

CHARLES EDWARD LAWLESS, JR. (CHUCK)

Dean of Doctoral Studies
Vice-President for Spiritual Formation
Director of the Center for Preaching and Pastoral Leadership
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
Wake Forest, NC

PERSONAL

Born January 7, 1961 in Cincinnati, OH
Married Pamela Harvey on May 3, 1991

EDUCATION

1979-1983	Attended Miami University, Oxford, OH
1985	Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education, Cumberland College, Williamsburg, KY
1992	Master of Divinity with Pastor/Teacher track, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
1997	Doctor of Philosophy in Evangelism/Church Growth, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; minor area studies in American Christianity and Christian Missions Dissertation Title: "The Relationship between Evangelism and Spiritual Warfare in the North American Spiritual Warfare Movement, 1986-1997"

Additional studies:

Cincinnati Christian College and Liberty University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sept. 2021-present	Dean of Doctoral Studies, Senior Professor of Evangelism and Missions, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, NC
Apr. 2017-Sept. 2021	Dean of Doctoral Studies, Professor of Evangelism and Missions, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, NC
Nov. 2012-April 2017	Dean of Graduate Studies, Professor of Evangelism and Missions, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, NC
2011-2012	Distinguished Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
2005-2011	Dean and Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth, Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
2004-2005	Senior Associate Dean; Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth, Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
2002-2004	Senior Associate Dean; Associate Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth, Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY

2000- 2002	Associate Dean; Associate Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth, Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
1997-2000	Assistant Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth, Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
1996-1997	Assistant to the Dean and Instructor in Evangelism and Church Growth, Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
1994-1996	Lecturer in English, University of Cincinnati Clermont College, Batavia, OH

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

2019-present	Team Member, Church Answers, led by Thom Rainer
Aug. 2020-Jan. 2022	Interim Pastor, Wake Cross Roads Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
March 2015- July 2020	Elder for Equipping, Restoration Church, Wake Forest, NC
June 2012-June 2013	Interim Pastor, Parkway Baptist Church, Moseley, VA
Nov. 2010-Aug. 2011	Interim Pastor, West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, TN
Sept. 2005-2019	President, The Lawless Group
Jan. 2007-2010	Bible Study Leader, Highview Baptist Church, Louisville, KY
Oct. 2004-Dec. 2004	Interim Pastor, Cedar Creek Baptist Church, Louisville, KY
May 2002-March 2003	Interim Pastor, Lakota Hills Baptist Church, West Chester, OH
Sept. 2000-May 2002	Pastor of Teaching/Equipping Ministries, Lakota Hills Baptist Church, West Chester, OH
Oct. 1999-Dec. 1999	Interim Pastor, Bullitt Lick Baptist Church, Shepherdsville, KY
Jan. 1999-Aug. 1999	Interim Pastor, Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield, KY
Mar. 1995-July 1996	Minister of Education, Hamilton West Baptist Church, Hamilton, OH
Aug. 1994-Feb. 1995	Interim Pastor, Rolling Hills Baptist Church, Fairfield, OH
Feb. 1984-Aug. 1994	Pastor, Rolling Hills Baptist Church, Fairfield, OH
Sept. 1983-Feb. 1984	Interim Pastor, Rolling Hills Baptist Church, Fairfield, OH
Apr. 1981-Aug. 1983	Pastor, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Harrison, OH
1981	Ordained, Pisgah Heights Baptist Church, West Chester, OH

DENOMINATIONAL/CHURCH-RELATED EXPERIENCE

Nov. 2012-present	Global Theological Education Consultant, International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention
2011-2012	Vice-President for Global Theological Advance, International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention
2008-2011	Consultant for Global Theological Education, International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention

2002-2020	President, The Lawless Group Church Consulting, Inc.
2002-2010	Seminar speaker, ChurchCentral/Society for Church Consulting, Louisville, KY
1998-2000	Seminar speaker, Church Growth Seminars, Lynchburg, VA
1990-1991	Seminar leader for single adult Labor Day conferences, The Baptist Sunday School Board
1987-1991	Executive board and finance committee member, the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio
1988-1993	Single adult advisor, Southwestern Baptist Association, Hamilton, Ohio
1985-1986	Evangelism director, Southwestern Baptist Association, Hamilton, Ohio

PUBLICATIONS

LifeChange: A Mentoring Bible Study Program for Restoring Juvenile Offenders through Responsible Christian Living, Mentor's Guide and Student's Workbook. Published in 1999 in cooperation with New Life Juvenile Justice Ministries, Baptist General Convention of Texas

Spiritual Warfare: Biblical Truth for Victory. Nashville: Lifeway, 2001. Co-authored with John Franklin.

Discipled Warriors: Growing Healthy Churches That Are Equipped for Spiritual Warfare. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2002.

Making Disciples through Mentoring: Lessons from Paul and Timothy. Lynchburg, VA: Church Growth Institute, 2002.

Serving in Your Church Prayer Ministry. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

Eating the Elephant: Leading the Established Church to Growth. Louisville: Pinnacle, 2003. Co-authored with Thom Rainer.

Membership Matters. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

The Challenge of the Great Commission. Louisville: Pinnacle, 2005. Co-edited with Thom Rainer.

Putting on the Armor. Nashville: Lifeway, 2007.

Great Commission Resurgence. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2010. Co-edited with Adam W. Greenway.

Mentor: How Along the Way Discipleship Can Change Your Life. Nashville: Lifeway, 2011.

Nobodies for Jesus. Franklin, TN: Rainer Publishing, 2013.

Spiritual Warfare in the Storyline of Scripture. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2019. Co-authored with William C. Cook.

Lord, Teach Us Pastors to Pray. Franklin, TN: Church Answers, 2021.

Victory over the Enemy. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2023. Co-authored with William C. Cook.

The Potential and Power of Prayer. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale, 2022.

Disciple. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale, 2022.

The Battle is Not Mine. Franklin, TN: Church Answers, 2025.

Numerous articles, reviews, chapters, and Bible study curriculum in various publications

AWARDS

Recipient, 2002 Findley B. and Louvenia Edge Award for Teaching Excellence, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Great Commission Research Network
Evangelical Missiological Society
Evangelical Theological Society

TESTIMONY

I was not raised in a Christian home. A seventh-grade classmate shared the gospel with me, and God saved me in August 1974. Quite quickly and unexpectedly, I sensed God's call to preach His Word. I had always wanted to be a teacher, but God added that proclamation calling to my life as well. My education prepared me to do both.

My church, however, did not strategically disciple me. They taught me in Sunday school and worship, but no one walked directly beside me on a consistent basis. I struggled being faithful to God through my teenage years. As I entered the pastorate, though, God was, and has been, ever faithful to me. I and my wife, Pam, are increasingly humbled that God uses us to do His work through our local church, Southeastern Seminary, the International Mission Board, and church consulting opportunities. I deeply love both the local church and the nations.

My life verses are Acts 19:11-15. Those verses might seem unusual, but I have focused on those words for more than 20 years. I fear that little we do threatens the enemy, and my prayer is that God will raise up men, women, and churches who so walk with Him that hell knows them by name.

My wife, Pam, and I have been married for 34 years. We reside in Wake Forest, NC.