

David Raúl Lema, Jr.

Curriculum Vitae/Resume

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LinkedIn: David Lema

Instagram: DRLEMA



PERSONAL

Birth date: October 12, 1962

Birth place: Santa Clara, Cuba

Ethnic Background: Cuban American Hispanic. Naturalized US Citizen on November 9, 1977. Naturalized citizen of Spain on February 2012.

Marital Status: Married Milvian Rodriguez of Miami, FL, on June 24, 1989.

Children: David Nathanael (b. Jan. 15, 1992), Christine Elizabeth (b. April 11, 1995), and Mark Daniel (b. May 22, 2002)

Minister's Ordination: March 3, 1985- First Baptist Church of Covington, LA.

PERSONAL CORE VALUES AND DISCIPLINES

Intellectual and Cognitive Growth and Development; Spiritual Formation; Creative Interactive Teaching and Mentoring; Multi-cultural Expansion, Study, and World Travel; Family Support and Nurture; Impact Society with Charity.

PERSONAL LIFE OBJECTIVE

My life is currently focused on learning, teaching, preaching, mentoring, writing and service as a follower of Jesus Christ and his teachings. I look forward to working with goal-oriented teams in Christian Kingdom ministries in the USA and in other countries of the world.

FORMAL EDUCATION

- [1977 - 1981] **Alfred Bonnabel High School** Metairie, LA
Graduated 7th in Class of 700 with Honors
- [Aug 1980 – May 1981] **University of New Orleans** New Orleans
Early Admissions Program for Gifted High School Students
Finished HS with 32 hrs. of College Credit via Advanced Placement, CLEP exams, and Early Enrollment
- [Aug 1981-May 1982] **Louisiana State University** Baton Rouge, LA
Computer Science/Electrical Engineering Major
 - LSU Alumni Scholar
- [Aug 1982-Dec 1983] **University of New Orleans** New Orleans, LA
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
 - Majored in Psychology and Minored in Spanish Literature
- [Jan 1984-May 1986] **New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary** New Orleans, LA
Master of Divinity
 - Majored in New Testament and Greek
- [Aug 1986 – May 1989] **Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary** Ft. Worth, TX
 - 2 yrs post-graduate studies in Systematic Theology , Missions and Education
- [Aug 1995-May 1997] **NOBTS** New Orleans, LA.
Doctor of Ministry
 - Majored in Leadership in Pastoral Ministries Division
 - Project Report: “Development of a Church-Based Model of Ministry Designed to Meet the Needs of Hispanic Refugees in Hialeah, FLA., Through a Select Group of Leaders of the Iglesia Bautista West Hialeah.”
- [Aug 2004-May 2005] **NOBTS**
Theology Master
 - Majored in Biblical Studies and Missions
- [Aug 2005-Dec 2013] **NOBTS**
Doctor of Philosophy
 - Majored in Pastoral Ministry/Missions
 - Dissertation: “Southern Baptist Hispanic Missions in the State of Florida: 1960-2005”

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Owner** (2024 till now) Parabolic Leadership Consulting, LLC. *Ministry consulting business specializing in mentoring leaders and partnering with churches and other entities for missions.*
- **Senior Pastor** (February 1, 2020 – June 28, 2023) Peters Road Baptist Church, Plantation, FL 33317. www.petersroad.org. *Leading a church family of almost 400 members to reach their vision for ministry.*
- **Ministry Based Faculty** (Jan 1, 2019 – currently) Work on a contract basis with NOBTS as Professor of Missions and Theology.
- **Director** (June 1, 2004 – December 31, 2019. NOBTS Trustee Approved as Full-Time Faculty on January 1, 2016.)

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary – Center for the Americas

631 E. First Avenue, Hiialeah, FL 33010

Ph.(305)888-9777 Fax.(305)888-9783 Email: dlema@nobts.edu

www.nobts.edu/Extensions/SouthFlorida.html

Service at least 400 students involved in undergraduate and graduate studies and a staff of two full time workers and several part-time workers. The Center operates and offers educational services in English, Spanish, French, and Portuguese. The NOBTS Center was fully accredited by SACS and ATS.

