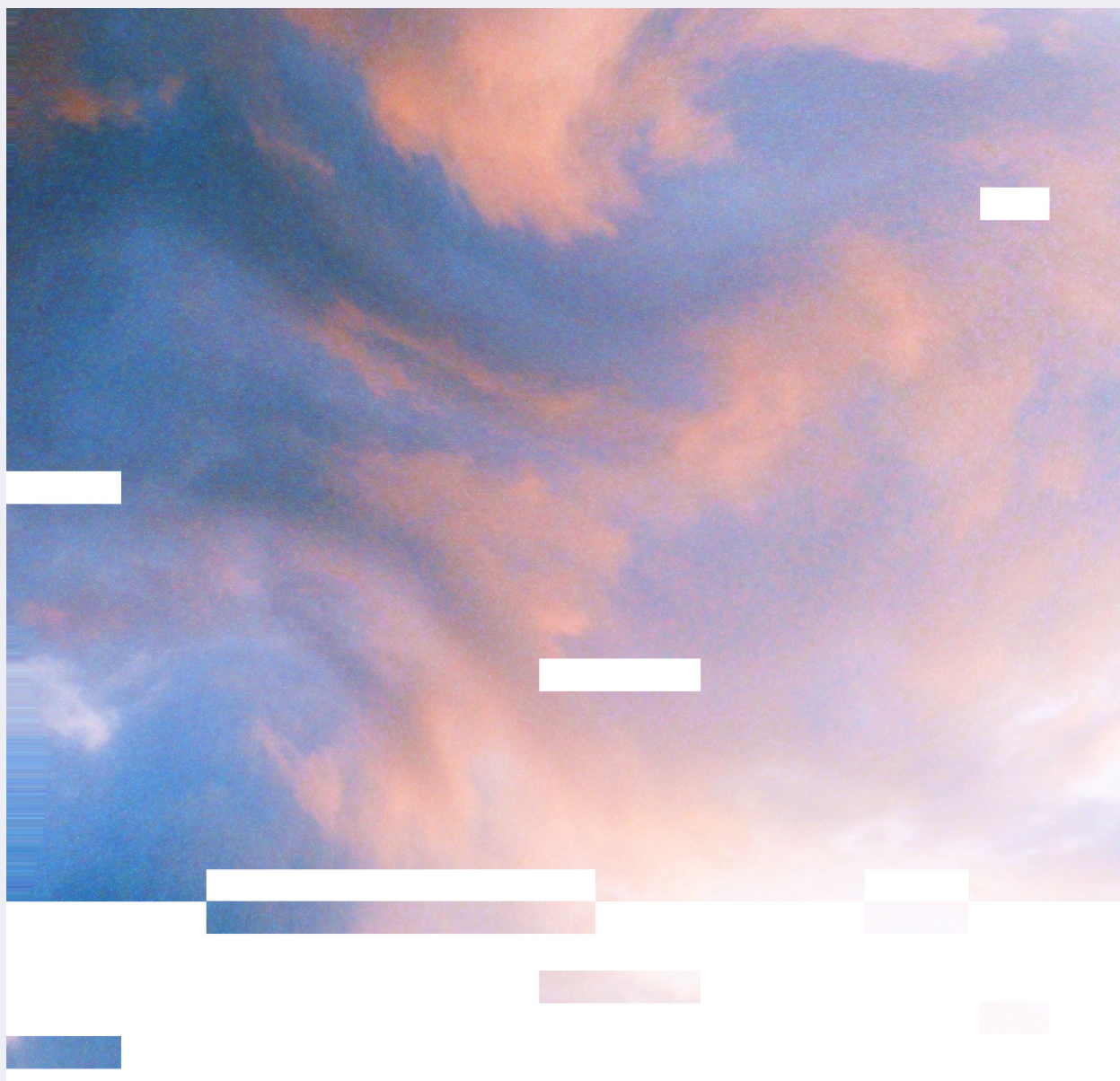


*Our Citizenship is in*  
**H E A V E N**

Exiles Who Are In But Not Of The World



EFCA THEOLOGY CONFERENCE 2022



*Our Citizenship is in*  
**H E A V E N**

Exiles Who Are In But Not Of The World



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Welcome	2
The Orchard Maps	4
Conference Speakers	6
Notes Pages	11
Connect With Us	60
Conference Resources/Sponsors	61
Conference Schedule	66

*All Scripture referenced within this booklet is from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version (ESV).  
No part of this booklet may be reproduced in any form without written permission from the EFCA.*

Follow along on social media with [#EFCATheoConf](https://twitter.com/EFCATheoConf).

# GREETINGS IN THE LORD!

We extend a warm welcome to you and are grateful for your presence at the 2022 EFCA Theology Conference. This is a special gathering since this is our first national in person gathering since our 2020 Theology Conference. Shortly after our 2020 Conference, the COVID-19 pandemic altered our lives and ministries.

