

# Kara J. Lyons-Pardue

## Curriculum vitae

Professor of New Testament

School of Theology and Christian Ministry, Point Loma Nazarene University  
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### EDUCATION

- 2015 Princeton Theological Seminary, Ph.D., Biblical Studies (New Testament)  
2005 Nazarene Theological Seminary (Kansas City, MO), M.Div.  
2002 Northwest Nazarene University (Nampa, ID), B.A. in Philosophy and Religion

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2011-present Professor of New Testament, Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU); Assistant (2011-15); Associate (2015-2019); Tenured (2018)  
2018-2020 Co-Director, Margaret Stephenson Center for Women's Studies, PLNU  
2008-2010 Executive Editor, *Koinonia Journal*, Princeton Seminary's student journal

### PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS (AUTHORED AND EDITED)

*Mark*, Commentaries for Christian Formation (Eerdmans; Under contract).

*Gospel Women and the Long Ending of Mark*, Library of New Testament Studies (T&T Clark, 2020).

- Reviewed by Elizabeth Shively in *Review of Biblical Literature* (Feb 2022).
- Reviewed by Jennifer S. Wyant in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 83 (2022), 519-20.

"Commentary on Philemon" in George Lyons, Robert Smith, and Kara Lyons-Pardue, *Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon: A Commentary in the Wesleyan Tradition*, New Beacon Bible Commentary (Kansas City: The Foundry Publishing, 2019).

*Following Jesus: Prophet, Priest, King*. Co-edited with Timothy R. Gaines (Kansas City: The Foundry Publishing, 2018).

### PUBLICATIONS: CHAPTERS, ARTICLES, AND DICTIONARY ENTRIES

Co-authored with Elizabeth E. Shively, "Fear and Grief: Emotions at the Endings(s) of Mark's Story" in *The Cambridge Companion to Biblical Narrative* (Ed. Keith Bodner; Cambridge University Press, 2025).

"Blaspheming the Holy Spirit: Pneumatological Boundary-Making and Boundary-Breaking," *Didache: Faithful Teaching* 24:1 (2024); Online: <http://didache.nazarene.org>

"Esther in Dialogue with Mark: Power, Vulnerability, and Kingship" Ch. 13 in *Reading Esther Intertextually* (Ed. David G. Firth and Brittany N. Melton; Library of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Studies; T&T Clark; 2022).

"Quick Tip: Bite-Sized Expertise: Bible Dictionary Abstracts and Presentations," Pages 113-114 in *Teaching the Bible with Undergraduates* (Ed. Jocelyn McWhirter and Sylvie T. Raquel; Resources for Biblical Study 99; Atlanta: SBL Press, 2022).

"'Little Daughters' and Big Textual Allusions: Reading Three of Mark's Stories Featuring Women with Care" in *Listening Again to the Text: New Testament Studies in Honor of George Lyons* (Claremont Studies in New Testament and Christian Origins; Claremont Press, 2020).

"Two Mary Magdalenes: Eusebius of Caesarea and the Questionable Reliability of the Gospels' Female Witnesses," Ch. 6 in *Rediscovering the Marys: Maria, Mariamne, Miriam* (Ed. Mary Ann Beavis and Ally Kateusz; Library of New Testament Studies, Scriptural Traces; T&T Clark; 2020).

- "Jesus and the Law," *Global Wesleyan Dictionary of Biblical Theology* (Ed. Robert Branson; Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City, 2020).
- "A Syrophoenician Becomes a Canaanite: Jesus Exegetes the Canaanite Woman in Matthew," *Journal of Theological Interpretation* 13:2 (2019): 235-250.
- "Widow's mite," *Dictionary of the Bible and Western Culture*, co-edited by Michael Gilmour and Mary Ann Beavis (Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2012).
- Co-authored with Jason Sturdevant, "Reading the Bible in a Postmodern Age: The Importance of Context for Interpretation," in *The Bible Tells Me So: Wesleyans Reading the Bible as Scripture* (Richard P. Thompson and Thomas Jay Oord, eds.; SacraSage Press, 2011).
- "The Trustworthiness and Authority of the Bible," in *Postmodern and Wesleyan?: Exploring the Boundaries and Possibilities*, Edited by Jay Richard Akkerman, et al. (Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 2009).
- Editorials: *Koinonia Journal* (Princeton Theological Seminary), "A Quest for Jesus Christ," *Koinonia* 20 (2008); and "New Portraits," *Koinonia* 21 (2009).
- \* Book Reviews in *CBQ*, *RBL*, *CurTM*, *BibInt*, and *Koinonia* excluded for space (7 total)