- **South Regional Coordinator for Florida** (NOBTS Trustee Approved in April 2018)
- **Professor of Missions** (NOBTS Trustee Approved in April 2018)
- **Associate Professor of Missions and Theology** (NOBTS Trustee Approved in April 2014)
- **Assistant Professor of Missions and Theology** (Trustee Elected in April 12, 2006)

NOBTS, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126 Ph.(800)NOBTS-01 www.nobts.edu

Courses taught at Graduate level include:

Children's Ministry in Theory and Practice (HYBRID)

Teaching Practicum (HYBRID)

Philosophical Foundations

Pastoral Ministry (HYBRID)

Supervised Ministry I and II (HYBRID)

Mentoring Preaching Practicum

Interpersonal Relationship Skills (HYBRID)

Teaching the Bible (HYBRID)

Introduction to the Cooperative Program

Spiritual Formation I and II

Courses taught at Undergraduate level include:

Adult Ministry

Baptist History

Biblical Backgrounds

Christian Scriptures

Community Ministries

Church Leadership and Administration

Church Planting and Revitalization

Contemporary Theological Issues

Discipleship and Personal Growth

Doctrine of Christ

Doctrine of Revelation

Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

Educational Psychology

Hebrews NT Exegesis

Hermeneutics

History of the Baptists

Human Development

Integrating Academics and Ministry

Intro to Children Ministry

John NT Exegesis

Intro to Community Ministries

Intro to Christian Doctrine

Intro to the New Testament

Intro to Ministry

Intro to Christian Education

Intro to Preaching

Intro to Youth Ministry

Jeremiah OT Exegesis

Life Span Development

Ministerial Ethics

<i>Person and Work of Christ</i>	<i>Personal Spiritual Disciplines</i>	<i>Preaching Lab</i>
<i>Preaching from the Psalms</i>	<i>Revelation NT Exegesis</i>	
<i>Psalms OT Exegesis</i>	<i>Foundations of Christian Education</i>	
<i>Samuel-Kings OT Exegesis</i>	<i>Senior Seminar</i>	
<i>Southern Baptist Convention Life</i>	<i>Teaching Methods</i>	
<i>Urban Church Planting</i>	<i>Leadership Workshop</i>	<i>World Religions</i>

Courses taught at Church Leadership Certificate level include:

<i>Apologetics</i>	<i>Baptist Doctrine</i>	<i>Early Church History</i>
<i>Bible Translations</i>	<i>Church History</i>	<i>Youth Ministry</i>
<i>Church Planting</i>	<i>Evangelism</i>	
<i>Hermeneutics</i>	<i>Introduction to Christian Education</i>	
<i>Introduction to New Testament</i>	<i>Introduction to Preaching,</i>	
<i>Introduction to Old Testament</i>	<i>Missions</i>	

- **Interim Pastor** (June 2019 – December 2019) Peters Road Baptist Church, Plantation, FL 33017.
- **Assistant Professor of Christian Ministry** (Started August 1, 2005 by Presidential Appointment).
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
- **Adjunct Professor**, NOBTS Ethnic Branch, Miami, FL (1989-2004).
- **Providence Travel and Moscau Archeological Institute of NOBTS** (2009-present)
Served as Faculty Advisor on many trips to Israel and Greece with student groups from NOBTS.
- **Hispanic Ministry Advisor**, Renovate Conference, Orlando, FL (2014-present).
www.renovateconference.org
- **Teaching Advisor and Leadership Consultant**, Oasis Leadership Institute (OLI), Oasis Church, Pembroke Pines, FL (2014-present). Elevate Church in Miami Lakes, FL. (2024 to present).
- **Interim Pastor** (December 2017 – February 2018)
North Palm Baptist Church, Hialeah, FL 33010.
- **Associate Team Strategist** (May 25, 2004 – December 31, 2015 – Trustee Elected)
Florida Baptist Convention,
Theological Education Ministries in Church Health Group
1230 Hendricks Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207 Ph.(800)226-8584 www.flbaptist.org
- **Director of Hispanic and International Ministries**, Miami Baptist Association. (1997 to 2004)
Advanced the work of the MBA in the area of Hispanics, Haitians, and Internationals. Served more than 100 Hispanic churches and more than 100 Haitian Churches. Started more than 50 new churches.

- Appointed **Home Missionary**, Church Planting Strategist for Ethnics, North American Mission Board, SBC. (1997 - 2004)
- **Director of Language Missions**, Miami Baptist Association. (Sept.1996-Dec.1997).

- **Baptist Press of the Southern Baptist Convention** (2000 till 2018)
Hispanic Correspondent and Opinion Column Contributor

- **Senior Pastor**, Iglesia Bautista West Hialeah, Hialeah, Florida
(Aug. 1989 - Aug. 1996).
Began a new model of ministry utilizing the shared-ministry concept. Began successful Food Distribution Ministry, Job Placement Ministry, Youth Ministry and Senior Adult Ministry, Educational Ministry, Refugee Ministry, "Dorcas" Clothes Distribution Ministry, etc. The church also operated successfully a Kindergarten and Daycare Center servicing from 75-100 children. Led church to adopt a ministry based budget and restructured all administrative procedures. Led church in February 1995 to plant a new mission in Miami-Dade County in the area of Hialeah Gardens.

