

## Alumni Spotlight: Doug Beimler (MAR '12)



**MAR Concentration:** Leadership and Business Ethics & Workplace Theology

**Current title:** Vice President of Global Sales

**Family:** Wife: Melyssa, Children: Max and Lauren

**Favorite professors:** Haddon Robinson and Garth Rosell

**Favorite class:** Church History

**Favorite memory:** Having a private dinner with Haddon Robinson while away for our summer cohort. He shared his powerful testimony and ministry journey in such an authentic and inspirational way.

### What have you been doing since you left Gordon-Conwell and what are you doing now?

In ministry, I am an Elder and church leader in Discipleship Groups and Missions. In business, I am the Head of Global Sales for Harvard Business Publishing (HBP) Corporate Learning, a learning and leadership development company.

### What do you love about your work?

I love working with global organizations and their leaders to design learning and leadership programs that drive business impact and develop their high potential talent as leaders at all levels.

### What are the joys and challenges of serving in the business/for-profit world in general and in your specific context?

Incorporating a Judeo-Christian ethic in a secular setting with opposing worldviews can bring significant challenges and opportunities for godly influence and redemption of colleagues, leaders, systems, and processes. Staying the course and having a kingdom impact is the reward.



### How has God woven together your Gordon-Conwell education with other life events to bring you to where you are now? How did you come to be doing your current work?

During and following completion of my program, God was using my classroom learning and projects to inform my decision making and insights in business and ministry. I can remember how reading books on Christian and business ethics was informing my consulting and client work. This opened opportunities to write papers about real business case experiences where I was able to apply frameworks and knowledge from the program. In ministry and as an Elder, my theological training has informed my teaching and preaching, while also protecting the church from errancy.

**How has your Gordon-Conwell education served you in your past and current work?**

Prior to joining HBP, I worked in the Career Transition industry. I remember studying a case in the GCTS classroom on conducting a reduction in force (layoff) from a Christian worldview perspective, that prioritized maintaining the dignity of the affected workers who are all created in the image of God. Occasionally, when clients who were laid off were open to it, I was able to pray with them for their families, finances, and new work that would be blessed by God. More recently, I brought into my work a biblical framework that we used as Elders in our church called "Making Peace, A Guide to Overcoming Church Conflict." The framework is applicable in all spheres whether the church or marketplace. This framework allowed me to lead executives through a process of appropriate confrontation and reconciliation without necessarily knowing it came from the Bible. They found it to be enormously effective. My GCTS education allows me to navigate back and forth from the marketplace to the church and back again, sharing theological insights and training in ways that others can consume and not reject. In the church sphere, my training has allowed me to bring in sophisticated leadership development practices that can easily be adapted for spiritual leadership initiatives. At GCTS I learned that there really is no division between the sacred and secular. Jesus sees the world as one.

**What piece of advice would you give to young alumni who are considering serving in the business world?**

Business is as much a calling as ministry or any other field. There are significant opportunities for Christians to impact the marketplace for Christ by bringing a value based, Christian worldview and ethic. Christians shine their light in business by treating people with kindness and respect, modeling excellence in their work and, at times, suffering well. People are always observing how we show up. Businesspeople can be agents of godly change, healing, and redemption with very far-reaching impact.