

# Ed Moss

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## Education

- Master of Divinity, 1989, Columbia International University, Columbia, South Carolina
- Bachelor of Arts, 1984, Southeastern University, Lakeland, Florida
- Associate of Science, 1979, State College of Florida, Bradenton, Florida
- Manatee High School, class of 76!

## Ordination

Ordained to the pastorate, 1989, Gardens Baptist Church, Hollywood, Florida

## Pastoral Experience

- Family Life Pastor, 2003-present, Braden River Baptist Church, Bradenton, Florida
- Pastor, Countryside Church, 1999-2003, Myakka, Florida
- Pastor, 1997-1999, Bethany Baptist Church, Myakka, Florida
- Pastor, 1989-1997, Lake Forest Baptist Church, Hollywood, Florida

## Personal and Family

Age 51; good health; a somewhat sound mind

God has blessed me with an awesome, understanding, continuously perplexed and forgiving wife. Karen is a people person who is compassionate toward everyone. She is my best friend. She is my inspiration. You will love her!

God has entrusted us with three boys: Ryan, David and Jonathan. They are my favorite sports companions and friends. I'm their #1 cheerleader unless I'm on the other team. I am so proud of each of them and it's an honor to be their dad.

We are blessed with three daughters. Alyssa is our youngest and my favorite person to spoil. She is in middle school. She has Downs Syndrome, is in great health, loves people and is a real inspiration. Emily, Ryan's wife of three years and Natalie, David's wife of one year, are our new awesome daughters. Both the boys definitely married up.

My favorite thing to do is to spend time relaxing with Karen, especially on the beach. I grew up on Anna Maria and like being on the water, be it boating, fishing, swimming or scuba diving. For a change of pace, I enjoy canoeing, hiking and camping.

My favorite sports to play are soccer, football, basketball, tennis or anything I'm playing with my sons.

## Salvation Testimony and Call to Ministry

I was raised in a liberal Christian home and church. The Biblical God and His plan of salvation was not believed or presented. At the age of twenty two the Holy Spirit drew me to the Bible. As I read a Gideon's New Testament each day Jesus convicted my heart regarding sin, judgment, a meaningless life, the gospel and the need to repent, trust Him as Savior and surrender to His lordship. He made me alive!

I continued to devour the Bible daily and within a few weeks Jesus laid on my heart a clear, irresistible call to serve Him full time. Nothing else mattered. That call has been strengthened and affirmed each year of journeying with Him.

## Beliefs, Practices and Styles

### **Prayer**

I believe a church family must place a priority on prayer in their individual lives and small groups as well as at least one weekly gathering focused on prayer. Jesus is our Chief Shepherd and it is essential that we together voice our thanksgiving and adoration to Him and seek His will, conviction, and blessing. Moreover, we will encounter spiritual warfare as we increase our witness and we will be effective in the battle as we pray.

I am committed to practicing a daily devotional time which includes praying for the families of the church individually.

### **World Missions**

That every people group in the world worships Jesus is my heart beat. I love CrossPointe Fellowship's involvement; may it increase.

### **Evangelism**

It is my job to set the example, impart passion and courage, equip the saints and lead the way in evangelism. Enthusiastic relationship evangelism is usually blessed with the best results especially when accompanied by attractive events outside the church walls.

I love meeting people, serving them and sharing Jesus. I anticipate visiting most of the homes, apartments, boats and businesses in Anna Maria and Holmes Beach in the first nine months. Both door to door and hanging out where the lost hang out for the purpose of golden rule evangelism energizes me. There's no more exciting way to worship Jesus! I can't wait to get reacquainted with the friends and neighbors of the Moss family and trust that Jesus will grant me entrance into many of their hearts.

Service ministries, target ministries and small groups may be evangelistically effective in Anna Maria as well. I look forward to praying together about these.

If we're already doing an outreach that works I like it.

### **Discipleship**

I believe in a clear, systematic yet individualized approach to discipleship which offers mentorship, small group and ministry opportunities.

