

## Personal Information from author and speaker Bob Prall

In January of 1961, I was a 24 year old graduate of the University of Oregon (had majored in business), had served my country as an officer in the U.S. Army, had a real estate brokers license, and was working with my father in our real estate business in Salem, Oregon.

I had played in golf tournaments in ten states, **including the 1957 U.S. Open, in Toledo, Ohio, and one other PGA tournament (where I would have been in the money if i was a pro)**. So I was thinking of turning pro, and trying to make it on the PGA Tour. When the A.D. of Salem's *Willamett University* asked me to be their golf coach, I coached the team as a volunteer, so I could play in both professional and amateur tournaments while I worked on my game.

As a single young coach, I became socially part of the campus. A Willamette co-ed asked me to go with her to Bethel Baptist Church in Aumsville, a suburb of Salem. I enjoyed it, and became a good friend of its pastor, Bob Luther. Just before my 25th birthday, I trusted in Jesus Christ as my Savior. Five months after I was baptized, I enrolled, with Bob, at Western Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary in Portland (now Western Seminary).

During my third year in seminary, I was part time on Campus Crusade for Christ staff (now Cru). It was a young, but growing ministry, with about 190 staff members scattered on one or two campuses in each of about twelve states. Cru now has over 15,000 on its staff, ministering in almost every nation in the world.

I won Oregon's State Amateur Golf Championship both summers between my three years in Seminary, so professional golf was still an option when I graduated. But I liked Cru founder Bill Bright's strategy, **"Win the campus today and win the world tomorrow,"** and knew I was called to help fulfill the Great Commission. When I graduated from Seminary in 1964, I responded to God's call to be a full time staff member of Campus Crusade for Christ. My golf dreams became history. But I am blessed, and have no regrets.

The first chapter of my book ***As You Are Going... Make Disciples***, tells about being on a team of 600 Cru staff, when we invaded **The University of California, at Berkeley**, in January of 1967. The next week, 400 of us moved on to **UCLA**. The goal was to present the Gospel to every Cal and UCLA student. You can read about that chapter in [Amazon's free trial](#) of the e-Book. **It tells the true story of how thousands of evangelistic seeds were planted in young people on Orange County beaches, before the Jesus People Movement erupted.**

In my first three years on Cru staff, my ministry was on campuses in Oklahoma and Washington, with one summer in Mexico and another in Ocean City, New Jersey. **In September of 1967, Cru asked me to lead the launch of its ministry in North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia, and to lead a beach project in Ocean City in the summer of 1968.** In the 1967-68 school year, as I started new ministries on several campuses in three states, I recruited 100 students to work in Ocean City that summer. Then trained them how to share their faith and witness on the beach and in a coffee house we opened. **Historians report that The Jesus People Movement began in 1968 (that was when it was discovered by the press in California,** and quickly spread all over America. The press covered it assiduously, and the **Jesus People Movement**. made the covers of ***Time*, *Look*, and *Newsweek*** magazines.

Cru assigned five staff members to help me launch its ministry in North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia in 1967. My team included one married couple and three single girls, all recent

college graduates in their first or second years on Cru staff. In the Spring of 1968, I married Jane Fletcher, one of the girls on my team. Jane was a graduate of the University of Georgia. We were married for 46 years, until Jane went to be with Her Savior. In 1970, Campus Crusade moved us from North Carolina to Houston, to help Bill Bright conduct a city-wide **Lay Institute for Evangelism** to train 5,000 believers in how to share the gospel.

In the Spring of 1972, we were called to the pastorate of **Grace Bible Church in Bryan, Texas**, a church with only 27 members and a small group of students from Texas A&M University. My experience in real estate was used by my Lord to find 2 acres a few blocks from the A&M campus, sell the church's property in Bryan, and lead in the construction of a new building in twin-city Bryan/College Station. In September of 1974, Grace Bible Church had 500 people attend the first praise and worship service in College Station.

During my pastorate, attendance grew to about 500 every week. **But most attendees were unemployed, tuition paying college students. After four years, I was still the only staff member, burned out, and resigned.** The church's Elders asked me to continue (with a pay raise) as its interim pastor, while I launched a business. I admit that I did not do a good job of bringing families into the church. **My burden was to reach college students, and some families may have been scared off by so many of them.** Grace Bible Church has continued to grow. Forty-nine years later, it now has four campuses, a combined weekly attendance of nearly 5,000, and helps support 98 missionaries. **I am one of them.** I like to think of it as having "*A Pension by Grace.*" [www.grace-bible.org](http://www.grace-bible.org).

From the context of the business world, I taught an eight week Bible study many times on campus, for student retreats, in churches, and in many private homes. I probably had a greater impact in families in the following years than from my preaching from the pulpit at Grace Bible Church. The first two pastors of **Westminster Presbyterian Church in Bryan** (now a large PCA church), **both told me that their church was launched by my Bible studies.**

After I turned 60, I took from the Bible studies I had taught on campus, in churches, in private homes, and wrote ***The Master Plot of the Bible***. A year later I wrote ***As You Are Going... Make disciples***, a book with true stories that teach and encourage personal evangelism. Both are in [Amazon's free trial](#). After writing these books, I took from them and many years of sharing the Gospel, and developed four 80 minute CD's that are now audio mp3 albums. In 2023 I shortened some of those files, and developed a set of audio tools for witnessing. Info & several free links can be found at: <https://www.bobaudios.com/answers.pdf>

My heart is still burning to reach young Americans. I am distressed by the growing number of church drop-outs, and have a strategy churches can use to prevent many of them.. Info is in <https://www.bobaudios.com/preventdropouts.pdf>. Info about my strategy to have another Jesus People Movement is in <https://www.bobaudios.com/awakening.pdf>. Best of all, my books and albums can be used after I go to be with my Lord. But I plan on working hard for the rest of my life to make sure these books and audio albums will be used to help us have another awakening, As long as I am able, I will use my books and audio albums to **"make disciples."**

I can probably be reached (at 89 I cannot promise a response) at:

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