

## Alumni Spotlight: Leigh Redmond (MACM '22)



**Current Title:** Assistant Director of Staff Engagement

**Favorite professor:** Dr. Nicole Martin

**Favorite class:** Innovative Strategies for Ministry

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

When I graduated from Gordon-Conwell, I was serving as a Learning and Development manager at Samaritan's Purse. In the past year, I've been promoted to the Assistant Director of Staff Engagement.

**What do you love about your work?**

I love connecting individuals to the body of Christ through their work in vocational ministry. I am a Global Strength Finder Coach and 5 Behaviors of a Team Facilitator, and I love seeing teams come together in unity to share the gospel and build up the body of Christ. I love providing context, direction, frameworks, and models to equip managers as they shepherd their teams.

**What are the particular challenges of non-profit work in general and/or in your specific context?**

Challenges of non-profit work are being creative with limited resources, whether that be financial or human. The old adage, work smarter not harder, comes to mind. In my context, I serve in disaster relief in a rapidly growing ministry. So, what is status quo one day is out-of-date the next. Keeping my own team informed of procedure changes, redirection in priority, and new initiatives is challenging. I encourage my team to build relationships as much as possible across departments in order to stay up to date on relevant changes.

**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?**

When completing undergraduate school and considering my future, I wanted my forty hours per week to count for the Gospel. I believe any role in any company can be a platform for an individual to share the Gospel, but I knew that my skills would best be used administratively to advance the Kingdom. So, I set out to serve in Christian ministry and was blessed to find a position at Samaritan's Purse. After nine years, I came to work in Human Resources and found my passion for team and leadership development. I realized that I wanted to deepen my understanding of Scripture since it

appeared I would be serving in ministry for my career. Seminary always appealed to me, but seemed so abstract. Gordon-Conwell provided courses in Team Development, Conflict Management, Innovative Strategies for Ministry, Foundations for Leadership, Church and Non-profit Management, and Teams and Team Building that I could apply directly to my work in Human Resources!

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

The course work from Gordon-Conwell was incredible, but more so were the people. Deana Nail, Dean of Students at the Charlotte Campus, showed compassion, intentionality, and care at every turn. Professors cared about the spiritual condition of students and class collaboration more than just achieving grades or status. Gordon-Conwell also provided a network of like-minded students in a digital world. I live in a small town, so exposure to new people and resources was very welcome!

Now, when I approach my work of team building or equipping, I've learned to see the whole picture of Scripture, not just a foundational verse here and there. For example, the whole chapter of Ephesians 4 serves as the foundation for most teaching I do with teams.

**What piece of advice would you give to young alumni who are considering working in the non-profit sector?**

Make sure your values align with the non-profit you are considering. If you are looking to make an eternal impact for the Kingdom, align yourself with non-profit organizations that have a clear, Christian mission and solid statement of faith. The world changes daily, so make sure to ask questions when you are interviewing about the direction of the organization and what they hope to achieve in the future.

**Do you have any publications or links to share?**

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