

Pastoral Curriculum Vita of

JOEL D. DENNEY

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MINISTRY COMPULSION

I continue to aim for faithfulness to God's call upon my life, teaching His people the Scripture and modeling obedience to it. Over the 10+ years of vocational ministry, I have grown to have a deep compulsion to make the things of Scripture plain, equipping believers to realize and be activated in the good works God has prepared for each in Christ Jesus. As I minister to and teach the body of Christ, I likewise aim to evangelize the lost and mobilize the church to do the same. God's goodness to me and His gracious call compels me to utilize my giftings, abilities, and competencies (which are all continually under development!) to stir Christians to further love and good works.

FORMAL EDUCATION

Completed Doctoral Coursework | Introduction to Biblical Exposition, Advanced Greek Language Tools, Hebrew Language Tools, & Advanced Hebrew Language Tools | GPA of 3.66

Master of Theological Studies | 2014–2022 | M.A. in Theological Studies at Liberty University (Lynchburg, VA) | GPA of 3.55

Bachelor of Arts | 2010–2014 | B.A. in Pastoral Leadership & Biblical Exposition at Liberty University (Lynchburg, VA) | GPA of 3.7

VOCATIONAL MINISTRY PROFILE [10+ years in vocational ministry]

- 2022 – Present** Residence in Danville, VA. Member of and Senior Pastor of Calvary Chapel in Danville, VA. Creator of *Sword of the Spirit Media* ministry, including a radio broadcast and the *Mantle & Forge Podcast*, a long-form conversational pastoral-ministry resource for younger lead pastors. M.A. Student.
- 2015 – 2022** Resided in Lynchburg, VA. Assistant Pastor: Middle School Youth, Worship Team Member (Vocals & Bass Guitar), Pastoral Care at Calvary Chapel in Lynchburg, VA.

Teaching Ministry Examples [All can be accessed through this link: <https://ccdanneville.org/pastorjoelcv>]:

- 2025** A podcast, *Mantle & Forge*, a long-form conversational forum created for the encouragement of newer lead pastors by the wisdom and insight of seasoned pastors.
- July 2025** A teaching entitled “Not For Greed Nor Glory” at Calvary Chapel Danville as a part of a verse-by-verse exposition of 1 Thessalonians.
- July 2025** A teaching entitled “Love Me” at Calvary Chapel Lynchburg as a guest teacher for their weekend services.
- May, 2024** A teaching entitled “Please Send Someone Else” at Calvary Chapel Danville as a part of a chapter-by-chapter exposition of Exodus.

VOCATIONAL MINISTRY DESCRIPTIONS

Danville, VA Ministry

June 2022–Present

Senior Pastor, Elder

Pastor at Calvary Chapel Danville

- Shepherding & Leadership:
 - Providing comprehensive pastoral leadership and oversight of all facets concerning local church ministry of ~20 families (and growing by God's grace).
 - Expositional preparation (study and prayer); teaching for Sunday & Wednesday services.
 - Developing, implementing, guiding church vision.
 - Conducting ordinances of the church (baptisms & communion) and officiating ceremonies of the church (weddings and funerals).
 - Administrating the operations and logistics of church ministry.
 - Facilitating care and supporting regional and international missionaries.
 - Delegating to and discipling a team of deacons (lead servants/ministry leaders) for the health, direction, and involvement of the body in service and fellowship.
 - Training, discipling, teaching, ministering alongside young men desiring to enter pastoral ministry.
 - Creating, producing, and managing *Sword of the Spirit Media*, an multi-media outreach for radio, internet (podcasts & web presence), and printed publications for pastoral encouragement, church-at-large admonishment, and evangelistic witness.
- Strategic Challenges:
 - Assuming a pastorate vacated because of previous pastor's moral failure & stabilizing a hurting and distrustful body.
 - Rebuilding and re-establishing a pattern of faithful ministry & fellowship of a reeling church.
 - Development of ministry leaders and servants for needed ministry.
 - Administrating, leading, and managing a remodel and relocation of our church into a newer, smaller facility.

Lynchburg, VA Ministry

May 2015–May 2022

Assistant Pastor,
Middle School Youth

Assistant Pastor at Calvary Chapel Lynchburg

- Middle School Pastor:
 - Provided verse-by-verse teaching, spiritual encouragement, and godly leadership to students in grades 6–8.
 - Developed and trained up a team of youth leaders to minister to the needs of the youth.
 - Created and developed a team of both high school and middle school students to lead worship for the youth group and occasionally in the main services.

- Established small-group discipleship pattern for leaders and youth to develop relationships and deeper spiritual connection and maturity.
- Planned and led both summer camps and winter camps for the purpose of retreat, spiritual renewal, and fellowship. Camps routinely had between 25–60 students, depending on the camp.
- Oversaw the flourishing and growth of a middle school student body from an average of ~10 regularly attending students to an average of ~65 students.
- Co-led international mission to Vladimir, Russia with high school ministry, and various local outreaches and events.
- Other Pastoral & Staff Ministry:
 - Development and oversight of pastoral care workflow and staff responsibility pertaining to benevolence ministry.
 - Received walk-ins to church office to address spiritual concerns, give counsel, or other matters.
 - Conducted ordinances of the church (baptisms & communion) and officiated ceremonies of the church (weddings and funerals).
 - Participated and/or led in numerous local outreaches and fellowship efforts with regional ministries and churches.

