Alumni
GORDON CONWELL

Alumni Spotlight: Ian Maddock (ThM ’06)

Current title: Senior Lecturer in Christian Thought at Sydney Missionary & Bible College at Australian University of Theology

Family: Wife: Pam, Children: Lachlan, Phoebe & Silas

Favorite professor: Dr. Richard Lints & Dr. David Wells

Favorite class: Divine Sovereignty and Human Responsibility

Favorite memory: Dr. Haddon Robinson preaching at Chapel on the life of King David

Please tell us about your area of expertise and what courses you teach.

My area of expertise is the theology and history of the eighteenth century transatlantic evangelical revivals, with a particular focus on the ministries of John Wesley and George Whitefield. I teach courses in theology and church history to MDiv students and have supervised higher degrees by research in systematic theology.

How did God weave together your Gordon-Conwell education with other life events to bring you to where you are now?

Gordon-Conwell gifted me with an excellent academic preparation in Christian thought. Expressed in an interdenominational setting where evangelicalism’s identity as a diverse unity found rich expression, my ThM studies provided a springboard for doctoral studies at the University of Aberdeen. After completing my PhD, I served for three years as a pastor at Trinity Baptist Church in New Haven, CT, before accepting an invitation in 2012 to return to my native Australia to teach at Sydney Missionary and Bible College, Australia’s oldest and largest interdenominational seminary and a constituent member of the Australian University of Theology.

What are some things you love about your roles as a faculty member, professor, and/or researcher?

I love being able to do theological education in community. My students come from a diverse array of backgrounds and denominations. We’re united in matters of first importance, but we reflect evangelicalism’s diversity too—much like Gordon-Conwell in fact! I love teaching in a context where students and faculty rub shoulders with brothers and sisters in Christ from different traditions from their own, hopefully growing in empathy, discernment, and love for God and neighbor in the process.

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What has been Gordon-Conwell's biggest impact/influence in your current role, or the way you engage in your role?

Gordon-Conwell provided me with an excellent model of the way a parachurch institution can helpfully exist to serve the local church—strengthening the local church without inadvertently supplanting its authority. In my role as a researcher and writer especially, I relish the challenge of serving with one proverbial foot in the world of the church and the other in the world of the academy. While some of my research has fellow-scholars in view, I've also enjoyed the challenge of writing to a broader constituency—the broader church!

Do you have any publications or links you would like to share?

- *Whitefield on the Christian Life* (with Tom Schwanda. Wheaton: Crossway, 2025)
- *Ten Dead Gals You Should Know* with Rachel Ciano. Fearn: Christian Focus, 2023)
- *Ten Dead Guys You Should Know* (ed) (Fearn: Christian Focus, 2021)
- *Men of One Book: A Comparison of Two Methodist Preachers, John Wesley and George Whitefield* (Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2011)