

Ronjour M. Locke

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Personal Information

Birth Date: October 28, 1981

Wife: Anne, married November 6, 2004

Children: Joshua, b. 2006
Noah, b. 2008
Mikaiya, b. 2010
Naomi, b. 2011



Education

- Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Ministry, Washington (now Lancaster) Bible College, Lanham, MD (2004)
- Advanced Master of Divinity, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX (2012)
- Currently pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, MO (2015-present)

Ministry Objective

I exist to display and declare the greatness of Christ in all of life, that all may delight in the glory of God. My passion is to make disciples of all peoples as commanded by the Lord Jesus. I seek to do so by baptizing those who have turned to the Lord and by teaching them to observe all that is commanded. My gifts are in pastoral leadership and in preaching/teaching.

My convictions are that God transforms people's lives as they come by his Spirit into submission to his Word. Because God's Word is the revelation of Jesus Christ, people are conformed to the image of Christ as they behold his glory in all of Scripture. Therefore discipleship must be grounded in the Word if we are to trust and follow him.

I believe that the local church is the community where discipleship is intended to thrive. God has created a culture in the church to foster Christlikeness and to embolden and support believers to spread the gospel of Christ to the ends of the earth.

Ministry/Staff Experience

Affiliate Pastor, Acton Institute, 2017-present

I occasionally speak and write articles and commentary essays to help promote Acton's vision of a free and virtuous society, particularly in local churches and urban contexts.

Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee Member, Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network (formerly Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware), 2016-present

I serve on a committee for my state convention that discusses how our local churches can best answer cultural/ethical/worldview issues with biblical faithfulness.

Church Planting Assessor, Send North America (Baltimore), 2016

I served on a team that assessed several church planting candidates considering ministry in our region.

Leadership Team Member, Baltimore Baptist Association, 2013-2016 (Vice-Moderator, 2016)

I served the SBC churches of my city as a member of the association's leadership team. We oversaw the budget, administrative, and ministry responsibilities of our local association.

Pastor, First Baptist Church of Brooklyn, 2012-present

In addition to regularly preaching, teaching, counseling, and overseeing, I've led the church in the following:

- Adopting a new mission statement
- Affirming a new elder-led polity
- Revising the constitution, bylaws, and member covenant
- Revising the membership process to include a membership class and affirmation of our doctrinal statement, the Baptist Faith and Message 2000, and our member covenant
- Instilling more partnership with neighborhood organizations, like Safe House of Hope, which rescues women from local sex trafficking, and local schools
- Developing an online presence with a focus on spreading the gospel through our website and social media

Adjunct Professor, Washington/Lancaster Bible College, 2012-2013

As adjunct professor, I taught the following course:

- Principles of Biblical Interpretation- Narratives
- Principles of Biblical Interpretation- Epistles

Interim Pastor, Rosen Heights Baptist Church, 2011

As interim pastor, I had the following responsibilities:

- Planning, organizing and leading Sunday morning worship services
- Regular preaching on Sunday mornings
- Leadership of the church staff
- Hospital visitation

Pastoral Intern, Meadowridge Community Baptist Church, 2009-2011

As an intern, I had the following responsibilities:

- Sharing in the preaching and teaching responsibilities with the senior pastor, Dr. Randal Lyle
- Leading two small groups—one for visitors to the church and one in my home for the

- singles and young couples
- Teaching midweek Bible study and leading prayer meetings
- Frequent preaching/guest speaking at the senior adult fellowship dinners

Admissions Ambassador, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, August 2007-2010

As ambassador, I had the following responsibilities:

- Reviewing all applications submitted to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for admission
- Recruiting at various events, from the Together for the Gospel to the E.K. Bailey Preaching conferences

Associate Pastor of Youth and Christian Education, Hanover Evangelical Free Church, 2006-2007

As associate pastor, I had the following responsibilities:

- Discipling the teens through Bible studies and counsel
- Overseeing the Sunday school ministry
- Laying the groundwork for a college student ministry

MS/HS Bible Teacher, Clinton Christian School, Upper Marlboro, MD, 2004-2006

As a Bible teacher, I had the following responsibilities:

- Structuring a Bible program for the high school which emphasized the development of a Christ-centered worldview.
- Teaching the majority of the Bible courses at the school.
- Speaking and leading worship frequently in the school chapels.
- Individually counseling many of my students.

Speaking Engagements

“The Identity and Mission of the Urban Church,” Lecture, Acton Institute
November 2017, New York, NY (forthcoming)

Forthcoming Lecture, Pastors Breakfast, Made to Flourish Network
October 2017 (forthcoming)

“Human Nature and Natural Law,” Lecture, Acton Institute
July 2017, Portland, OR

Spiritual Life Conference, Mount Airy Christian Academy
February 2017, Mt. Airy, MD

“Discipleship among the Poor,” panel discussion, Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network Annual Meeting
November 2016, Towson, MD

“The Church and Race,” panel discussion, Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA)
February 2015, Baltimore, MD

Spiritual Life Conference, plenary speaker, Heartland Family Ministries
October 2013, Belton, MO

Revival Preaching, Come As You Are Community Church
February 2010/2011, Fort Wayne, IN

DiscipleNow, Christ the Redeemer Church
July 2008, Fort Worth, TX

Youth Conference, Hillcrest Baptist Church
July 2006, Temple Hills, MD

Youth Conference, New Antioch Baptist Church
Summer 2004-2005, Randallstown, MD

Writings

Review, *Removing the Stain of Racism from the African-American Church*
Forthcoming, in *Themelios*

"Race in the Old Testament," in *United: The Christian Hope for Reconciliation*, ed. Peter Beck, PhD
Forthcoming

"Pastor, Preach in High Definition," *For the Church*
August 19, 2016, <http://ftc.co/resource-library/blog-entries/pastor-preach-in-high-definition>

"Why Are They So Angry?" *Southern Baptist Texan*
May 12, 2015, <http://texanonline.net/archives/5044/>

Media Interviews

Radio Interview on Race and the Church, 95.1 SHINE-FM, Baltimore
July 2016

Radio Interview on Race and the Church, Iron Sharpens Iron Radio Program
August 2015

"Prepared for Anything: How the Gospel that Saves Also Transforms," *Southwestern News*
Winter 2014

Professional Development

Acton University

June 2017

Colloquium on Poverty and a Christian Response, Commonweal Project, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

October 2015

Pastor's Institute, Land Center for Cultural Engagement, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

September 2015

Urban Economics and Ministry Conference, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

February 2014

References

• Joel Beever, Friend

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• Rev. Jim McCaffrey, Elder

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• Rev. Eric C. Redmond, Professor

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