

# Ministry News

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Kenny and Laura Bengé



But often our soul friends can show us the ecology of evil within us, how a particular childhood wound, or a fixation of emotion, or an emotional frame of mind, have brought the addictions that now enthrall us, coloring and distorting all we do and are.

**James Houston**

As we gathered around the small meeting table opening our lunches, one of the students blurted out, "Man, I need this group!" The scene was a small group meeting of five Master of Business Administration students. We meet in their lunch room, where stock tickers parade continuously on a custom screen while they eat. The five students and I meet during the lunch hour in the midst of their hectic schedules for interaction with Scripture, prayer, and accountability.

As the conversation continued, one by one they shared their mutual struggle to know how to balance their desire to take advantage of their time of study with their desire to focus on their home and family life. How do you know the right boundaries between work and home life? Ambition and contentment? Wealth and sacrifice?



Owen Men's Group

From L to R (Name and Undergrad School): Jon Hottinger, University of Virginia; Ben Wallace, Davidson College; Will Trapp, Birmingham Southern; Jake Kraemer, University of Tennessee; Jason Allbert, University of North Carolina

The Lord charges every one of us, in all the actions of life, to have respect to our own calling. He who directs his life by his calling will have it properly framed....In following your proper calling, no work will be so mean and sordid as not to have a splendor and value in the eye of God.

**John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion**

## What is Professional Student Ministry?

These men and other students like them in the Law School, Medical School, the Institute for Public Policy, the Peabody College (of Education), and the Graduate School face unique challenges as followers of Christ during their time at Vanderbilt. These students will also have unique opportunities as leaders after they graduate to shape and redeem our society.

I love working with these students. The ministry demands a combination of intellectual acumen, relational ability, and pastoral know-how that is a perfect fit for me, and it gives me great satisfaction to have an influential role in their preparation to have a Kingdom impact in the spheres of business, government, medicine, higher and secondary education, and law; all shaping institutions of our culture. **Thanks for participating in my vision!**