- Miami Baptist Association **Volunteer Service Activities** (1989 - 1995)
 - Evangelism Council, Credentials Committee, Nominating Committee and Executive Board.
 - Elected Vice-Moderator (1994 – 1995) and Moderator (1995-1996)
 - Hispanic Director for the *Calling Miami to Christ* Campaign.
 - Chairman of DOM Search Committee (1994-95).

- Florida Baptist Convention **Volunteer Service Activities** (1989 – 2004)
 - Appointed in 1993 to S.T.E.W.A.R.D.S strategy task force for ethnic work and mission starts by Dr. Jim Goodson.
 - Appointed to serve on the Resolutions Committee of the FBC (1994)
 - Hispanic Consultant for the Annuity Dept. of the FBC. Went to several training conferences at the Annuity Board, SBC, in Dallas, TX and worked under the supervision of Dr. Joe Courson, director of the FBC Church Annuity Dept. (1994-95)
 - Elected to Board of Trustees of the Pembroke Foundation. (1994-2005)
 - Appointed by Dr. Bill Billingsley to Special Committee of FBC Board of Missions with the task of selling and buying property for a South Florida educational facility. (1994)
 - Appointed to serve on the Credentials Committee of the FBC. (1997)
 - Appointed chairman of Social Work Committee Hispanic State Fellowship of FL. (1994)
 - Bible Study Conference Leader and Preacher in State Single Adults Camp for Hispanics (1988)
 - Guest Doctrinal Study Leader for FBC Hispanic Youth Camp (1989-2006)
 - Refugee Ministry Conference Leader for Language Missions Division (1995)

- National Hispanic Minister's Conference of the Southern Baptist Convention.
Parliamentarian (1990 - 1993).

- Baptist Fellowship of Hispanic/Latin Congregations of Miami
 - Parliamentarian** (1990 - 1995).
 - Elected President** (1995-96).

- **Guest Keynote Speaker**, National Convention of Baptist Churches in Honduras (1991).
- **Senior Pastor**, Iglesia Bautista Central, Ft. Worth, TX (1988-1989)
 - Fulfilled all pastoral duties (administration, preaching, visitation, etc.) for a congregation of 250 members. Led church in completion of the construction of a new four-story Education Building.*

- **Minister to Students**, Iglesia Bautista Rey de Reyes, Ft. Worth, TX (1988)

- **Contract Teacher**, Department of Continuing Education, SWBTS, Ft. Worth, TX (1987-1988)
 - Taught following courses at the Diploma level: Evangelism, Intro to the New Testament, Intro to the Bible, Intro to Christian Theology.*

- **Teaching Fellow**, School of Theology, SWBTS, Ft. Worth, TX (1988-89)

- Tarrant Baptist Association, Ft. Worth, TX.
 - Volunteer Service Activities** (1987 - 1989)
 - Served on several committees of the Hispanic Fellowship.

- **Senior Pastor**, Iglesia Bautista El Mesías, Denton, TX. (1986-1987)

- **Interim Pastor**, Misión Bautista Jerusalén, Graham, TX (1986)

- **Associate Pastor**, First Baptist Church, Covington, LA (1984-1986)
 - Responsibilities included all missions related activities, administrative duties, preaching, and youth work in a church with 850 members. Was mentored and supervised by Dr. Sydney Young.*

- **Hispanic Mission Pastor**, Mision Hispana - FBC, Covington, LA (1984-1986) *Served this church planter position concurrently with the one listed above.*

- **Home Mission Board, SBC- Louisiana State Missionary to Ethnic**
 - (1984-1986) *Worked under supervision of Dr. Don Mabry and Rev. Rafael Melian.*

- **Trained Specialist and Conference Leader** in Adult and Youth Education, Sunday School Board of SBC (now LifeWay) (1984-present)

- **Associate Pastor**, Iglesia Bautista Hispana Emmanuel, Kenner, LA (1982-1984)

- **International Revival Preacher and Conference Speaker** (1983 till present) in the following countries:
Cuba, Spain, México, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Haití, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, South Africa, Israel, Puerto Rico, Greece.
- **Revival Preacher, Missionary Speaker, and Conference Speaker** in the United States in the following states from 1993-present: *Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Michigan, Illinois, Texas, Georgia, Florida, New York, New Jersey, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Arizona, New Mexico, Missouri, Indiana, Virginia, Maryland, New York.*
- **Sorter and Loader**, United Parcel Service, Ft. Worth, TX (1988-89)
- **Computer Systems Operator**, University of New Orleans Computer Research Center (1982-83)
Worked as the night-shift operator for two large main frame systems from IVAX.
- **Computer Programmer and Systems Maintenance**, New Orleans Novelty Company (1982)
- **Assistant Testing Engineer**, National Center for Resource Recovery, New Orleans, LA (1981) *In federally funded project to study the practicality of recycling programs and methods.*
- **Cameraman and Television Show Producer**, Cox Cable T.V. Kenner, LA (1979-1981)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Completely Fluent in English and Spanish

Conversant in Portuguese and able to read Portuguese

Formally studied French, German, Hebrew, Greek, and Latin in the University and Seminary.