We are greatly encouraged you have joined us for these few days of learning, worship, fellowship, reflection and discussion. Your attendance reflects your interest in and commitment to these important and timely biblical and doctrinal issues. We are here because these issues affect our own personal lives and the ministries and local churches where we serve. Our call is to “understand the times” and to live and minister faithfully by God’s grace, for the good of God’s people and for the glory of God.

Our Conference theme is “Our Citizenship Is In Heaven: Exiles Who Are In But Not Of The World.” We will focus on life and ministry in a postmodern and increasingly post-Christian culture, and some of the biggest issues we are facing, either of the church understanding the world or of the cultural and apologetic issues facing the church today.

Our Preconference theme is “The Bible and Bioethics: In But Not Of The World.” Technological advancement provides many benefits in the bioethical realm. But often the ability to do something surpasses the ethical question of whether we should do something. We will address some of the critical ethical/bioethical issues facing pastors and churches today.

Thank you to The Orchard for the warm welcome they have extended. Please offer your appreciation and gratitude to all the excellent staff who serve us so well.

We invite you to stop by the foyer to visit with our conference sponsors. Free Church Ministers’ and Missionaries’ Benefits & Retirement (FCMM) assists churches in providing a retirement plan, long term disability insurance, payroll service and access to group health insurance. Jerry Rich and Ric Stanghelle are here on behalf of FCMM. Consider stopping by their booth for more information.

Christian Investors Financial (CIF) is a long-time partner in ministry, providing investors with investment options and churches with loans and services. Please make sure you check out their helpful resources.

Trinity International University, our EFCA school, is a ministry partner to our churches. Our school has been “entrusted with the gospel” and they are faithfully preparing and equipping students for life and ministry. Please plan to visit with them and hear of the ways God is using TIU, and to learn of ways you can partner with them.

Aaron Uran with NextStep Resources is also here eager to serve you with good books. Many of the books written by our speakers will be available, along with their recommended bibliographies on the topics they will be addressing. He will also provide a 40% discount on all Crossway Publishing titles. Additionally, Crossway is offering a free ebook download of Carl R. Trueman’s forthcoming *Strange New World: How Thinkers and Activists Redefined Identity and Sparked the Sexual Revolution* from February 8-12, 2022. Use this link (<https://www.crossway.org/books/strange-new-world-ebook/>) for your free download. Please make sure you take time to browse the many titles he has available. Please also note and take advantage of the 50% discount provided by P&R Publishing included in the Notebook.

We are grateful for the generosity of others to provide all attendees with two free books. Thank you to the EFCA national office for providing the book written by Alejandro Mandes, EFCA Director for the All People Initiative, *Embracing the New Samaria: Opening Our Eyes to Our Multiethnic Future*. And thank you to Made to Flourish for making the book written by Tom Nelson, EFC pastor at Christ Community Church, available, *The Flourishing Pastor: Recovering the Lost Art of Shepherd Leadership* (Made to Flourish Resources). Both books are timely resources. We are grateful for the generous gift of these two books written by two EFCA brothers.

There will be a book giveaway at the conclusion of the conference. We will, as in the past, have a stack of books written by our speakers. Additionally, Crossway Publishing has also graciously and generously provided the *Short Studies in Biblical Theology* series (13 volumes) and the *Short Studies in Systematic Theology* series (5 volumes) as giveaways. Fair warning: you must be present to win!

The conference recordings will be available after the conference on the EFCA Theology Podcast ([efca.org/podcast](http://efca.org/podcast)).

Thank you for attending the 2022 Theology Conference. The conference team is available to assist you with any questions or needs you may have.

In But Not Of The World,

**GREG STRAND**

*Executive Director of Theology and Credentialing*

# THE ORCHARD CHURCH

## Lower Level



MAP

Orchard Kids Lobby

# THE ORCHARD CHURCH

## Main Level



# SPEAKERS

## *Preconference Speaker*



### **MATTHEW EPPINETTE**

Executive Director of The Center for Bioethics & Human Dignity and Affiliate Professor of Bioethics, Trinity International University, Deerfield, Illinois

**More info:** <https://cbhd.org/content/matthew-eppinette>

## *Conference Plenary Speakers*

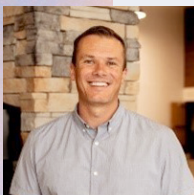


### **MARK DEVER**

Senior Pastor of Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC and President of 9Marks

**More info:**

<https://www.capitolhillbaptist.org/about-us/leadership-staff/member/1267131/>



### **JT ENGLISH**

Lead Pastor of Storyline Church, Arvada, Colorado

**More info:** <https://www.storylinechurch.net/about-jt>



### **MICKEY KLINK**

Senior Pastor of Hope Evangelical Free Church, Roscoe, Illinois

**More info:** <https://www.hefc.net/about-us/our-staff/member/1396164/>



### **DAVID PAO**

Dean and Professor of New Testament, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois

**More info:** <https://www.tiu.edu/graduate/faculty/david-w-pao/>







## KEITH PLUMMER

Dean and Professor of Theology, Cairn University, Langhorne, Pennsylvania

More info: <https://cairn.edu/team/keith-plummer/>



## CARL TRUEMAN

Professor of Biblical & Religious Studies,  
Grove City College, Grove City, Pennsylvania

