



INSTITUTE

for FAITH & CULTURE

Equipping Christians for
this Cultural Moment





“We need voices that are faithfully Christian but also distinctively engaged in our world. I think this Institute is of enormous importance. May it flourish here in South Florida but also be a precedent for many other similar movements around the country.”

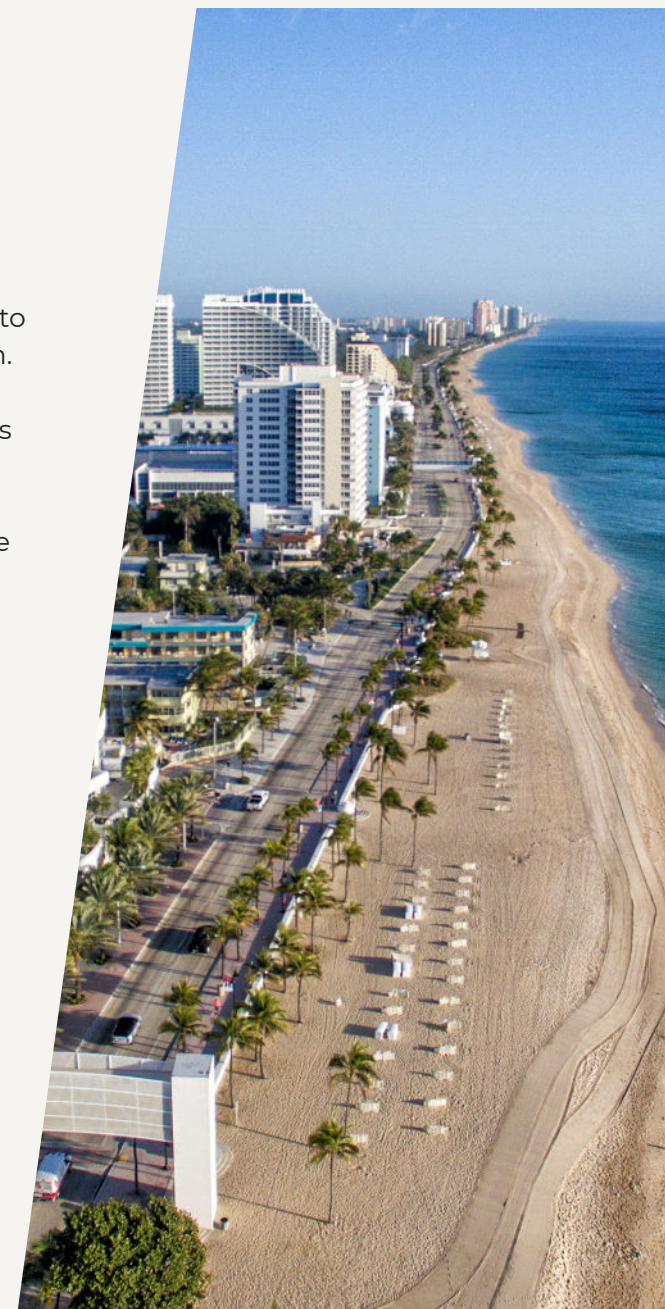
OS GUINNESS

Advancing the Kingdom of God, on Earth as it Is in Heaven

The work and the life of the Church is an extension of the Mission of God in the world. As believers, we are all called to engage and transform culture for the sake of His kingdom. Christ's lordship is not limited to our morning devotions and church attendance. It should influence our interactions in every sphere of culture—art, science, education, politics, business, sports, and entertainment. As the great Dutch political leader and culture influencer Abraham Kuyper once said, “There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, ‘Mine!’”

During the last half-century, America's cultural elite have tried to systematically remove Christian influence from every square inch of public life. They operate as if God does not exist or does not matter. They have attempted to overthrow God's moral law and his norms for public life. Human rights are violated continuously—none more so than an unborn being's right to live. Religious liberty continues to come under threat. National corporations reveal their animus toward Bible-believing Christianity.

The gathering storm might tempt us to despair. However, in the midst of the storm, we must remember that our Lord Jesus Christ still rules the world. In an era that is in many ways adamantly opposed to the gospel, we will proclaim that Christ is King, and that the gospel is good news that affects every sector of society and sphere of culture.



Institute for Faith and Culture

In every generation, the Church has been faced with the challenge of engaging faithfully with the culture around it. Today, we must step up and respond by equipping culture-shaping Christians for the marketplace and the public square. **At a crucial juncture in American history, Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church is responding to this call by launching the Institute for Faith and Culture.**

The Institute's mission is simple: *Equipping Christians for this cultural moment.* We want to restore Christian influence in our society for the sake of the world. Our desire is to give tools to shape every cultural sphere, advancing the kingdom of God 'on earth as it is in heaven.' This is why the Institute for Faith and Culture exists.

With the rise of secularism, Marxist ideology, wokeness, and cancel culture, the Institute is needed now more than ever. We seek to equip everyday Christians by teaching them to bring their influence to bear in every sphere of culture in which they interact—whether that be the arts and sciences, business and entrepreneurship, politics and economics, sports and competition, or marriage and family. We do so by instilling in our participants a deep knowledge of Christian Scripture and a deep knowledge of American culture. We help Christians understand how a Christian worldview provides the most satisfying answers to our culture's most pressing questions.

