

James R. Wilkes

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Objective: To serve as pastor through preaching, teaching, and shepherding God's flock

Doctrinal Distinctives: Believe in the Doctrines of Grace; Baptist

Ministry Philosophy: Seek to be biblical, grace-driven, cross-centered; desire to see God's people glorify God and delight in His being; desire to see lost people come to Christ; committed to expositional preaching and sound doctrinal teaching

Ministry Education:

Louisiana Baptist University 2011
Bachelor of Applied Science in Biblical Studies

Master's International School of Divinity 2007-2008
Completed four seminary level courses
GPA:4.0

Baptist Bible College East (now Boston Baptist College) 1979-1981
Graduate of Theology Degree
GPA: 3.9/4.0
Valedictorian

Ministry Experience:

Senior Pastor, New England Baptist Church, West Bridgewater, MA, April 1991-November 2010
Preached expositionally weekly, taught in adult classes, taught various subjects in Christian day school, taught theology and preaching in evening Bible institute, oversaw entire church operation including pastoral staff and day school staff

Associate Pastor, New England Baptist Church, West Bridgewater, MA, 1982-1991
Assisted senior pastor, filled pulpit in his absence, taught adult classes, principal of the Christian day school, taught in evening Bible institute

Senior Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Peekskill, N.Y., 1980-1982

Preached weekly, taught adult classes, oversaw entire church operation in this very small church consisting largely of students from Baptist Bible College East

Christian School Teacher, Second Kent Christian Academy, Kent, N.Y., 1981-1982
Taught a combined class of 7-12 grade all academic subjects

Ministry Writing Experiences:

The Glory Walk: Living on Purpose for the Glory of God, published 2010, Resource Publications, 123 pages

Family by Design: Biblical and Practical Counsel for the Christian Home, self-published 1994, 132 pages

Personal Information:

Birth date: 9/19/50

Saved by God's grace in 1978

Married for 37 years to my wife Mary

Two children and four grandchildren

Personal Testimony

I was brought up in the Roman Catholic Church attending both a Catholic elementary school and high school. As a teenager I drifted away from any kind of spirituality preferring to "do my own thing." In my early twenties, I was solidly confirmed in my agnostic approach to life. The Lord worked through several circumstances at the beginning of 1978 when I was 27 years old. One of the most significant events was the conversion of my wife Mary who then began attending a gospel-preaching church. Another was the gift of the book *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis which I received from my sister-in-law. Eventually, I went to church with my wife. God opened my blind eyes to the great truths of the gospel and I trusted Christ as my Lord and Savior.

Call to Ministry

My call to ministry came shortly after my conversion in 1978. As I began to grow spiritually, I felt as strong a desire in my heart as I have ever felt. This desire was to give myself full-time to gospel ministry. Through the encouragement of my pastor, my wife and I sold our house and went to Bible college in New York state. The initial desire never diminished but only grew stronger. I have no doubt that this desire was and still is of God. In my senior year of Bible college, I was called to be the pastor of a small church near the college. I have been full-time in ministry ever since then.

References

Pastor Steve Rahn; pastor of Grace Church, Brockton, MA; Steve worked under me as an assistant pastor for a few years; he lives at 550 North Main Street, West Bridgewater MA 02379; he can be reached at 774.222.0468

Jim Chance; Jim was the treasurer at my previous church for many years; He lives at 14 Turban Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324; he can be reached at 508.697.5854

Lee Katcharian; Lee was a faithful member of my former church for many years; he lives at 23 Cottage Street, East Bridgewater, MA 02333; he can be reached at 508.378.9236

Pastor Dan Crichton; pastor of Grace Bible Church, Cranston, RI; he lives at 1 Apple Blossom Drive, Johnston, RI 02919; he can be reached at 401.233.2801

*More references available upon request
Samples of preaching and teaching also available on request*