More info: [https://www.gcc.edu/Home/Academics/Faculty-Directory/  
Faculty-Detail/carl-r-trueman](https://www.gcc.edu/Home/Academics/Faculty-Directory/Faculty-Detail/carl-r-trueman)

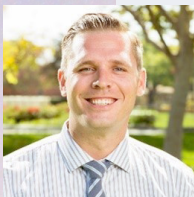
### *Breakout Speakers*



## COLLIN HANSEN

Vice President and Editor in Chief of The Gospel Coalition

More info: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/profile/collin-hansen/>



## THADDEUS WILLIAMS

Associate Professor of Theology, Biola University, La Mirada, California

More info: <https://www.biola.edu/directory/people/thaddeus-williams>



## GEORGE YANCEY

Professor of Sociology, Baylor University, Waco, Texas

More info: <https://www.baylor.edu/sociology/index.php?id=963916>



## CHRISTOPHER YUAN

Author and Speaker, Bearer of Christ Ministries and  
Professor of Bible, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Illinois

More info: <https://christopheryuan.com/about/>

## THE BIBLE AND BIOETHICS: In But Not Of The World

Technological advancement provides many benefits in the bioethical realm. But often the ability to do something surpasses the ethical question of whether we should do something. There is an important distinction between an is, what can be done, and an ought, what should or must be done, particularly in the ethical and bioethical realm.

Often these bioethical questions are not thought about before being faced with an ethical, existential moment. At that crisis point, it is difficult to think wisely and discerningly. When we face life issues – either love for another (in end-of-life decisions) or a sense of entitlement (in reproductive matters) – we are almost always pressed to an ought, without thinking through the ethics and morality of the matter. The time to think about such matters is before that existential moment.

Added to these ethical matters is our present cultural moment. There may have been a time when the church and cultural mores were similar. The church did not have to teach or press some of the moral matters because they were affirmed in the culture. That is no longer the case, and yet, the culture continues to catechize the people of God, the church. We are living at a time when not only are the ethics, bioethics and morality not embraced by the culture, they are despised. And often we have not rightly understood these issues ourselves, and thus we have been unable or unwilling to teach/catechize God's people on these critical matters.

Here are a few things to consider in the realm of biblical ethics and bioethics:

- *Foundation for Biblical Ethics and Bioethics*

The concern is that too few understand how to move from the Bible to theology to ethics to bioethics. The past two years have shown that we have a lot of ground to cover when it comes to understanding moral/ethical theology in the public realm. Furthermore, the church has expected the culture to reflect biblical and ethical mores, to affirm the ethics/morality of the church and the church has also allowed the culture to teach and model acceptable ethical norms. That day is no more (if it ever was), so that now when the culture no longer reflects those ethical matters, and in fact is antagonistically opposed

to them, the church needs to catechize in the moral/ethical realm once again, both in content and character. In this way the church will manifest her heavenly citizenship while living in the world.

- *Biotechnology, Genetic Engineering and Artificial Reproductive Technologis (ART): AIF, AID, GIFT, ZIFT, IVP, Surrogacy, Etc.*

These are several of the issues we are addressing in the church. Consider this: how many of these issues do you address during premarital counseling? Many married couples conclude if they want a child, they deserve a child. What happens if/when that couple experiences infertility? If that is the case, how do they go about having a child? Not all these means are ethical/moral or God-honoring. What is and is not acceptable as Christians?

- *Abortion, End of Life Treatment, Alzheimer's, Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia*

This is another realm we are facing in significant ways. Depending on what happens with the SCOTUS decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson, Women's Health*, Christians and the church may have to reconsider our approach to addressing abortion more at the local and state level, rather than the federal. And what about the end-of-life treatment? How do we help Christian families think about such matters grounded in the sanctity of life and the *imago Dei*? How do we discern if/when we truly and rightly prolong life, and if/when we inappropriately delay death? And how do we understand Alzheimer's and the *imago Dei*? Are we equipped/prepared to minister to an increasing number of those who have little to no memory? How do we live out the truth that "God will never leave you nor forsake you" with them?

- *Enhancement, Artificial Intelligence, Transhumanism and Posthumanism*

This is impacting us, and many do not even know it. Our lives are being monitored to the degree that if most knew, they would likely be shocked. And even though this may be considered to be the stuff of science-fiction novels or movies, it continues to make inroads into our lives in increasing measures. An increasing number of people prefer to live a virtual life over against a real, personal, embodied, flesh-and-blood existence or at least a hybrid. For example, consider the metaverse. Many take this very seriously, and this is their hope for eternal life. How much of this is stewarding God's creation for human flourishing and how much is an attempt to build Babel, to be the creator and master of one's own destiny, which fits the expressive individualist spirit of the age.

These are just a few of the major issues we ponder as we consider The Bible and Bioethics. Many more topics could be added.