VISION

ADVANCING THE KINGDOM OF GOD, ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

MISSION

EQUIPPING CHRISTIANS FOR THIS CULTURAL MOMENT



“We want to restore Christian influence in our society for the sake of the world. Our desire is to equip Christians to shape culture in business, government, education, arts, media, entertainment, and the social sector. Advancing the kingdom of God ‘on earth as it is in heaven’... This is why the Institute for Faith and Culture exists.”

ROB PACIENZA

OUR VALUES

The Bible as Authoritative

All Scripture is inspired by God and therefore authoritative for a Christian’s life. In Christian Scripture, we are given the wisdom we need for faithful living, not only for our private lives but also for our public endeavors.

The Gospel as Public

The gospel is the good news that Jesus died and rose again for the forgiveness of sins and eventual restoration of the whole world. It unifies Christians, motivates us to love God and neighbor, and affects every facet of our lives.

The Local Church as an Institution and Organism

The church is God’s chosen medium through which he loves the world. As an institution, it meets weekly to declare that Jesus is Lord and to

disciple its members. As an organism, the church’s members disperse as witnesses to the world through the private and public aspects of their lives.

Culture as a Public Arena

God created man and woman to manage and cultivate his good creation. We do so by being faithful in every facet of culture. When we allow the gospel to redeem and redirect our cultural activities, we are expressing our love to God and our neighbor.

Work as a Calling

God created human beings to work, so our efforts in the workplace have deep meaning and profound dignity. We must allow the gospel to redeem and redirect our workplace efforts.



The Answer for this Cultural Moment

With biblical literacy at an all-time low, the majority of North American Christians are not operating with a worldview based on objective truth. The **Institute for Faith and Culture** is committed to equipping men and women with a biblically informed view of the world that shapes all of life.

RESEARCH REVEALS THAT:

7%
of North Americans
possess a biblical
worldview

Cultural Research Center

Having a biblical
worldview is
the common
denominator
among Christians
who do not walk
away from the
faith.

Lifeway Research

72%
of youth raised
in the church will
walk away from
their faith in their
freshman year
of college

The Barna Group



Why Coral Ridge?

Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church has a rich history of establishing strong institutions that engage culture with the gospel in ways that lead to genuine results in our community and the world.

Founded in 1960, Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church launched a gospel movement under the leadership of Dr. D. James Kennedy in the midst of dramatic social, cultural, and political upheaval. With the rise of postmodern epistemology and philosophy, the culture moved away from prior commitments to an objective moral and philosophical view of the world. For the first time, truth was up for interpretation and nothing could be taken for granted.

In response to this, Coral Ridge launched Evangelism Explosion, empowering the laity in local communities and throughout the world. Coral Ridge understood that the means to effective ministry begins with normal believers faithfully living their lives in service to others within their own community. Evangelism Explosion fundamentally altered the global Church's overall understanding of

the importance of lay missionary activity and modeled an effective evangelism ministry that has led to the faith commitment of millions of individuals.

In addition to the work of Evangelism Explosion, Coral Ridge recognized the broader aspects of cultural engagement for which the Church is also responsible, and established Westminster Academy and Knox Theological Seminary. In each case, the goal was to equip and train competent individuals for life in a world that is composed of deep biblical knowledge, a strong commitment to personal engagement with faith in the larger community of faith, and a mindset that recognizes all work as an extension of the Church's larger mission.

At Coral Ridge, we believe that cultural institutions are the primary drivers of cultural transformation. With its history of building gospel-centered institutions that have achieved sustained success and longevity in their missions, we believe that the Institute for Faith and Culture is uniquely equipped to meet the challenges of the future.





Why South Florida?

A GLOBAL INFLUENCE

South Florida is a dynamic hub with influence that spreads around the globe. A link between North and South America, South Florida is unofficially nicknamed the “Gateway to the Americas.” But despite its growth and influence, South Florida is currently outpacing the rest of the United States in secularization and diminishing Christian identity.

Located at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, the Institute for Faith and Culture is uniquely positioned for cultural renewal in the United States. Fort Lauderdale has become the most diverse city per capita in Florida, and the city is asking questions that Christians must be ready to answer. It is our hope that the Institute will become a hub for innovative approaches to cultural engagement and missional activity and will prepare a generation of leaders to adequately answer these questions.

A CHURCH IN CAPTIVITY

According to both Pew Research Center and The Barna Group, the next 30 years will represent the largest missions opportunity in the history of

America and particularly in South Florida. As trends have already demonstrated, Christian affiliation within the United States has significantly decreased.

Barna discovered that South Florida is one of the most unchurched regions in the country. Only three percent of Broward County, Florida, residents meet the criteria of being a committed Christ follower. These are individuals who believe:

1. Jesus Christ lived a sinless life on earth
2. The Bible is accurate in all that it teaches
3. They will go to heaven when they die
4. Eternal salvation is possible only through grace
5. Faith in Jesus Christ shapes every area of life
6. They have a personal responsibility to share their beliefs about Jesus Christ with non-Christians

South Florida will soon become a focal point for domestic mission efforts. The question for the Church in South Florida is, “How do we engage culture in such a way to expand the three percent?”

