

George D. Fessler

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Education:

- D.Min. Marriage & Family Ministry – Fuller Theological Seminary, 1993
Dissertation: *A Design of Marriage and Family Enrichment*
- M.A. Human Development / Organizational Management –
Salve Regina University, Newport RI, 1989
- M.Div. Theological Studies – Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, OH, 1978
- B.A. Bible – Central Bible College, Springfield, MO, 1974

Additional Graduate Education:

- Emerge/Ashland Theological Seminary, 1978-1979 (Pastoral Care & Counseling)
- Southern Methodist University, Perkins School of Theology, Dallas, Texas – 1984-1985

Professional Activity and Certifications:

- Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI)
- Marriage Prevention & Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP), University of Denver
- Association of Couples for Marriage Enrichment (ACME; now, Better Marriages)
- American Association of Christian Counselors
- Cloud-Townsend Intensive Training for Therapists, Counselors, and Pastoral Counselors

Clinical Experience:

- Cuyahoga Falls Psychiatric Hospital, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- Parkland Memorial Hospital, Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), Dallas, Texas

Teaching Experience:

- Vanguard University of Southern California
 - Traditional Undergraduate
 - Counseling Theories*
 - Counseling Methods*
 - Psychology and Christianity*
 - School of Professional Studies
 - Business through the Eyes of Faith*
 - Foundations of Christian Ethics*
 - Group & Organizational Behavior*
 - Issues of Religious Faith*
 - Marriage and Family*
 - Ministry of the Spirit in the Church*
 - Theological Themes in the New Testament*
 - Marriage and Family in American Society*
 - Pastoral Care and Counseling*

Graduate School of Religion
Soul Care of Others (M.A. level)

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
Marriage and Family Issues in the 21st Century (M.A. level)

Argosy University (Ed.D. level)
Contemporary Issues in Pastoral Counseling
Curriculum Development for Community Education
Family Mediation and Conflict Resolution
Individual Spiritual Enhancement
Holistic Health: Theory and Practice
Professional Development in Pastoral Counseling
Special Topics in Pastoral Counseling

Bethesda Christian University (M.Div., B.A. levels)
Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling

Assemblies of God, Southern California District
History, Missions & Polity Course (requirement for A/G ministerial credentials)
Ministry Practicum 3, Pastoral/Biblical Counseling
Hermeneutics: How to Study the Bible

Assemblies of God, Teen Challenge Ministry Institute
Introduction to Biblical Counseling

Ministerial History:

- 2012 – present *Director of Pastoral Care & Ministerial Health,*
SoCal Network Assemblies of God
- 2005-2012 *Executive Pastor, Life Center Church*
- Pastoral staff oversight
 - Pastoral Counseling
 - District Men’s Ministries Leadership Team
 - District Presbyter for the Orange Section, Southern California District
- 2002-2005 *Associate Pastor, Newport-Mesa Christian Center*
- Pastoral care and counseling
 - Marriage and family ministry; adult CE
- 1999-2002 *Associate Pastor, Orange County Worship Center*
- Administration
 - Marriage and Family Ministry
 - Pastoral counseling
- 1996-1999 *Deputy Wing Chaplain, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro*
- Supervised 17 chaplains and 18 support personnel in providing ministry to 30,000 military and family members in southern California and Arizona

- 1993-1996 *Seventh Fleet Chaplain, Yokosuka, Japan*
- Coordinated ministry to 1000 personnel, predominantly 19-25 year olds, on *USS Blue Ridge*
 - Supervised 10 chaplains aboard 7 ships ministering to 20,000 military personnel and family members
- 1990-1993 *Deputy Director of Religious Ministries, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, California*
- Lead Chapel Pastor
 - Supervised 10 chaplains, 5 Sunday services, full budget for Protestant chapel program and oversight of various support ministries
 - Deployed as Brigade Chaplain overseeing 22 chaplains during Operation Desert Shield in Saudi Arabia
- 1988-1990 *Senior Chaplain, USS Simon Lake, Holy Loch, Scotland*
- Provided ministry to 2000 ship personnel and family members
- 1987-1988 *Advanced Chaplains School, Newport, Rhode Island*
- Trained in leadership and supervisory management
- 1985-1987 *Regimental Chaplain, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC*
- Lead Chapel Pastor
 - Provided pastoral counseling to young adults during stressful recruit training
 - Supervised and mentored 6 junior chaplains
- 1984-1985 *Postgraduate School, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas*
- Studied pastoral care and counseling
- 1982-1984 *Command Chaplain, USS Biddle, Norfolk, Virginia*
- Provided pastoral ministry for 500 crewmembers and families during extended periods of separation
- 1979-1982 *Battalion Chaplain, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina*
- Served as chaplain to 1000 men undergoing rigorous field training
- 1977-1979 *Associate Pastor, First Assembly of God, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio*
- Developed an effective model of adult Christian Education elective classes
 - Delivered vital pastoral care and counseling, pulpit and worship ministry; youth ministry, including retreats, outreach projects
- 1974-1977 *Associate Pastor, First Assembly of God, Mansfield, Ohio*
- Ordained, May 1977
 - Supervised Christian Education ministry, overseeing full curriculum for children, youth and adult elective classes, pastoral care, counseling