I am grateful we have Matthew Eppinette, Executive Director of The Center for Bioethics & Human Dignity (CBHD), Affiliate Professor of Bioethics, Trinity International University, with us to address a few of these important issues in our preconference sessions. Grounded in the Scriptures, there is much we will learn as we seek to “understand the times” and to live faithfully, such that we both model and teach how to live joyfully under the sweet sovereignty and purposeful providence of God and the loving Lordship of Jesus Christ in the ethical and bioethical realm of our lives.

Faith Seeking Understanding,

Greg Strand  
Executive Director of Theology and Credentialing



# DR. MATTHEW EPPINETTE

Executive Director of Center for Bioethics & Human Dignity and Affiliate Professor of Bioethics  
Trinity International University, Deerfield, Illinois

*The Bible and Bioethics: In But Not Of The World*



## SESSION 1: BIBLICAL ETHICS & BIOETHICS

■ SESSION 2: TAKING LIFE & MAKING LIFE

- SESSION 3: FAKING LIFE OR AI AND ROBOTS AND CYBORGS, OH MY!

## ■ DR. EPPINETTE'S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Madueme, Hans. "Thinking Theologically About Bioethics," The Center for Bioethics & Human Dignity, April 9, 2009. <https://cbhd.org/content/thinking-theologically-about-bioethics>.

Meilaender, Gilbert. "I Want to Be a Burden to my Loved Ones," First Things, March 2010. <https://www.firstthings.com/article/2010/03/i-want-to-burden-my-loved-ones>.

Mitchell, C. Ben, Edmund D. Pellegrino, Jean Bethke Elshtain, John F. Kilner, and Scott B. Rae, *Biotechnology and the Human Good*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2007.

Sleasman, Michael J. "Bioethics Past, Present, and Future: Important Signposts in Human Dignity," The Center for Bioethics & Human Dignity, September 30, 2016. <https://cbhd.org/content/bioethics-past-present-and-future-important-signposts-human-dignity>.

Snead, O. Carter. *What It Means To Be Human: The Case for the Body in Public Bioethics*. Cambridge: Harvard, 2020.



## EFCA THEOLOGY CONFERENCE

*Our Citizenship is in*

**H E A V E N**

**Exiles Who Are In But Not Of The World**

### INTRODUCTION

We are living and ministering in a postmodern and increasingly post-Christian culture. This has raised issues regarding how we understand the world and the cultural and apologetic issues facing the church. Added to these cultural issues is the pandemic. Not only has living amid a pandemic created issues in and for the church, but it has also manifested and revealed issues within the church.

Consider the many and varied issues before the church of Jesus Christ today, and the differences and divides in how we process those issues, which often lead to divisions and polarizations: politics and identity politics, COVID 19, masks and vaccines, racism and racial justice, virtual church, the body and human sexuality and LGBTQ+, sexual abuse, abuse of power/authority, social media, truthiness or fake news, contemporary critical theory, the radically-absolute-autonomous self, conspiracy theories, nominal Christianity, decreasing church membership (where are the members?), deconstruction, deconversion and apostasy, doctrine and life (content and character), big Eva, Neo-fundamentalism, progressive evangelicalism (theological liberalism), et cetera. It is overwhelming just reading this list, much less living amid them, and often many at the same time.

Jesus teaches that as Christians we are “in but not of the world” (Jn. 17). We, like God, “love the world” (Jn. 3:16) and we “do not love the world” (1 Jn. 2:15-17) at the same time. As Christians, we are strangers and sojourners, exiles who are members of two cities, the city of God and the city of man, while our ultimate “citizenship is in heaven” (Phil. 3:20). The past 18 months have

revealed several gaps in the lives of Christians and in the church. Six plenary messages focus on three different aspects of the challenges we face today: understanding the world (messages 1 and 2), the Christian (messages 3 and 4), and the church (messages 5 and 6). There will also be two breakout sessions on Thursday afternoon.



## *Part 1*

### **THE WORLD: Explaining the World to the Faithful**

In the first two messages, we will seek to understand the postmodern and increasingly post-Christian world. Carl Trueman writes in “The Road to Bostock”: “The pressing pastoral need of the hour for the church is not to explain the faith to the world but rather first to explain the world to the faithful. . . . [if we do not understand the culture] that will make it very hard to navigate this world as both good citizens and good stewards of the gospel.” There is an “understanding the times” gap, somewhat of a historical time-warp as if we live and minister in a culture of 50-75 years ago. In response we will be attempting to “explain the world to the faithful.” After the curtain is lifted on the contemporary world, not only what it is, but how we arrived at this moment, we will then address how Christians and the church ought to respond to and engage with those of the world, being “salt and light” (Matt. 5:13-16). For those who have eschewed God’s revelation for human reason/rationalization, even among some Christians, the plausibility structures of belief have changed, and certain defeater beliefs become conversational dead-ends. This means Christians are considered cultural heretics. Despite this, we are “always prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks for a reason for the hope that is in you” (1 Pet. 3:15).

