



# Prof. Mark Ryan

Director, Francis Schaeffer Institute  
Adjunct Professor of Religion and Culture



## Contact

To reach me, please call or email Gerry Reimer, our Faculty Secretary, at 314.434.4044, ext. 4201, or [gerry.reimer@covenantseminary.edu](mailto:gerry.reimer@covenantseminary.edu).

## Faculty Member Since

2013 (full-time); 2010-2013 (part-time)

## Select Courses Taught

Foundations of Apologetics and Outreach  
Cultural Apologetics Practicum I & II  
History and Variety of Apologetics  
Intercultural Counseling  
The Story of Christianity  
Truth as Faithfulness

## Education

Trinity Theological Seminary, University of Liverpool - Newburgh, IN  
MDiv in Interdisciplinary Studies (with highest distinction)

Covenant Theological Seminary - St. Louis, MO  
MATS in Christianity and Contemporary Culture (summa cum laude)  
J. Oliver Buswell Jr. Award

Harvest Bible College - Victoria, Australia  
BA in Biblical Studies (with honors)

Presbyterian Theological College - Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
Diploma (4-year) in Theology  
W. A. Loftus Memorial Prize (practical theology)  
Gwyneth Loftus Memorial Prize (graduating student award)

Australia College of Theology - Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
Diploma in Pastoral Ministry (merit class)

COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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**Emmaus Bible College** - Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
Diplomas in Missions and Teaching (with honors)

**Other Relevant Studies:**

Baptist Theological College of Queensland – Studies in Old Testament history and homiletics  
Reformed Theological College, Victoria, Australia – Studies in ethics

Bahnsen Theological Seminary, Placentia, CA – Postgraduate studies in presuppositional apologetics  
Evangelical Training Association – Graduate Teacher Diploma  
Regent College, Vancouver, BC – Postgraduate studies in theology and apologetics

**Ministry Experience**

**Covenant Theological Seminary** – St. Louis, MO  
Director, Francis A. Schaeffer Institute, and Adjunct Professor of Religion and Cultures (2013 – Present)  
Adjunct Professor of Theology (2010 – 2013)

**Crossroads Presbyterian Fellowship** – Maplewood, MO  
Assistant Pastor (June 2008 – 2013)

**L'Abri Fellowship** – Bowen Island, BC, Canada  
Director, Lecturer, and Tutor (May 2005 – May 2008)

**L'Abri Fellowship** – Southborough, MA  
Staff Worker, Lecturer, and Tutor (April 2001 – April 2005)

**Igreja Presbiteriana Bethel** – Marlboro, MA  
Pastor/Teacher (August 2002 - March 2005)

**Noble Park Evangelical Baptist Church** – Noble Park, Victoria, Australia  
Pulpit Supply; Coordinator and Leader, Cambodian Bible Study (2000 – 2001)

**L'Abri Fellowship** – Camden, New South Wales, Australia  
Guest Lecturer; participant in the 2000 national L'Abri Conference (2000 – 2001)

**Biblical Foundations International** – Federal Way, WA  
Itinerant Bible Teacher (1997 – 2000)

**Francis A. Schaeffer Institute, Covenant Theological Seminary** – St. Louis, MO  
Student Assistant to Prof. Jerram Barrs; Coordinator and MC, Friday Night Outreach Ministry at local bookstores (1998 – 1999)

**St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church** – Surrey Hills, Victoria, Australia  
Church Youth Worker; Assistant to the Pastor (1995 – 1997)

**The Bible Union of Australia** – Mulgrave, Victoria, Australia  
Annual Youth Camp Organizer and Leader (1991 – 1995)

**Glen Waverley Gospel Chapel** – Glen Waverley, Victoria, Australia  
Pastoral Assistant (1991 – 1993)

## Representative Articles, Reviews, and Lectures

### Articles

"Francis Schaeffer: A Brief Introduction to His Writings," for *Reformation* 21, Issue 15 (Nov. 2006).

"Apologetics and Failure: Why it May be Good for Us to Lose the Argument," *Covenant: The Magazine of Covenant Theological Seminary* 20, no. 1 (Spring 2005): 24–6, and 20, no.2 (Summer 2005): 24–26.

"The Pastoral Theology of John Calvin: Explained in the Institutes and Illustrated by His Life." *The Burning Bush* 6, no. 1 (Jan. 2000): 32–47.

"The Crisis of Morality: Euthanasia as a World Trend." *The Burning Bush*, 4, no. 1 (Jan. 1998): 39–50.

### Reviews

*Tortured Wonders: Christian Spirituality for People, Not Angels*, by Rodney Clapp. *Presbyterion* 33, no. 2 (Fall 2007): 122–24.

*Real Sex: The Naked Truth About Chastity*, by Lauren Winner. *Presbyterion* 33, no. 1 (Spring 2007): 63–64.

*Avoiding Jesus: Answers for Skeptics, Cynics and the Curious*, by Michael Green. *Presbyterion* 32, no. 1 (Spring 2006): 63–64.

*Christianity at the Religious Roundtable: Evangelicalism in Conversation with Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam*, by Timothy C. Tennent. *Presbyterion* 31, no. 1 (Spring 2005): 63–64.

*The Long Journey Home: A Guide to Your Search for the Meaning of Life*, by Os Guinness. *Lev* (Spring 2005): 7.

*Humble Apologetics: Defending the Faith Today*, by John G. Stackhouse. *Presbyterion* 30, no. 2 (Fall 2004): 127–28.

*The Heart of Evangelism*, by Jerram Barrs. *Presbyterion* 30, no. 1 (Spring 2004): 59–60.

*Still Bored in a Culture of Entertainment: Rediscovering Passion and Wonder*, by Richard Winter. *Presbyterion* 29, no. 1 (Spring 2003): 59–60.

