

# JAMES SPENCER, PHD

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## EDUCATION

### **Phd, Theological Studies**

Trinity Evangelical Divinity  
School  
2012

### **Certificate, Institute of Education Management**

Harvard Graduate School of  
Education  
2012

### **MA, Biblical Exegesis**

Wheaton College  
2005

### **Master of Divinity**

Moody Theological Seminary  
2004

### **BS, Kinesiology**

University of Illinois at  
Chicago  
2000

## EXPERIENCE

### **PRESIDENT**

#### **THE D. L. MOODY CENTER | 2022-PRESENT**

- Participated in fundraising to secure six- and seven-figure gifts from major donors to fund annual operations of approximately \$2M and special projects, including \$400,000 in start-up funds for a discipleship and equipping ministry (usefultogod.com)
- Built a revenue generating podcast averaging over 40k downloads per month
- Negotiated sale and long-term use agreement allowing D. L. Moody Center to reduce capital and maintenance expenditures while remaining strongly linked to the legacy properties in Northfield,
- Currently spearheading efforts to develop a hybrid K-12 educational offering aligned and securing six- and seven-figure gifts to fund the initiative.

### **CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER**

#### **THE D. L. MOODY CENTER | 2018-2022**

- Increased low-level donations by 150%.
- Grew email list from 2,500 in 2020 to more than 150,000.

### **VICE PRESIDENT AND DEAN**

#### **MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE | 2016-2018**

- Oversaw a \$20M operation including all residential programs in Chicago and Spokane
- Increase applications to residential programs by 5% in 2017 in collaboration with student enrollment services
- Assisted in securing a \$1 million grant for Aviation simulators
- Instituted a program costing structure to reduce expenses across all undergraduate programs.

## TEACHING

### Adjunct Instructor

Wheaton College  
2022-present

### Faculty

Right On Mission  
2018-present

### Adjunct Faculty

Moody Bible Institute  
2005-2012, 2019-2020

### Faculty

Moody Bible Institute  
2012-2018

### Instructor

Trinity International University  
2012

## PAPERS

"The Social Implications of 'No Other Name': Salvation in Christ in Light of Pierre Bourdieu's Sociology," *Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society*, 2011

"The Davidic Innocence Motif in the Book of Samuel," *Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society*, 2010

"Collective Memory and Torah," *Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society*, 2006.

## EXPERIENCE (CONT)

### INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT, ENROLLMENT SERVICES

#### MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE | 2015-2016

- Developed a five-year enrollment plan encompassing recruitment, financial aid, retention, and other aspects of student enrollment services.
- Coached individual identified to take over enrollment services

### VICE PRESIDENT AND DEAN

#### MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE- DISTANCE LEARNING | 2012-2016

- Built systems and processes as part of overseeing education finance, education marketing, CRM Systems and call center, instructional design and quality services, as well as overseeing academic personnel and polity for distance education.
- Improved student satisfaction with instruction from an average of 3.45 to 4.45 on a 5.0 scale.
- Decreased instructional costs as a percentage of gross tuition revenue through efforts related to section size control (average course size of 17) and scheduling.
- Decreased student drops in undergraduate online program by 50% in the Fall and Spring semesters of 2013 and 2014 respectively with incremental improvements thereafter.
- Increased overall enrollment across all programs and venues by between 13% and 16% year over year through program development and collaborative efforts with enrollment management personnel.

### ASSOCIATE CONSULTANT

#### RUFFALO NOEL-LEVITZ | 2014-2022

- Worked with colleges, universities, and seminaries to create and implement plans for marketing and recruitment, online program development and optimization, and leadership development and transitions

## SPEAKING

**2024**

Panelist, "Christian Nationalism and the 'Trump Effect'" - The Christian Post's Politics in the Pews

"A Framework for Biblical Integration in Bible College Curricula," - ABHE Annual Meeting

**2022**

"Getting the Right Students in and Out of Your Institution," ABHE Online Education Leadership Conference

"Christian Witness in Today's World," Harvest Mission Community Church-Jakarta

**2020**

"Pedagogies for the Next Generation," Multnomah University Faculty Workshop

**2018**

"Centralized versus Decentralized Recruitment: Strengths, Weaknesses, and Your Institution

## ACCREDITATION & WORK GROUPS

**2023**

Participant, *ABHE Biblical Integration and Pedagogy Summit*

**2018**

Participant, *ABHE Flagship CAO Gathering*

## EXPERIENCE (CONT)

**ASSISTANT DEAN**

**MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE- DISTANCE LEARNING | 2007-2012**

- Exercised operational oversight of all distance learning venues including regional classrooms, online, and independent studies, as well as overseeing non-collegiate education offers.