## *Part 2*

### **THE CHRISTIAN: In But Not Of**

In the third and fourth lectures, we will focus on a biblical world-and-life view, by looking at the Christian and the heart, and the heart of the Christian life. David Wells concludes in *Losing Our Virtue: Why the Church Must Recover Its Moral Vision*: “Worldliness is that system of values, in any given age, which has as its center our fallen human perspective, which displaces God and

his truth from the world, and which makes sin look normal and righteousness seem strange. It thus gives great plausibility to what is morally wrong and, for that reason, makes what is wrong seem normal.” There is a catechizing gap, reflecting soteriological and transformational (sanctification) issues. All too often, Christians have engaged in and responded to issues in the ways and means of the world. For example, consider the fissures and fractures, the sifting and sorting, the debates and divisions which may reveal our common belief and mission were in something other than confessing Jesus Christ is Lord. Sadly, there is at times little to distinguish Christian belief and behavior from the world. And Christians have imbibed radical, individual autonomy, the modern self. In contrast, the Christian has been called to cross-bearing (Mk. 8:34-38), bearing the life of the cross and crucifixion (Gal. 2:20).



## **BREAKOUTS**

We will provide four different options during our two breakout sessions. The four messages will be repeated in the second breakout session, which will allow you to participate in two of the breakouts. It would be accurate to conclude these four topics could also have been considered plenary messages. The issues are that important. And yet the difference is that in the breakout sessions we are going deeper on a few key issues that are critical for us to learn about and discuss. These sessions will consist of instruction and provide some time for Q&A and discussion. All these breakout topics are excellent, which will make it difficult for you to decide what two to attend. Be assured, all will be recorded.



### *Part 3*

## **THE CHURCH: A Manifestation of the Gospel A Hope-Filled, Eschatological Apologetic**

In the fifth and sixth messages, we will focus on the church. Christopher J. H. Wright concludes in *Here Are Your Gods: Faithful Discipleship in Idolatrous Times* that idols and idolatry remain a temptation among God’s people, which the past 18 months have revealed. After turning from God to a fabricated golden calf, Aaron said to the people of God, “These are your gods” (Ex. 32:4). And lest we think idolatry is an old covenant temptation, John concludes his first epistle exhorting believers to “keep yourselves from idols” (1 Jn. 5:21). There is a worship gap and an idolatry problem, reflecting ecclesiological and eschatological issues. It seems we, the church,

have been tempted by or succumbed to idols and idolatry displacing God. In an account of true conversion, Paul notes of the Thessalonians they “turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God” (1 Thess. 1:9). These believers gathered in local churches are “the pillar and foundation of the truth” (1 Tim. 3:15). The church consists of those who have been transformed by the gospel, who proclaim the gospel, and who manifest the gospel, revealing they are truly citizens of heaven. In this way, the church provides a hope-filled, eschatological apologetic.

We are grateful to the Lord we are able to meet to address these timely topics. We give thanks, we have the opportunity and privilege to learn from our excellent speakers. We are eagerly expectant for what the Lord will teach us.

A Grateful Exile Whose Citizenship Is In Heaven,

**GREG STRAND**

*Executive Director of Theology and Credentialing*



# DR. KEITH PLUMMER

Dean and Professor of Theology

Cairn University, Langhorne, Pennsylvania

*Doctrinal and Moral Defeater Beliefs: Understanding the Times and An Apologia  
for the Hope In Us*







## ■ DR. PLUMMER'S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Chatraw, Joshua D. *Telling a Better Story: How to Talk About God in a Skeptical Age*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2020.


Ganssle, Gregory E. *Our Deepest Desires: How the Christian Story Fulfills Human Aspirations*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2017.

Keller, Timothy. *Making Sense of God: An Invitation to the Skeptical*. New York City: Viking, 2016.

McLaughlin, Rebecca. *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2019.

Mesa, Ivan, ed. *Before You Lose Your Faith: Deconstructing Doubt in the Church*. Austin: The Gospel Coalition, 2021.





# DR. CARL TRUEMAN

**Professor of Biblical & Religious Studies**

Grove City College, Grove City, Pennsylvania

*The World-and-Life View of the World: The Modern Self*







## ■ DR. TRUEMAN’S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Pearcey, Nancy R. *Love Thy Body: Answering Hard Questions About Life and Sexuality*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2019.

Smith, James K.A. *How (Not) to Be Secular: Reading Charles Taylor*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2014.

Wells, David F. *Losing Our Virtue: Why the Church Must Recover Its Moral Vision*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.



# DR. DAVID PAO

Dean and Professor of New Testament

Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois

*The World-and-Life View of the Christian: The Power of Hope in the Subversive Gospel of the Cross*







## ■ DR. PAO'S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Hart, Trevor, and Richard Bauckham. *Hope Against Hope: Christian Eschatology at the Turn of the Millennium*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.

Horrell, David G. *Becoming Christian: Essays on 1 Peter and the Making of Christian Identity*. LNTS 394. T & T Clark, 2013.

Mbuvi, Andrew M. Temple, *Exile and Identity in 1 Peter*. LNTS 345. T & T Clark, 2007.

Pao, David W. "Let No One Despise Your Youth: Church and the World in the Pastoral Epistles," *JETS* 57 (2014): 743–55.





