaries and Other Host Partners," presented at the Waco Regional Baptist Association's DIY Missions conference (Waco, Texas—October 8, 2015).  "A Look at Short-term Missions through the Lens of the Host Partner," paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Missiology (Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota—June 21, 2014).  "Short-Term Mission Trips: Are They Worth our Investment of Time, Money, and Effort?" Department of Religion Annual Lecture, Baylor University (Waco, Texas—February 6, 2014).  "Rethinking Short-Term Mission Trips: Insights from STM Host Partners," workshop presented at the 2013 Rethink Missions Conference (Waco, Texas—September 17, 2013).  "Developing Cross-Cultural Partnerships through Short-Term Missions," presented during a breakout session at the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Texas Annual Meeting (San Antonio, Texas—July 15, 2013).  "Baptist Missions: Past, Present, and Recommendations for the Future," presented at the annual meeting of the National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion (Waco, Texas—May 21, 2013).  "The Effects of Short-Term Mission Trips on Host Partners and Their Communities" presented under my supervision by the undergraduate research assistants (Sarah Caldwell, Rachel Calhoun, Josh Flores, Chris Gerac, and Gabrielle Leonard) on this project (Baylor University's URSA Scholars Week , Waco, Texas—April 9, 2013).  "Short-Term Mission Trips: What the Long-Term Missions Personnel Really Think about Them," presented by Dennis Horton, Josh Flores, and Gabrielle Leonard at the annual meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion (Irving, Texas—March 9, 2013).  "Dialogue about Short-Term Missions," panelist for the Waco Regional Baptist Association's session on short-term missions coordinated by the Association's Networking and Missions Team (Waco, Texas—March 4, 2013)  "Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement: Two Case Studies." Presidential address for the annual meeting of the National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion, Southwest Region (Irving, Texas—March 9, 2012).  "The Effects of Short-Term Missions on Mission Team Members." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion (Irving, Texas—March 5, 2011).  "Baptist Voices on Social Justice and Engagement," a program organized for the National Associationof Baptist Professors of Religion, Southwest Region Annual Meeting (Irving, Texas—March 4, 2011).  "Crossing Cultures: Effects of Short-Term Missions on Mission Team Members," presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Ministry Guidance Professionals (San Antonio, Texas—July 28, 2011).  "Spiritual Turning Points: Ages of Calling into Vocational Ministry." Paper presented at the Southwest Regional Meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion in Irving, Texas (March 13, 2010).  "Case Teaching Resources for Ministry Courses." One of three panelists, presenting at the annual national meeting of the Association of Ministry Guidance Professionals (formerly ISGA); Dallas Baptist University (July 30, 2009).  "Resurgent Calvinism among Young Conservative Christian Leaders and Its Implications for Women in Ministry." Paper presented at the national meeting of the Religious Research Association in Louisville, Kentucky (October 17, 2008) and at the Southwest Regional Meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion in Irving, Texas (March 7, 2009).    "Bringing Reality into the Classroom." Presentation at the annual meeting of the BGCT's Texas ministry Guidance Directors' Retreat in Salado, Texas (February 27, 2009).  "Baylor Student Approaches to Spiritual Discernment." Presentation to the Baylor Residence Hall Chaplains in Waco, Texas (January 28, 2009).  "Common Approaches to Spiritual Discernment." Presentation at Baylor's Ministry Guidance Supervisor Workshop in Waco, TX (August 19, 2008).  "Ministry Student Beliefs." Paper presented at the In-Service Guidance Association in Birmingham, Alabama (August 2, 2008).  "Ministry Student Approaches to Spiritual Discernment." Paper presented at the In-Service Guidance Association in Birmingham, Alabama (August 1, 2008).  "Baptist Approaches to Spiritual Discernment: Ministry Student Perceptions and Practices." Paper presented at the National Association for Baptist Professors of Religion in Nashville, Tennessee (May 19, 2008).  "Spiritual Discernment." Topical Bible study presented on Wednesday evenings at Harris Creek Baptist Church in McGregor, Texas (March–May, 2008).  "Spiritual Prodigies, 'Average' Ministers, and Late Bloomers: Ministry Student Ages of Conversion and Confirmation." Paper presented at the Southwest Regional Meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion in Irving, Texas (March 15, 2008).  "Approaches to Spiritual Discernment." Presentation at the BGCT's annual meeting for Texas In-Service Guidance Directors in Salado, Texas (February 9, 2008) and again at the BGCT's annual Dean's Council Retreat in Salado, Texas (March 1, 2008).  "(Re)Emerging Theologies of Discernment." Paper presented at the national meeting of the Religious Research Association in Tampa, Florida (November 3, 2007).  "Sorting It Out – Discover how to Clarify Your Call." Presentation with Jeter Basden at a breakout session of the BGCT's First Annual Conference on Women in Ministry at Logsdon Seminary in Abilene, Texas (October 16, 2007).  "The Quest for God's Will: Ministry Student Perceptions and Practices for Discerning the Will of God." Paper presented at the Southwest Regional Meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion in Irving, Texas (March 4, 2007).  "The Quest for God's Will: Ministry Student Perceptions and Practices for Discerning the Will of God." Presentation at the BGCT's annual meeting for Texas In-Service Guidance Directors in Salado, Texas (February 17, 2007).  "Education for Ministry – What's Next?" Panelist presenting on the topic of ministry guidance, goals and practices; Baptist General Convention of Texas Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas (November 10, 2003).  "Christian Studies Web-based Learning Resources." Presentation as part of a Ministry Faculty Enrichment Seminar; Baptist General Convention of Texas Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas (November 10, 2003).  "Pedagogical Tools for a Postmodern Context." Presentation about course delivery software and tools for web-enhanced instruction with supervised ministry courses; annual national meeting of the In-Service Guidance Association; Campbell University (August 2–3, 2002).  "Sex, Lies, and Goats: Making a Dysfunctional Family Function in God's Kingdom." (A Cross-generational Study of Israel's Founding Families). Crawley Lecture Series at Brewton-Parker College; Mt. Vernon, Georgia (August 12, 2000).  "Her-story: Women of the Bible." Crawley Lecture Series at Brewton-Parker College; Mt. Vernon, Georgia (February 13, 1999).  "Thessalonica: Its Background and History." Presentation delivered to regional pastors for the Baptist Winter Bible Study Conference (November 30, 1999).  "The Role of Africans in the Bible." Crawley Lecture Series at Brewton-Parker College; Mt. Vernon, Georgia (September 20, 1997). Presented as a separate Bible study conference in Savannah, Georgia (October 25, 1997).  "Symbolic Death and Resurrection in the Book of Acts." Paper presented at the Southwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Dallas, Texas (March 13, 1992).  **Grants and Special Projects**  *The Effects of Short-Term Mission Trips on Host Partners and Their Communities*. Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement Grant (2012–2013) of $5,000 awarded to Dennis Horton by the Baylor University URSA Program.  *The Effects of Short-Term Mission Trips on Mission Team Members*. Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement Grant (2010–2011) of $5,000 awarded to Dennis Horton by the Baylor University URSA Program.  *National Survey of Ministry Student Spiritual Discernment, 2007*. University Research Grant (2007–2008) of $3,000 awarded to Dennis Horton by the Baylor University Research Committee.  "Winfred Moore: A Model for Ministry." Faculty Research Grant (2007–08) of $2,500 awarded to Dennis Horton and Doug Weaver by the Baylor University Institute for Oral History.  Parsons, Mikeal C. and Joseph B. Tyson, eds. *Cadburv. Knox. and Talbert: American Contributions to the Study of Acts*. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1992.  Assisted in the editorial stage of the work, developing indexes.  Harley, Richard M. and Stephen R. Howard *New Testament Lexicon Project*. Endowment for Biblical Research, Boston.  Under the direction of Mikeal Parsons, I participated in the "Pilot Research Phase" of this project (1992), forming the groundwork of a computerized Greek lexicon for the New Testament. In 1993–94, I worked with others on NT terms to be part of the completed program.)  Bauer, Walter, William F. Arndt, F. Wilbur Gingrich, and Frederick W. Danker. *A Greek‑English Lexicon of the New Testament*. 3rd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000.  Working under the supervision of Mikeal Parsons, I researched and compiled materials (1992–93) in preparation for the third English edition of the lexicon.  **Book Reviews**  *Great Commission, Great Compassion* by Paul Borthwick (Grand Rapids: IVP Books*, 2015*). Review in *Evangelical Missions Quarterly*, (2017).  *The Mission of Preaching: Equipping the Community for Faithful Witness and Mission* by Patrick W. T. Johnson (Grand Rapids: IVP Academic*, 2015*) in *Evangelical Missions Quarterly*, Vol. 52, No. 1 (January 2016): 108-110.  *Contextualisation and Mission Training: Engaging Asia’s Religious Worlds* by Jonathan Ingleby, Tan Kang San, and Tan Loun Ling, eds (Oxford Centre for Mission Studies, 2013). Review in *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* , Vol. 50 (January 2015): 508-510.  *Preaching the Atonement* by Peter K. Stevenson and Stephen I. Wright, *Preaching God's Word* by Terry G. Carter, J. Scott Duvall, and J. Daniel Hays, and *Preacher, Can You Hear Us Listening?* by Roger E. Van Harn. Cluster review in *Perspectives for Religious Studies* 34 (Spring 2007): 119–122.  *Acts* by Kenneth O. Gangel. In the SBL's *Review of Biblical Literature* www.bookreviews.org (February 26, 2001).  *Paul, In Other Words* by Jerome H. Neyrey. In *Anglican Theological Review* 74 (Winter 1992): 100–101.  *Luke's Story of Paul* by Richard I. Pervo. In *Anglican Theological Review* 73 (Winter 1991): 77–78. | | | | | | |
| Professional Memberships | | | | | | | |
|  | * American Society of Missiology; Association of Professors of Mission * Association of Ministry Guidance Professionals for Baptist Colleges and Seminaries (Vice-president, 2000–2001; President, 2001–2002) * National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion (Vice-president of the SW Region, 2010–2011; President, 2011–2012) * Religious Research Association | | | | | | |
| Endorsements for Ministry | | | | | | | |
|  | * Licensed: Kendrick Lane Baptist Church, Waco, TX; February 20, 1983 * Ordained: Kendrick Lane Baptist Church, Waco, TX; July 28, 1985 | | | | | | |
| Hobbies and Interests | | | | | | | |
|  | Technology, Racquetball, Family Activities, Baylor Sports, and International Interests (International travel, missions, foods, languages, and more) | | | | | | |