## PUBLICATIONS

**2025**

*A Little Slower in Scranton: Technology and Relationships in 'The Office'," in Technology and Religion in The Office* (Minneapolis: Lexington/Fortress Academic)

**2024**

*Serpents and Doves: Christians, Politics, and the Art of Bearing Witness* (KDP, Self-Published)

*The Essential Moody Collection* (Grand Rapids: Revell)

**2023**

*A Praying People: Essays Inspired by Dwight L. Moody* (Eugene: Wipf and Stock)

*Christian Resistance: Learning to Defy the World and Follow Jesus* (KDP: Self-Published)

**2022**

*Useful to God: Eight Lessons from the Life of D. L. Moody* (Greenville: Kingdom Winds)

**2020**

*Thinking Christian: Essays on Testimony, Accountability, and the Christian Mind* (KDP, Self-Published)

**2019**

"The Messianic Vision of 1 and 2 Kings," in *The Moody Encyclopedia of Messianic Prophecy* (Chicago: Moody)

"Psalm 72," in *The Moody Encyclopedia of Messianic Prophecy* (Chicago: Moody)

**2018**

*Trajectories: A Gospel-Centered Introduction to Old Testament Theology* (Eugene: Wipf and Stock)

**2015-2017**

Participant, ATS Educational Models and Practices in Theological Education Project-Formation in Online Contexts Peer Group

**2014-2018**

Member, ABHE Commission on Accreditation

**2012-2018**

Evaluator, ABHE Commission on Accreditation

**COMMITTEE SERVICE****2013**

Member, Steering Committee for Reaffirmation of Accreditation at Moody Bible Institute

Chair, Higher Learning Commission Criterion 4a Subcommittee

**2010**

Member, Association of Theological Schools Accreditation Review

“Continuing Insight: God’s Ordained Vehicle,” in *Marriage: Its Foundation, Theology, and Mission in a Changing World* (Chicago: Moody)

**2017**

“The Gainful Employment Rule,” in *The Encyclopedia of Online Education*

**2015**

“Online Education and Curricular Design,” in *Theological Educator* vol. 49

**2013**

“The Book of Isaiah,” with Michael Rydelnik in *The Moody Bible Commentary* (Chicago: Moody)

**2012**

“An 8-Week Online Capstone Experience,” in *Teaching Theology and Religion* vol. 15

**SELECT INTERVIEWS AND OPINION PIECES****2025**

Interview: “Digital Journalism: Racing to the Lowest Common Denominator” - Stand in the Gap Today/American Pastors Network

Interview: “What the Church Gets Wrong About Discipleship & Leadership” - March or Die Podcast

Opinion: “What Marjorie Taylor Greene's Genocide Claim Means for the Conversation on Gaza” - Christianity.com

**2024**

Interview: “Christians, Politics, and the Art of Bearing Witness”- Lauren Green’s Lighthouse Faith Podcast (Fox News)

Interview: “What Does it Mean to Be a ‘Christian Nation’?” - Providence Forum

Opinion: “Is Claudine Gay’s Resignation a Dangerous Win?” - The Wall Street Journal

Opinion: “We’re On a Mission from God? Why America Needs the Church, Not Christian Nationalism” - Baptist Global News

Opinion: “The Political Appropriation of Christianity” - Townhall

## SELECT INTERVIEWS AND OPINION PIECES (CONT)

### 2023

Interview: "The Rise of Artificial Intelligence" - TBN Special

Interview: "Defy the World w/ Dr. James Spencer" - Men's Alliance Podcast

Interview: "Faith Under Fire" - Lauren Green's Lighthouse Faith Podcast (Fox News)

Interview: "Is Busyness Every Glorifying to God?" - Relatable with Allie Beth Stuckey

Interview: "Christian Resistance" - Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk

Interview: "Leading Your Daughter to Navigate AI, the Metaverse, and Other Digital Technologies" - The Dad Whisperer Podcast

Interview: "Jesus Teaches Others the True Meaning of Wealth in Bible Verse, says Faith Leader" - Fox News

Opinion: "Jesus in Real Time: Why the 'He Gets Us' Ads Are Just a First Step" - CBN.com

Opinion: "Transhumanism and the Human Condition" - The American Thinker

Opinion: "Who is Our 'Neighbor' in an AI-Enabled World?" - Charisma

### 2022

Interview: "Discerning Truth" - Faith vs. Culture presented by CBN's Faithwire

Opinion: "How Discipleship Stands Against Fear" - Charisma

Opinion: "Now Is the Time to Be Stirred, Not Shaken" - The Western Journal

*\*for a full listing see [jamesgspencer.com](http://jamesgspencer.com)*