# DR. JT ENGLISH

**Lead Pastor**

Storyline Church, Arvada, Colorado

*“You Shall Be Holy”: Disciples, Sanctification (Transformation) and Catechesis*







## ■ DR. ENGLISH'S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Brown, Peter. *Augustine of Hippo: A Biography*. Berkley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2000.

Comer, John Mark. *Live No Lies: Recognize and Resist the Three Enemies That Sabotage Your Peace*. Colorado Springs: WaterBrook, 2021.

Trueman, Carl R. *Histories and Fallacies: Problems Faced in the Writing of History*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2010.

Vanhoozer, Kevin J. *The Drama of Doctrine: A Canonical Linguistic Approach to Christian Doctrine*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2005.

Wells, David F. *No Place For Truth: Or Whatever Happened to Evangelical Theology?*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.



# DR. MICKEY KLINK

Senior Pastor

Hope Evangelical Free Church, Roscoe, Illinois

*The Challenges of the Church: "Keep Yourselves from Idols"*







## ■ DR. KLINK'S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Bannerman, James. *The Church of Christ: A Treatise on the Nature, Powers, Ordinances, Discipline, and Government of the Christian Church*. Carlisle: Banner of Truth, 2015 (orig. 1868).

Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion, Book 4*. Translated by Ford Lewis Battles, Edited by John T. McNeill. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1960 (orig. 1560).

Clowney, Edmund P. *The Church: Sacraments, Worship, Ministry, Mission*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

Klink, Edward W. III. *The Local Church: What It Is and Why It Matters for Every Christian*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2021.





# DR. MARK DEVER

Senior Pastor, Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC and  
President, 9Marks

*The Church: "The Pillar and Foundation of Truth"*







## ■ DR. DEVER’S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Dever, Mark. *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church*, 4th ed. 9Marks. Wheaton: Crossway, 2021.

Dever, Mark. *The Gospel & Personal Evangelism*. 9Marks. Wheaton: Crossway, 2007.

Dever, Mark. *The Message of the Old Testament: Promises Made*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2006.

Dever, Mark. *The Message of the New Testament: Promises Kept*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2005.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

MR. COLLIN HANSEN

Vice President and Editor in Chief

The Gospel Coalition

*A New Evangelicalism?: Deconstruction (Deconversion or Reconstruction) Progressive Evangelicalism, and Neo-Fundamentalism*







## ■ MR. HANSEN’S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Hansen, Collin. *Blind Spots: Becoming a Courageous, Compassionate, and Commissioned Church*. Wheaton: Crossway: 2015.

Keller, Timothy. “Can Evangelicalism Survive Donald Trump and Roy Moore?”. *The New Yorker*, December 19, 2017. <https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/can-evangelicalism-survive-donald-trump-and-roy-moore>.

McLaughlin, Rebecca. *The Secular Creed: Engaging Five Contemporary Claims*. Austin: The Gospel Coalition, 2021.

Mesa, Ivan, ed. *Before You Lose Your Faith: Deconstructing Doubt in the Church*. Austin: The Gospel Coalition, 2021.

Naselli, Andrew David and Collin Hansen, Eds. *Four Views on The Spectrum of Evangelicalism*. Counterpoints Bible and Theology. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

# DR. THADDEUS WILLIAMS

Associate Professor of Theology

Biola University, La Mirada, California

*Confronting Injustice and Contemporary Critical Theory: A Biblically-Grounded and Gospel-Guided Response*







## ■ DR. WILLIAMS' SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Beisner, E. Calvin. *Social Justice vs. Biblical Justice: How Good Intentions Undermine Justice and the Gospel*. <https://cornwallalliance.org/product/social-justice-how-good-intentions-undermine-justice-and-gospel/>

Dreher, Rod. *Live Not by Lies: A Manual for Christian Dissidents*. New York City: Sentinel, 2020.

Perkins, John. *One Blood: Parting Words to the Church on Race and Love*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2018.

Shenvi, Neil and Patrick Sawyer. *Engaging Critical Theory and the Social Justice Movement*. Lafayette: Ratio Christi. <https://ratiochristi.org/engaging-critical-theory-and-the-social-justice-movement/>

Trueman, Carl R. *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self: Cultural Amnesia, Expressive Individualism, and the Road To Sexual Revolution*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2021.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

# DR. GEORGE YANCEY

Professor of Sociology

Baylor University, Waco, Texas

*Can Christianity Teach Us Anything Unique About Racism?*







## ■ DR. YANCEY’S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Yancey, George A. *Beyond Racial Division: A Unifying Alternative to Colorblindness and Antiracism*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2022.

Yancey, George. *Beyond Racial Gridlock: Embracing Mutual Responsibility*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2006.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

# DR. CHRISTOPHER YUAN

Author and Speaker, Bearer of Christ Ministries

Professor of Bible, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Illinois

*Human Sexuality in a Postmodern and Increasingly Post-Christian Culture*







## ■ DR. YUAN’S SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

---

Yuan, Christopher. *Holy Sexuality and the Gospel: Sex, Desire, and Relationships Shaped by God’s Grand Story*. Colorado Springs: Multnomah, 2018.

