



# Not The Retiring Types

August 2023

“You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.”

II Timothy 2:2 *Living Translation*

One of the joys of working with Christian faculty is discovering those who spend their “retirement years” doing anything but retiring. Faculty Commons staff Jim (*far left*) helps me work with the other three men: professors from the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, and East Central University.

These three are mentoring younger Christian faculty and encouraging them to work with excellence, to care about students and to be salt and light on their campuses. Because they’ve “been there” in academia, and have been outstanding both in their careers and their Christian walk, their words carry great authority. They lead small group Bible studies, mentor individuals over coffee, and bring hope to struggling profs.

## Living By Faith – Not Fear

“Of course I can’t say anything about my faith. This is a state university,” Don told me.

Don was a longtime professor and an elder in his church. He had never been open about his faith on campus because of this misconception-- obeying laws that don’t exist.

We don’t want Christian professors to hide their lights under bushel baskets of imaginary legal threats. This summer I worked with Chris Gleason from Cru’s General Counsel Office to create small group lessons that include Chris’ legal advice and Biblical principles for freedom of speech for Christian faculty.



We hope these lessons help professors like Don to be unafraid to be known as followers of Jesus. Fortunately there are professors such as Micah Green (*left*) who are living out their faith and being examples to others on their campuses:

“Instead of living in fear, Christian faculty can show that our love for Jesus changes the way we do our job for the better: By treating our colleagues and students as people made in God’s image.”  
Dr. Micah Green, Chemical Engineering, Texas A&M

More than 16 million students will attend college this fall.

Please pray for Christian professors on America’s campuses to be salt and light this year – and for God to use that witness in the lives of students who, often without knowing it, are searching for answers but not sure where to find them.



*Steve and Sarah*