### **Assimilation**

I believe every attendee needs to be offered, encouraged, equipped and empowered to serve and feel valued. These opportunities must be well organized, publicized and promoted.

### **Small Groups**

In my experience the best way to live the "one anothers" of the Bible, enjoy depth of fellowship and grow leaders is through small groups on and off campus.

## **Preaching Style**

I believe the goal of preaching is transformation. The greatest transformation is growth in the knowledge of God that we might honor and draw close to Him.

I believe there are four elements in transformational preaching: 1. passion for God and His people; 2. accurate biblical exposition (please see the appendix as an example); 3. knowledge of the needs of the congregation; 4. the empowering work of the Holy Spirit in the preacher and congregation.

Passion + Accurate exposition + Extremely practical application + Holy Spirit empowering = transformative preaching.

In topical preaching I use mostly passages in their context and not just individual verses. In Bible book preaching I endeavor to cover about a third of a chapter (epistles) to a chapter (narratives) each sermon; fast enough to not lose sight of context and flow and slow enough to communicate and illustrate essential truths. I look forward to spending time with every member to learn their needs and callings that every sermon be crafted to fit exactly what God is working in each life.

I believe that seekers and guests are best served by experiencing our passion for God and His word proclaimed in a practical and understandable way along with a clear, convicting gospel presentation.

## **Worship Music**

I believe that what is best is whatever style of music is most conducive for the worship of God in spirit (worship from the heart) and truth (biblical accuracy and depth). In my experience, pound for pound, hymns are usually superior in truth (thus my bias toward hymns; my personal preferences are irrelevant, however). Choruses provide more of a heart language for the younger half. For this reason, if the congregation is blended, I'm a fan of blended music; it honors God's design for churches to be diverse.

## **Leadership style**

I expect Jesus to grant me a clear vision for CrossPointe Fellowship through His Bible, much prayer and the godly council of other leaders and spiritual elders.

Following that vision, I aspire to lead in such a manner that these words describe my leadership style: prayerful, visionary and strong yet gentle, patient and servant-like. I view leadership in the church as an upside down pyramid. I am applying to be at the bottom of the pile.

I firmly believe in the priesthood of every believer. Each prayer birthed perspective matters. I endeavor to display heart felt respect for any member who dissents with me whether he's apart of the majority or a lone voice. Each member including the lone voice is far more important than whatever business matter may be being discussed. I value diversity and expect unity and respect in it's midst. I believe this is as much God's design for church as it is for marriage.

I love flow charts, graphs and everything in writing. I like setting goals and organizing the church calendar well into the future. Yet, it is crucial that we remain Spirit lead and flexible.

## **Pastoral style**

I do not know any other way to pastor than to spend as much time as possible in the homes of everyone in the congregation and vice versa. I desire for us to live life together.

**Deacons**

I believe deacons are mandated through biblical example and are essential in the life and ministry of the church. *The deacon family ministry plan* is one of the many effective ways that deacons can serve.

**Ministry leaders**

I believe it is wise for the leaders of each ministry and the spiritual elders to meet together as needed that they might seek God's will through prayer, encourage and help each other, coordinate the church calendar and provide council in church decisions.

**Other Essential Ministries that Will Have My Attention:**

- Shut-ins (huge on my priority list)
- The hospitalized
- Singles and single parents
- The building of a dynamic youth and children's ministry
- An appealing nursery
- The poor, the excluded and the vulnerable
- Those needing counseling regarding marriage issues, besetting sins, spiritual and emotional issues and addictions

**Doctrine**

I believe in the doctrines encompassed in the Southern Baptist Faith and Message. I emphasize the inerrancy and authority of the sixty six books of the Bible as our source of truth.

**Southern Baptist Affiliation**

I chose to be Southern Baptist after the careful examination of denominations following my conversion. Today I am thankful I made that choice. It is an honor and privilege to be apart of the Manatee Association, our state and national conventions and Southern Baptist ministry though out the world.