“As California was the great laboratory of the 1960s and beyond, Florida is that great ministry laboratory now. Watch it closely.”

R. ALBERT MOHLER, PRESIDENT,
THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



What Will the Institute Provide?

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ Conducting research on the state of culture and the Church, equipping leaders to better engage in the marketplace and public square.
- ▶ Original digital and print resources, aimed at equipping believers and enabling them to engage the broader culture with truth.
- ▶ Weekly production of the *City of God Podcast*, a podcast dedicated to helping Christians navigate current events from a biblical worldview.
- ▶ Production of timely videos on culturally relevant topics (i.e., social justice, abortion legislation, the Defund the Police movement, the nuclear family), distributed on various social media channels to reach the next generation around the nation.

EVENTS

- ▶ **National and regional conferences** with world-class speakers aimed at equipping Christians for cultural engagement.
- ▶ **Seminars** that provide the Christian community with detailed biblical analysis and response to current moral, political, and cultural controversies (i.e., Critical Race Theory, parental rights, religious liberty, biblical worldview of gender and sexuality).
- ▶ **The Institute headquarters (pictured below)** will be equipped with six meeting rooms for in-person classes, seminars, and recording of content. Work stations will be utilized by interns and fellows. A resource center will provide original content throughout the week and for special events and conferences.



PUBLIC SQUARE ENGAGEMENT AND TRAINING

In partnership with the Center for Christian Statesmanship in Washington, DC, we will:

- ▶ **Host conferences and seminars** that focus on the importance and the integration of faith and politics.
- ▶ **Conduct onsite and online leadership training**, designed to equip the next generation of Christian leaders in government.
- ▶ **Sponsor forums and resources** that bring awareness to the public policy issues concerning the Faith Community—at the local, state, and national levels.

NEXT GENERATION LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ **Three-month college internship** for Christian students looking to make an impact outside of traditional ministry.
- ▶ **Nine-month graduate fellowship**, teaching young leaders to live a public faith in their career and beyond.
- ▶ **Classes preparing high school students** to live out their Christian faith on a college campus.

COURSES AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS (onsite and online)

Our offerings are broken into three main categories:

1. **BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE (story)** – These courses equip the Christian to fully understand the metanarrative and themes of Scripture. The unity of the storyline gives us a foundational framework to understand God and His ultimate purpose in the world.
2. **BIBLICAL COMPETENCY (worldview)** – These courses equip the Christian to understand the theological truths that arise from the sacred text and then learn how to apply them to all of life. This is biblical worldview development.
3. **BIBLICAL INFLUENCE (mission)** – These courses equip the Christian to practically shape culture and live life on mission for the kingdom of God.

Areas of Study

- ▶ The Biblical Story and Culture
- ▶ Cultural Apologetics
- ▶ Faith and Politics
- ▶ Biblical Worldview
- ▶ Faith and Work
- ▶ Biblical Leadership

Leadership



ROB PACIENZA
Founder and President



LAUREN COOLEY
Executive Director

Contributors



Bruce Ashford



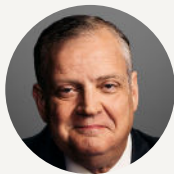
George Barna



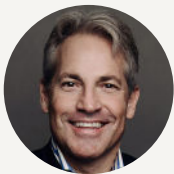
Voddie Baucham



Os Guinness



R. Albert Mohler



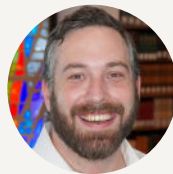
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Carol Swain



Rob Hoskins



David Bibee



Alisa Childers



Rita Cefalu



HB Charles, Jr.



Scott Powell



Heather Moraitis



Peter Lillback



Alveda King



Stephen Mansfield

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

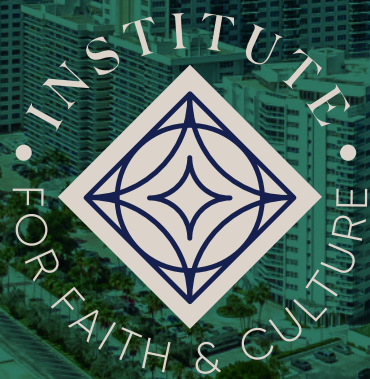
This work is not possible without you.

The Institute for Faith and Culture is nonprofit and relies on donations to fund its efforts. As we give witness to timeless truths and contend for the future of our nation, our communities, and our families, we are asking for your help.

Will you consider partnering with us, starting today? We pledge to be a clear, consistent, and faithful voice in this cultural moment.

We are unashamed of the truth. We pledge to be a courageous witness—year in and year out, no matter how much opposition is arrayed against us—to the timeless truths you and I hold in common. This public witness is needed in our chaotic times. The victory of secularism is not inevitable. *There is so much that we can do together for the sake of the kingdom of God!*

Visit **InstituteFC.org** to learn how to become a partner today.



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