Yuan, Christopher and Angela Yuan. *Out of a Far Country: A Gay Son’s Journey to God, A Broken Mother’s Search for Hope*. Colorado Springs: WaterBrook Press, 2011.

## FELLOWSHIP, REFLECTION, AND PRAYER

One of the important aspects of gathering at our EFCA Theology Conference is that it provides an opportunity for those who serve in the same denomination, many who know one another personally, to engage in the lives of others. Although serving in different places geographically, we minister the same gospel in the same denomination encountering many of the same pastoral issues. This is a time and place to encourage one another to remain faithful and also to bear one another's burdens through patient listening and intercessory prayer.

Although we do not have time set aside during the sessions, we include these Scriptures and questions as prompts for you during your times of fellowship during breaks and meals. The prompts are to foster discussion and prayer, not a task to complete. Our prayer is that true spiritual fellowship and edification will occur in our fellowship and prayer.

### *Scripture*

Consider these Scripture texts as a basis for your conversation.

- “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep” (Romans 12:15).
- “Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart” (2 Corinthians 4:1).
- “Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing” (1 Thessalonians 5:11).
- “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works” (Hebrews 10:23-24).

### *Questions*

Consider these questions to prompt your dialogue, though please do not be limited by them.

1. How are you processing the past couple of years both personally and pastorally, and what has it revealed?
2. What are your greatest joys and/or challenges in your family and in the ministry?
3. How are you doing spiritually, mentally, emotionally, physically and relationally?
4. What are major decisions before you this coming year, personally and in ministry?

# Connect With Us

Follow along on social media with [#EFCATheoConf](#).

## Website

[www.efca.org](http://www.efca.org)

## Reading

[efca.org/blog](http://efca.org/blog)

## Social

[fb.com/TheEFCA](https://fb.com/TheEFCA)

[Twitter.com/theefca](https://Twitter.com/theefca)

[Vimeo.com/efcavideos](https://Vimeo.com/efcavideos)

[Instagram.com/theefca](https://Instagram.com/theefca)





# 2023 EFCA THEOLOGY CONFERENCE

**FEBRUARY  
8-10, 2023**

# EFCA Theology Podcast



A resource encouraging pastors and leaders to be passionate about the gospel and faithful to Scripture.

Episodes help listeners understand, share and live out our most important beliefs.

- EFCA Theology Conference content
- Past and future EFCA One speakers
- An audio version of *Evangelical Convictions*
- Interviews
- Ministry License paper requirements roundtable
- Theology Matters
- Recommended resources

[efca.org/podcast](https://efca.org/podcast)

Search “EFCA Theology Podcast” via Apple Podcasts or your podcast app.



# Church Loans Church Capital Campaigns Investments



*Financial Services  
on a Mission*

**ChristianInvestors.org  
800.995.8574**



**FCMM exists to enable pastors, staff members, and missionaries to serve Christ throughout their lives by assisting employing ministry organizations in providing retirement and other benefits.**

**Retirement Plan**

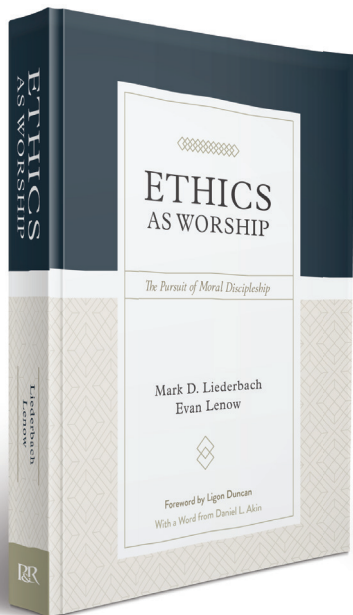
**Benefit Plan (LTD and Life/ADD Insurance)**

***Prepare Today Matching Grant - EFCA Pastors new to Retirement Plan can qualify for \$1,000 match.***

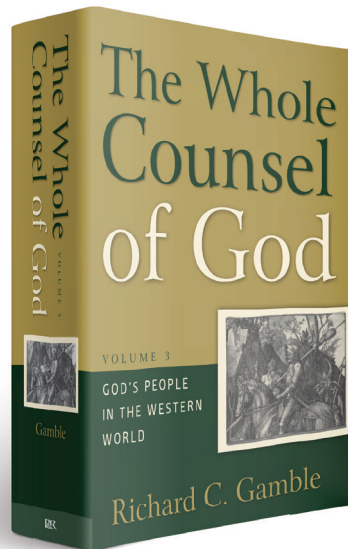
**Connect with us!**

**FCMM representatives will be available for information and consultation throughout the conference.**

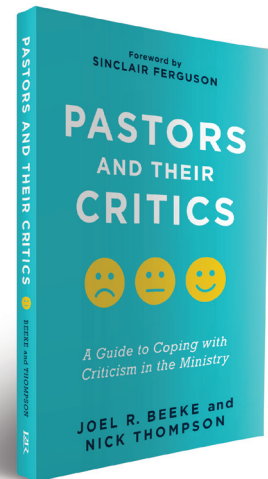
# NEW FROM P&R PUBLISHING



978-1-62995-262-8  
~~\$49.99~~ **\$24.99**



978-1-59638-182-7  
~~\$59.99~~ **\$29.99**



978-1-62995-752-4  
~~\$15.99~~ **\$7.99**

Use Coupon Code **EFCA22** to get 50% off  
and Free Shipping on all P&R Titles.

