



Universities Attended:
The Master's College & Seminary,
B.A., M.Div., M.A. & Ph.D. in Theology

Title:
Professor of Bible
Employer:
The Master's College & Seminary

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THE MASTER'S COLLEGE & SEMINARY

Dr. Abner Chou

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My goal is to teach the Bible in accordance with how it demands to be taught—with careful study that upholds its authority and inspiration, with a life that lives it out, and with dynamic communication that articulates truth clearly and vividly.”

Author of *“I Saw the Lord: A Biblical Theology of Vision”* and *Lamentations, the Evangelical Exegetical Commentary*



connecting

How long have you taught at Master's College and what led you to this school/position?

My teaching career started at The Master's College 12 years ago. The tale of landing at the college is one of God's immense providence. My Christian upbringing just made me proud and I thought the Bible was just a book of trite stories. God showed me through my public high school teachers that I did not understand His Word at all. I began to study it and realized that the Bible is the most profound, compelling, life-transforming book in this world—it is God's Word. From that point forward, I had the motto “never again.” Never again would I allow anyone under my watch to think the Bible was unsophisticated or shallow, or that the God of the Bible was not captivating or amazing. I attended college and seminary with the goal of being in youth ministry because I have a **passion for teaching** the Bible to young people.

The Lord used this passion and took my journey in a slightly different direction. I was invited to step in and teach Greek at The Master's College. I jumped on the opportunity and thoroughly enjoyed interacting with students. The school has a unique blend of like-minded faculty, staff, and students that makes this possible. It is a community set on the highest view of Scripture, the holiest view of God, and a passion for learning Him. So from that point forward, I have been teaching at the college, doing what I have a passion to do. This is a gift from God. Every time I remember how I came here, I recall the goodness and providence of God.

What experiences, both personal and professional, prepared you for your role at Master's College?

God used my upbringing to prepare me to teach. I changed from one who thought the Bible was light to one who knew Scripture was divine and dynamic truth. That engrained in me a deep-seated conviction about the supremacy of God and His Word. For a professor, a love for the subject matter is a must. The Lord used my past to solidify a fervent devotion to biblical studies and theology. It is personal to me and that makes teaching students personal to me.

Through my experience teaching in Israel through The Master's College extension campus I obtained an immersive degree of understanding of the backgrounds of the Bible and geography. I began to see the details, connections, and theology of the Bible on a whole new level. It **reinforces the truthfulness and reality of Scripture**. All of this helps me to daily deliver the Word of God in an engaging way to my students.

Tell me about your latest book “What Happened in the Garden.” What do you hope readers will take away from this book?

It deals with the reality and ramifications of Genesis 3. I am really happy with this book because it showcases The Master's College faculty in discussing the implications of the fall from their respective disciplines. You can see not only the massive importance of interpreting Scripture correctly but also how our faculty are all theologians in their own right.

I hope readers will grasp that the opening chapters of Genesis don't just shape theology, but every single aspect of our lives. Whether that be the legal system, business, counseling, how

we do church, the gospel—all of that is affected by the opening chapters. This book showcases what The Master's College is all about—because we are likeminded and theologically minded, we can show how ideas have consequences. Ideas in bible are truth and have ramifications on every discipline.

Are you currently working on any research? What previous research projects have you participated in?

I am currently working on several projects, including writing a book on Job and a commentary on Deuteronomy. I also am in the process of editing a volume on Psalms. Previous works include several articles about Sodom and Gomorrah, hermeneutics, as well as the connection between inerrancy and thinking; a book on a biblical theology of vision dealing with the visions of Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Paul, and John; a commentary on Lamentations; and a book on hermeneutics.

How would you describe your teaching philosophy and style?

My goal for students is to make them fall in love with God and His Word. I want them to know how the **Scripture connects** together as well as its details.

What do you enjoy most about your work?

I think it is a tie between my camaraderie with the faculty and seeing the triumphs of students. Each year, I see students enter the college and change. They grow in their zeal for the Lord, their understanding of Him through His Word, and their desire to live that out boldly in every area of life in this world. On my wall, I have a world map with pins where my students have gone. Some are in full time ministry; others are in other careers serving Christ in the USA and abroad. The map reminds me of how God

is using them to do a **global work**. It reminds me of the great privilege it is to shape people who will engage in a work that goes beyond me geographically and temporally. Their discovery and triumphs in learning are things that delight my soul and make all my efforts worthwhile.

At The Master's College, the faculty are a tight knit group of people. These deep relationships exist because of the unity we have in Christ and in the same convictions about the nature of God's Word and how to handle it.

How do you incorporate your faith in your work? How are you making an impact for Christ on the job?

One might think that teaching the Bible automatically incorporates your faith into work. That is not necessarily so. You can study the Bible in an academic way that dishonors the Lord because of how you study Scripture or fail to apply it rightly. My goal is to teach the Bible in accordance with how it demands to be taught—with careful study that upholds its authority and inspiration, with a life that lives it out, and with dynamic communication that articulates truth clearly and vividly (cf. Ezra 7:10). I hope my interactions with students, who sometimes need some discipline and grace, also reflect how **faith is never divorced from work** for faith is never divorced from anything. All should be done—whether that is teaching, studying, writing, grading, preaching, or chatting—for the glory of God.