PUBLICATIONS

Open Windows, LifeWay, Jan 2011, 5 Devotionals Published.

Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention,
Curriculum Writer for Youth
El Interprete. (1988 - 1991) Spanish version Convention Uniform
Series of Sunday School Lessons.
La Fe Bautista in 1991.

Freelance writer for several Christian Magazines and Newspapers.
Published in *Home Life, Quietud, Baptist Press, Florida Baptist Witness, Baptist Message, Nuestra Tarea*, and others.

SBC Hispanic Affairs Correspondent for Baptist Press. (1998-2015)
Covered every SBC since 1998 as staff writer for Baptist Press. See www.baptistpress.org index for all the listed article bylines.

Authored *Seven Sins that Sink your Family: and How to Overcome Them*. (2024)
Work is currently at the publishing house and will be out soon.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Association of Christian Counselors

NOBTS Alumni Association

Florida Baptist Historical Society

American Academy of Religion

Baptist Association of Christian Educators

Baptist Communicators Association

Asociación para la Educación Teológica Hispana (AETH).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Certified as a *MasterLife I, II, III* Facilitator, 1985, by Dr. Avery Willis, IMB (Spanish and English).

Certified as LifeWay Facilitator and Trainer in *Managing Your Money with Success* Program.

Certified by NAMB as a Level I and II CPMS facilitator.

Certified for Mentoring and WildWorks with FBC.

Certified for Coaching under Florida Baptist Convention/ Bob Logan Network.

Certified as DiSC profile administrator with FBC.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Member of Educational Excellence School Advisory Council at West Hialeah Gardens Elementary School, Hialeah, FL (2004-2020)

Member of Educational Excellence School Advisory Council at Miami Springs Elem School, Miami Springs, FL (1995-2004)

Author's Tea Guest Speaker at WHGE School, (2009-2019), Hialeah, FL

"Principal for a Day" on Dec. 16, 2009 WHGE School, Hialeah, FL

Baptist Health Systems of Florida, Board Member, 1994-1998

Baptist Hospital of Miami/South Miami Hospital, Institutional Review Board Member, 2004-2008

Pastors for Freedom, Inc.

Secretary and charter member of organization representing evangelical concerns for Christians in Cuba and national, state, and local governmental policy regarding Cuban interests and immigration. (1993-2000)

AWARDS RECEIVED

Outstanding Faculty Churchman Award, NOBTS Celebration of Excellence, New Orleans, LA, May 2020.

Lenaz Study Grant, 2018, Special Study of Baptist Convention in Spain.

Baptist Heritage Award, 2016, Florida Baptist Historical Society.

America's Outstanding Names and Faces, 1981

National Merit Scholarship Finalist, 1981

Pan-American Life Insurance Award, 1980 and 1981

Jefferson Parish School Board Award for Scholastic Achievement, 1980-1981

Regional District Rally, World Geography, First Place, 1980

Louisiana State Rally, World Geography, Fifth Place, 1980

Louisiana State Champion in Lincoln-Douglass Debate, 1981

Louisiana State University Alumni Federation Scholar, 1981

Listed in *Louisiana's Top 100 Scholars*, 1981.

University of New Orleans

Dean's List (several terms)

Recipient, Margaret Fund Scholarship (1981-83)

America's Outstanding Young Men, Nominated and Accepted (1984)

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Dean's List (several terms)

Recipient, Woman's Missionary Union Scholarship (1984-86)

Recipient, Mary Lou Jenkins Scholarship (1984-86)

Recipient, Eastland Scholarship Fund Grant (1985)

Recipient, Margaret Fund Scholarship (1984-86)

Recipient, Runnels Fund Scholarship (1994)

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dean's List (several terms)

Hispanic Doctoral Fellowship for the Study of

Religion, Fund For Theological Education, Inc. (1988-89)

Teaching Fellowship with Dr. William Tolar (1988-89)

Eastern Star Scholarship for Leadership (1987-88)

Outstanding Volunteer Award, Miami Springs Elem School, 1999 and
2003

REFERENCES (UPON REQUEST)
