



PAUL BRIAN COULTER

PROFILE

I am a father, husband and a son of God through Jesus Christ my Lord. By God's grace, I have developed knowledge and skills in a wide range of areas through varied experiences in education, employment and voluntary service ranging across churches, charities, the NHS and the courts service. My desire is to return to God all he has entrusted to me and so share and honour Christ in my family, in God's church and in wider society.

CONVICTIONS

MOTTO: "To live is Christ and to die is gain" (Philippians 1.21)

BELIEFS: Christian | Protestant | Evangelical

VALUES: Faithfulness | Love | Unity

SKILLS

Preaching, teaching and writing
Visionary and strategic leadership
Pastoral care and people management
Team leading and working
Developing systems and processes

PASTIMES

Reading history and historical novels
Walking in hills and countryside with my dog
Family time and coffee with friends
Writing poetry

CONTACT

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TERTIARY EDUCATION

Post-Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Teaching (PGCHET)

2017, Queen's University Belfast

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Divinity

2016, University of Aberdeen

Thesis: Church & Mission in Four Aspects: Church Planting within a Missionary Ecclesiology for the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church in N Ireland

Master of Arts (MA) in Theology, with distinction

2007, University of Wales, Lampeter, taught through Irish Baptist College

Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MB BCh), with distinction

2000, Queen's University Belfast

Winner of prizes in microbiology, general practice and elective research

Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Medical Genetics, first class honours

1997, Queen's University Belfast

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Centre for Christianity in Society – Executive Director

October 2021 – present

Speaking, training, writing, mentoring, consultancy in apologetics, ethics, theology, pastoral care and leadership

Living Leadership - Head of Ministry Operations

April 2019 – August 2025

Speaking and writing on leadership and pastoral care
One-to-one and group mentoring of leaders in NI, England and Poland
Strategic leadership within Senior Management Team

Belfast Bible College - Lecturer in Practical Theology and Missiology

August 2013 – March 2019

Teaching varied subjects including leadership, pastoral care, apologetics
Developing and overseeing non-accredited college courses

Glenabbey Church - Director of Youth Ministry and Adult Equipping

August 2008 – July 2010

Developing and overseeing programmes and occasional preaching

Belfast Chinese Christian Church - Associate Pastor

August 2003 – July 2008

Leading church as part of team with non-staff elders, preaching and teaching, overseeing youth and student ministries

NHS hospitals & Northern Ireland Hospice - Junior doctor

August 2000 – July 2003

OTHER CURRENT MINISTRY INVOLVEMENTS

Belfast Chinese Christian Church – adviser

Centre for Christianity in Society – board member, voluntary Executive Director, speaking on apologetics and ethics

Irish Baptist College – visiting lecturer, teaching ethics and leadership to undergraduates and postgraduates

KVBC Equip, Malaysia – adjunct faculty, teaching leadership and pastoral care

Tiō Associates (Christianity on Intellectual Disability) – associate

Union Theological College Belfast (Presbyterian Church in Ireland) – visiting lecturer, teaching pastoral care and leadership to undergraduates and trainee ministers

SELECTED PAST MINISTRY INVOLVEMENT

European Leadership Forum – Apologetics (Foundational) Network co-leader, 2019-2024

Evangelical Alliance, UK – NI Executive member, 2013-2019 | UK Council member, 2014-2020

Friends International – Belfast Regional Development Group: Member, 2004-2005 | Chair, 2005-2008

Moorlands College – adjunct lecturer, teaching hermeneutics, 2020-2022

New Horizon Ministries – Management Team & Seminar lead, 2012-2018 | Board member, 2018-2021 | Chair, 2021-2023

Oak Hill College and Middlesex University – external Examiner in practical theology subjects, 2018-2023

World EA Mission Commission – Associate, 2011-2022 | Global Consultation (Izmir, Turkey) plenary speaker, 2014

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Courts Service of Northern Ireland – Lay Magistrate, Belfast District, April 2005 – present (Family and Youth Courts)

Patient and Client Council – Non-Executive Director, 2009-2013 | Research Committee Chair, 2012-2013

MEMBERSHIPS

Affinity (affiliate member)

Christian Medical Fellowship

British and Irish Association of Practical Theologians

Fellow of the Higher Education Authority (FHEA)

PUBLIC OUTPUT

Restless Wonderer Podcast

Weekly Bible teaching episodes – 775 episodes as of Jan 2025, covering 56 whole Bible books and parts of two others

Preaching and teaching

Regular Bible teaching, preaching and seminars for churches across Northern Ireland (c. 30 Sunday messages annually)

Conference speaking including Bournemouth Bible Week (2023) and Evangelium 21, Switzerland (2024)

Overseas speaking in Albania, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, N Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland

Writing and editing

2025 (forthcoming). *Knowing How to Understand the Bible* (OPAL) [co-authored]

2025. *Honour, Fear, and Love: The Shape of Christian Faithfulness in a Post-Christian Society* (Centre for Christianity in Society and PESIOD Publications)

2025. *Consuming and Creating Culture*, Connected Christianity Series 1 (Centre for Christianity in Society)

2022. *Keeping Care Pastoral: The Heart of Gospel-Shaped Pastoral Care* (PESIOD Publications)

2022. *Serving Two Masters? Probing the Tensions Between Science and Faith in the Art of Healthcare* (CMF)

2021. *Clarion Call: Finding Joy in Christ with John the Baptist* (PESIOD Publications)

In addition, I have edited four books for three publishers and authored of numerous articles and blog posts on BeThinking.org, christianityinsociety.org, livingleadership.org, and www.paulcoulter.net,