

Alumni Spotlight: Peter Stone (MDiv '04)



Current Title & Military Branch: Chaplain (MAJ), Deputy Division Chaplain, 25th Infantry Division

Family: Wife: Monica, Children: John Sebastian and

Luciana

Favorite professors: Dr. McDonough and Dr.

Haddon Robinson

Favorite class: Christianity and the Problem of

Racism

Favorite memory: Seeing a mouse scurry across the floor in the middle of Dr. Pratico's Hebrew class, pouncing on it, catching it, and taking it outside.

What have you been doing since you left Gordon-Conwell?

I worked in church planting in Bogota, Colombia, then became an Army Chaplain.

What do you love about your work as a military chaplain?

I love being both a soldier and pastor who serves in close proximity to soldiers every day. I love being able to share the love of Christ with them through practical ministry and through teaching and preaching. The greatest joy of being a chaplain is surprising Soldiers with the scandal of the Gospel message.

What are the particular challenges of serving as a military chaplain in general and/or in your specific context?

In general, I think the greatest challenge is fighting through the slog of administrative responsibilities to keep my focus on kingdom-building ministry. In my current role, I'm finding it difficult not to allow work to consume me.

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?

God used my mentored ministry experience at Leon de Judah in Boston to cultivate a very balanced approach to my theological education. One day I was at South Hamilton learning from Dr. Wells. The next day I was down in Boston learning how to minister in





a multi-cultural inner-city context. That dynamic experience kept my theological education practical and down to earth.

What has been Gordon-Conwell's biggest impact/influence on the work you do now or the way you do your work?

The greatest gift Gordon-Conwell gave me was a relentless commitment to the gospel and an unwavering pursuit to keep Christ at the epicenter of everything I do in life and ministry.

What piece of advice would you give to young alumni who are considering serving as a military chaplain?

Reach out to a military chaplain and ask as many questions as you can. Ask yourself what are aspects of ministry that most energize you.

Do you have any publications or links to share?

I've been producing a podcast off and on for several years. I have some great interviews with Soldiers and family members, along with some other content. <u>Listen to the podcast</u>, <u>Word for the Week</u>.