

The Great (Family) Adventure!

You want to serve God in ministry and are wondering about attending seminary. How will this decision affect your life? How will this decision affect your family?

The answer is simple. Your family can thrive at Baptist Bible Seminary.

Seminary provides many benefits for families desiring to increase their ability to serve God.

- Greater ability to articulate and defend their faith
- Advanced competency for a lifetime of effective ministry leadership
- Increased level of spiritual and character formation
- Expanded opportunities for higher paying ministry positions
- Experienced mentors to guide your experience
- Lifelong network of friends and ministry professionals

Most families, however, view seminary as a daunting endeavor. At BBS, we work with you so that your seminary experience is meaningful and fulfilling, serving as a starting point for a life of fruitful ministry. Here are some common questions that many families ponder.

Housing

Where will we live?

Located in the northern foothills of the Pocono Mountains, Clarks Summit is a family-oriented suburban community in the greater-Scranton metropolitan area. Jobs, churches, private and public schools, shopping malls, year-round recreation, and housing are readily available. Small towns and rural communities are within easy driving distance to campus. BBS maintains a list of housing, job opportunities, and churches that can meet the needs of your family. Limited housing for couples and single men is also available on campus.

*Scholarship for Your Mind.
Passion for Your Heart.
Ministry for Your Hands.*

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We invite you to come to BBS. The unique combination of thorough academic preparation, intensive field experience, and sensitivity to family needs makes BBS the ideal place for family men to hone their leadership skills.

What's next?

As you consider the merits of various seminaries, talk to our graduates. They will share the ups and downs of seminary life, point out some pitfalls to avoid, and let you know the positive role that BBS played in their lives, families, and ministries.

Ministry is a tremendous calling and adventure, and your family can thrive at the right seminary. Is God leading your family to BBS?

Accreditation

Baptist Bible Seminary is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, 215.662.5606) and the Association for Biblical Higher Education (5575 S. Semoran Blvd., Suite 26, Orlando, FL 32822, 407.207.0808).

Finances

Can we afford seminary?

Our office of Student Financial Services can provide information on grants, scholarships, and loans. For M.Div. students, the Training Timothys Scholarship matches a gift given to you by your church for up to six semesters, providing a benefit of up to \$12,000. BBS students carry a solid reputation in the community as honest, reliable employees, and many employers gladly hire BBS students. Also, couples without children frequently find that two really can live almost as inexpensively as one, making it possible for a wife to work while her husband attends seminary.

“As a wife, it is definitely a leap of faith to leave a secure career and relocate so your husband can attend seminary. But at BBS, it is truly amazing to see how God provides and works out all the details.”—DANETH DRAKE, WIFE OF AN M.DIV STUDENT, TUNKHANNOCK, PA

Church

Will we find a church where we fit?

BBS is surrounded by a wide range of doctrinally sound churches that are eager to meet the needs of your family. These communities of faith provide a setting to apply the skills you are learning in the classroom. Relationships are often formed that follow seminary families well beyond their years at BBS. We're confident you will find a church that will minister effectively to your family.

Children

Can we meet the needs of our children?

The greater-Scranton area has excellent public and private school options for all grades. Vibrant children's and youth's ministries are offered at many area churches. On any given day, you can find a park or sporting facility hosting a youth league. On our family-friendly campus, you can grab a cappuccino at the Underground Café, fish in our four-acre campus pond, exercise in our cardio

and weight rooms, or stroll across the manicured lawns. Concerts, swimming, shooting hoops, playing tennis, and cheering at sports events are just a few additional leisurely family activities.

Spouse

Is there support and education for my wife?

Absolutely! The Seminary Wives' Fellowship, led by BBS faculty wives, provides mentoring and preparation for your wife in anticipation of the challenges that she will experience during the paid internship and in ministry. Your wife can take three credit hours at Baptist Bible College or Baptist Bible Graduate School each semester that you are enrolled as a full-time student. Also, the BBS M.Div. internship has proven to be life-changing for many wives as they participate in full-time ministry while their husbands serve in a paid ministry position under the guidance of mature, capable mentors.

Balance

Can we balance the rigors of family life and seminary?

BBS offers one of the most flexible class schedules available at any seminary with options that include once-a-week classes, fall, spring, and summer modules, and online courses. By spreading courses throughout the

Logos Scholar's Library

Prospective students who submit applications to BBS by May 1st and take at least nine credit hours their first semester will receive a free copy of the valuable electronic resource, *Logos Scholar's Library*, a significant value!

year, you can take a "full load" and yet have only ten credit hours per semester. Many men with families just like yours have graduated from BBS energized and ready to answer God's call, wherever it may lead.

Living

Do we need to move to complete a BBS degree?

Our distance education options allow you to complete some degree programs without relocating to campus; other options let you take a significant number of credits before moving to finish your degree. Excellent ministry preparation requires personal interaction with godly mentors. At BBS, you will enjoy individual contact with faculty in every course you take. Moving to campus will accelerate the completion of your degree and enhance the benefit that your entire family can experience as you complete your seminary education.

"The academic program is excellent, but BBS is more than academics—it's about living and learning together in community. BBS grows you on the inside. If we had it to do all over again, BBS would stand as my husband's choice for seminary."—SARAH BRUNSELL, WIFE OF AN M.DIV. STUDENT, FACTORYVILLE, PA

BBS ... What seminary is supposed to be.

BBS is a *community* bound by the common goals of scholastic achievement, heartfelt passion, and effective ministry with a faculty firmly committed to each student's success in and out of the classroom. Because of our balanced focus on equipping your mind, hands, and heart, you will not only become a better expositor of the Word but a better leader, Christian, husband, father, and man.

"We have appreciated BBS' creativity in developing concentrations that fit the mens' interests and abilities. The development of the military chaplaincy was a great fit for my husband, who wants to be in ministry but also enjoys being very active outside the classroom."—APRIL PLYLER, WIFE OF AN M.DIV. STUDENT, SUMTER, SC