Valid 02/09/22 to 03/09/22



[www.prpbooks.com](http://www.prpbooks.com)

# 2022 SCHEDULE

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

8:30–9 a.m. Registration

*Preconference: The Bible and Bioethics: In But Not Of The World—  
Matthew Eppinette*

9–9:15 a.m. Welcome and introduction—Greg Strand

9:15–10:15 a.m. “Biblical Ethics & Bioethics”

10:15–10:30 a.m. Break

10:30–11:30 a.m. “Taking Life & Making Life”

11:30–11:45 a.m. Break

11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m. “Faking Life or AI and Robots and Cyborgs, Oh My!”

12:45–2 p.m. Lunch

*Conference: Our Citizenship Is In Heaven: Exiles Who Are In  
But Not Of The World*

### Part 1: The World: Explaining the World to the Faithful

2–2:20 p.m. Scripture and Worship

2:20–2:45 p.m. Introduction—Greg Strand

2:45–4 p.m. “Doctrinal and Moral Defeater Beliefs: Understanding the Times and  
An *Apologia* for the Hope In Us”—Keith Plummer

4–4:30 p.m. Break

4:30–5:45 p.m. “The World-and-Life View of the World: The Modern Self”—Carl  
Trueman

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

### Part 2: The Christian: In But Not Of

8:30–9 a.m. Scripture and worship

9–10:15 a.m.	“The World-and-Life View of the Christian: The Power of Hope in the Subversive Gospel of the Cross”—David Pao
10:15–10:45 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.–noon	“‘You Shall Be Holy’: Disciples, Sanctification (Transformation) and Catechesis”—JT English
Noon–1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30–1:45 p.m.	Scripture and worship
1:45–3:15 p.m.	Breakouts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ “A New Evangelicalism?: Deconstruction (Deconversion or Reconstruction) Progressive Evangelicalism, and Neo-Fundamentalism”—Collin Hansen</li> <li>■ “Confronting Injustice and Contemporary Critical Theory: A Biblically-Grounded and Gospel-Guided Response”—Thaddeus Williams</li> <li>■ “Can Christianity Teach Us Anything Unique About Racism?”—George Yancey</li> <li>■ “Human Sexuality in a Postmodern and Increasingly Post-Christian Culture”—Christopher Yuan</li> </ul>
3:15–3:45 p.m.	Break & announcements
3:45–5:15 p.m.	Breakouts—repeated from above

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

### Part 3: The Church: A Manifestation of the Gospel – A Hope-Filled, Eschatological Apologetic

8:30–9 a.m.	Scripture and worship
9–10:15 a.m.	“The Challenges of the Church: ‘Keep Yourselves from Idols’”—Mickey Klink
10:15–10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30–11:45 a.m.	“The Church: ‘The Pillar and Foundation of Truth’”—Mark Dever
11:45 a.m.–noon	Closing comments and book drawing (must be present to win)

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- 8:30–9 a.m. Registration
- Preconference: The Bible and Bioethics: In But Not Of The World—Matthew Eppinette*
- 9–9:15 a.m. Welcome and introduction—Greg Strand
- 9:15–10:15 a.m. “Biblical Ethics & Bioethics”
- 10:15–10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:30–11:30 a.m. “Taking Life & Making Life”
- 11:30–11:45 a.m. Break
- 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m. “Faking Life or AI and Robots and Cyborgs, Oh My!”
- 12:45–2 p.m. Lunch
- Conference: Our Citizenship Is In Heaven: Exiles Who Are In But Not Of The World*
- 2–2:20 p.m. Scripture and worship
- 2:20–2:45 p.m. Introduction—Greg Strand
- 2:45–4 p.m. Session 1—Keith Plummer
- 4–4:30 p.m. Break
- 4:30–5:45 p.m. Session 2—Carl Trueman

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- 8:30–9 a.m. Scripture and worship
- 9–10:15 a.m. Session 3—David Pao
- 10:15–10:45 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m.–noon Session 4—JT English
- Noon–1:30 p.m. Lunch
- 1:30–1:45 p.m. Scripture and worship
- 1:45–3:15 p.m. Breakouts—Collin Hansen, Thaddeus Williams, George Yancey, Christopher Yuan
- 3:15–3:45 p.m. Break & announcements
- 3:45–5:15 p.m. Breakouts—repeated from above

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 8:30–9 a.m. Scripture and worship
- 9–10:15 a.m. Session 5—Mickey Klink
- 10:15–10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:30–11:45 a.m. Session 6—Mark Dever
- 11:45 a.m.–noon Closing comments and book drawing (must be present to win)