SPIRITUAL LIFE, PERSONAL CALL TO MINISTRY, & FAMILY

Conversion: I was born on February 8, 1992, and I was raised by two godly, faithful parents. Our home prioritized the Bible, following Jesus, and serving in the church. I was saved at the age of 10 while alone and convicted of my need to be saved from sin, and I was baptized shortly thereafter, upon completing a baptism class to understand my relationship with Christ and what baptism was/is. After several prodigal years through middle and early high school, while in my junior year, I was once again convicted afresh by the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus wholeheartedly, and I've not been the same since, by God's gracious power and working.

Call to Ministry: While active in the local church, especially during my later high school years, God continued to develop within me a love for the church and a love of serving Him. I also considered where I would attend college, as this was the direction I felt compelled by God to go. I visited Liberty University in the Fall of 2009, and shortly thereafter applied and was accepted. I initially enrolled to study criminal justice; however, in my first introduction to the class, I had a deep conviction that a life in criminal justice is not what God had planned for me. After prayer and contemplation, and with the input of godly counsel, I was urged to pursue a degree in pastoral leadership. Through school and immersion in the local church (Calvary Chapel in Lynchburg, VA) during my time, I grew in the knowledge of God and in the affirmation of God's call to vocational ministry. I completed my B.A. in Pastoral Leadership & Biblical Exposition in 2014, and began coursework on an M.A. in Theological Studies,

which would later be resumed and completed in 2022. After graduating, I was given opportunity to join the staff at Calvary Chapel Lynchburg and lead the middle school ministry. During this period, I entered vocational ministry and further opportunities for leadership, teaching, discipleship, and ministry continued. I was ordained by Calvary Chapel Lynchburg in 2018.

During the timeframe of September 2021 to March 2022, I was presented with an opportunity to assume a vacated pastorate of a Calvary Chapel in Danville, VA. Through prayer, some fleece-laying, and eventual and clear conviction from God, I obeyed God's call to step into the work at Calvary Chapel Danville in Summer of 2022, June 5 being our first Sunday. I continue to pursue further academic development, most currently by working toward a Doctorate of Ministry.

I identify myself as a pastor-teacher primarily, as I seek to employ my gifts to minister to the body of believers here, equipping them with sound doctrine, admonishment, and training that they may walk in every good work God has prepared for them. I also have a deep concern for and desire to minister to other pastors (especially newer lead pastors) and encourage them in their work, and that they continue to grow in devotion, love, and servitude to Christ and His Bride.

Family:

I met my wife (Liza) in 2012 while at Calvary Chapel in Lynchburg, VA, where we both served in the high school ministry and attended the college small group. We were married on December 20, 2014. Liza was also raised in a Christian home that developed a love for God within her from a young age, when she received Christ on September 24, 1995. Liza graduated from Liberty University with both an B.A. in English (2014) and an M.A. in English (2016), where she instructed at the collegiate level for two years. She recently began her third year teaching 11th– & 12th– grade English at Westover Christian Academy, a local private school. Liza is my best friend and my faithful ministry companion. She has the spiritual gifts of service, encouragement, exhortation, prophecy, and tongues. She is faithful in allowing God to use these gifts to edify the church and our home.

We have four gifts from God—our children: Clover Faye, who was born June 4, 2016; Lincoln Joel, who was born on July 20, 2018; and our twins, Magnolia Lois and Theodore James, both of whom were born on March 1, 2023.

Spiritual Gifts, Abilities, & Interests:

Through personal study, faithful ministry experience, and the counsel of godly leadership, I have come to know my spiritual gifts as shepherding and teaching, prophecy, exhortation, encouragement, and tongues. Pertaining to natural ability and strengths, I perceive my strong suits to be: empathy, authentic care for and interest others; determination and faithfulness; fluidity and adaptability; and confrontation when necessary (though not enjoyed, necessarily). I enjoy sports (football in particular, as a fan of The Ohio State Buckeyes and Cincinnati Bengals), music

through singing and playing the bass guitar, graphics design, and enjoying time with my wife and children.

Christian Service Prior to Vocational Ministry:

During middle school at Ginhamsburg UMC, I served on the youth worship team as a worship leader and bass player, along with serving in the church's main/adult choir of ~25–35 individuals, and various other events and ministries. While in high school, I began attending Medway UMC (which has since dropped affiliation with the UMC), serving primarily through the worship team and in small group leadership, including adult Bible study and the youth group. Before entering full-time ministry at Calvary Chapel, I served in the worship ministry, high school youth ministry, various missions trips, faithful attendance to corporate prayer meetings, and a "Shepherd's Class," led by our senior pastor designed to pour into young men who feel the call to ministry. During these years, and particularly during my years at Liberty University and Calvary Chapel in Lynchburg, my pastors and trusted leaders intentionally discipled me, spoke and affirmed me, and gave encouragement to pursue the calling of pastoral ministry.