*The Lord's Supper: Eternal Word in Broken Bread*, by Robert Letham. *The Reformed Theological Review*, Vol.61., No.2. (August, 2002): 113.

*Muslims and Christians at the Table: Promoting Biblical Understanding among North American Muslims*, by Bruce A. McDowell and Anees Zaka. *Presbyterion* 27, no. 2 (Fall 2002): 126–27.

*Five Views on Apologetics*, edited by Steven B. Cowan. *The Reformed Theological Review* 59, no. 2 (August 2000): 92–95.

*Angels of Light, Powers of Darkness: Thinking Biblically about Angels, Satan and Principalities*, by Stephen F. Noll. *The Reformed Theological Review* 59, no. 2 (August 2000): 96.

*Genesis Unbound: A Provocative New Look at the Creation Account*, by John Sailhammer. *The Reformed Theological Review* 59, no. 1 (April 2000): 46–47.

*Van Til's Apologetic: Readings and Analysis*, by Greg L. Bahnsen. *The Reformed Theological Review*, 58, no. 1 (April 1999): 56–58.

*Reasons of the Heart: Recovering Christian Persuasion*, by William Edgar. *The Reformed Theological Review* 56, no. 3 (Sept.–Dec. 1997): 160.

*Cornelius Van Til: An Analysis of His Thought*, by John M. Frame. *The Reformed Theological Review* 55, no. 2 (May–Aug. 1996): 102–03.

*An Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics: The Search for Meaning*, by W. C. Kaiser and M. Silva. *The Reformed Theological Review* 55, no. 2 (May–Aug. 1996): 101–02.

### **Lectures/Series**

"Glory on the Mountain: The Transfiguration of Christ." Cates Hill Chapel, Bowen Island, British Columbia (Feb. 2008).

"Carrying on When God is Not in Your Heart: Mother Teresa and the Lessons of Doubt." L'Abri Fellowship, Bowen Island, British Columbia (Nov. 2007).

"Did Jesus Marry Mary Magdalene? Debunking a Persistent Myth." L'Abri Fellowship Pacific NW conference, Willamette University, Salem, Oregon (July 2007).

"Honored Prophet, Mistaken Savior: A Muslim View of Jesus." L'Abri Fellowship Pacific NW conference, Willamette University, Salem, Oregon (July 2007).

"Bathing in the Promises: The 'Whole Bible' Logic of Infant Baptism." L'Abri Fellowship, Bowen Island, British Columbia (May 2006).

"What Does it Mean to Have a 'Personal Relationship' with Jesus? Meditating on a Most-Used Metaphor." L'Abri Fellowship, Bowen Island, British Columbia (July 2006).

"Luther's Theologia Crucis—Sound Theology for Superficial Times." L'Abri Fellowship, Bowen Island, British Columbia (Oct. 2005).

"Once Was Lost But Now Am Found: The Gnostic Gospel of Thomas Today." L'Abri Fellowship, Bowen Island, British Columbia, (September 2005).

"Making Sense of the Old Testament: The Unfolding Story of Salvation." Ten-part series. Cates Hill Chapel, Bowen Island, British Columbia (Sept.–Dec. 2005).

"Foundations for Being the Church: The Biblical Church and Our Postmodern Setting." Ten-part series. Igreja Bethel Presbiteriana, Marlboro, MA (Sept.–Nov. 2004).

"The Sacraments: Signs and Seals of Our Salvation." Seven-part series. Igreja Bethel Presbiteriana, Marlboro, MA (May–July 2004).

"Atonement Theology as an Eleventh-Century Invention? How has the Church Understood the Death of Christ?" L'Abri Fellowship, Southborough, MA (June 2004).

"The Purpose of the Passion: Why Did Jesus Have to Die?" Christ the King Presbyterian Church, East Boston congregation, MA (May 2004).

"Rough Justice? God, Israel, and Old Testament Warfare." Two-part series. L'Abri Fellowship, Southborough, MA (March 2004).

"Following Jesus: Living in the Light of the Sermon on the Mount." Ten-part series. Igreja Bethel Presbiteriana, Marlboro, MA (Feb.–April 2004).

"The Origin, Composition, and Interpretation of the Bible." Pilgrim United Congregational Church, Southborough, MA (March 2003).

"The Presence of Islam: Challenges and Opportunities for Christian Apologetics." Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary Cultural Apologetics Course, Boston, MA (Jan. 2003).

"What About the Promised Land? Biblical Reflections on the Arab-Israeli Conflict." L'Abri Fellowship, Southborough, MA (Oct. 2002)

"Understanding Islam." Three-part series. L'Abri Fellowship Summer Conference, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario (Aug. 2002).

"Breaking Through to the Blessed Life? Questioning the Prayer of Jabez." International Presbyterian Church, London, England (Dec. 2001).

"Catholic Excess and Protestant Neglect: What Should We Learn from Mary?" Delivered for L'Abri Fellowship, Southborough, MA (Sept. 2001).

"Theology Anyone? The Knowledge of God as a Neglected Priority." Delivered for Noble Park Baptist Church, Melbourne, Australia (March 2001).

"What is Your Neighbor Thinking? Understanding Australian Culture's Rejection of Biblical Christianity." Three part series. Delivered for L'Abri Fellowship, Sydney, Australia (Feb. 2001).

"Know Your Faith: Great Doctrines of the Bible." Twelve-part series. Delivered for Noble Park Baptist Church [Cambodian Fellowship], Melbourne, Australia (Feb.–May 2000).

"What Would Jesus Say to Marilyn Manson?" Delivered for the Francis A. Schaeffer Institute, St. Louis, MO (May 1999).