## **PUBLICATIONS: POPULAR AND EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

- "A Prayer of Jesus from John 17," *Holiness Today* (Sept/Oct 2024), 24-25.
- "The Fruit of the Spirit in Letter and Life," *Holiness Today* (Jan/Feb 2022), 10-13.
- "The Kingdom of God is Like ..." for *Illustrated Bible Life* curriculum (WordAction; Kansas City: The Foundry Publishing), Winter Quarter 2020.
- "What Is Submission?" for *Illustrated Bible Life* curriculum (WordAction; Kansas City: The Foundry Publishing), Spring Quarter 2019.
- "One Jesus Painted by Four Artists," *Holiness Today* magazine (Jul/Aug 2018), 18-20.
- "Mark 4:35-41" (Proper 7B) for A Plain Account: A Wesleyan Lectionary Commentary; Online: <https://www.aplainaccount.org/post/mark-4-35-41>, June 18, 2018.
- "Mark 4:26-34" (Proper 6B) for A Plain Account: A Wesleyan Lectionary Commentary; Online: <https://www.aplainaccount.org/post/mark-4-26-34>, June 11, 2018.
- "Women in Romans 16" for *Illustrated Bible Life* curriculum (WordAction; Kansas City, Mo.: Nazarene Publishing House), Spring Quarter 2018.
- "The Formation of the Bible: Where Did It Come from? How the Sacred Texts Were Compiled," Invited blog article for the *American Bible Society's Bible Engager's Blog*, Nov. 13, 2017.
- "1 Corinthians 1:1-9" (Epiphany 2A) for A Plain Account: A Wesleyan Lectionary Commentary; Online: <https://www.aplainaccount.org/post/1-corinthians-1-1-9>, Jan. 9, 2017.
- "Romans 15:4-13" (Advent 2A) for A Plain Account: A Wesleyan Lectionary Commentary; Online: <https://www.aplainaccount.org/post/romans-15-4-13-1>, Dec. 4, 2016.
- "Ancient Sardis," for *Illustrated Bible Life* curriculum (WordAction; Kansas City, Mo.: Nazarene Publishing House), Summer Quarter 2016.
- 8 passage commentaries on Mark for *Illustrated Bible Life* curriculum, (WordAction; Kansas City, Mo.: Nazarene Publishing House), Winter 2015/16 and Spring Quarter 2016.
- "'Grace and Peace to You': This Is the Word of the Lord," *Grace and Peace*, (Inaugural Issue, April 2010), 38-41.

## **ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS, PANELS, AND LECTURES**

- Invited Respondent, Mark Passion Narrative Seminar, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (San Diego), Responding to Laura C. S. Holmes, "Prophecy and Writing: The Role of Judas in the Theology of Mark's Passion Narrative" – November 24, 2024
- "Calling 'Hypocrite': Jesus, Mark, and Accusations of Defilement in Mark 7:1-23" for Biblical Studies (NT) Working Group, Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies – August 9, 2024 (Keble College, Oxford)

Invited Panelist, Catholic Biblical Association Unbound Book Review of C. Clifton Black's *Mark's Gospel: History, Theology, Interpretation* – March 27, 2024 (Online)

“Dubiety, Faith, and Certainty in Mark's Endings” at Society of Biblical Literature (“SBL”) Annual Meeting – November 20, 2023 (San Antonio)

“Misdirection and Mishearing Elijah in Mark's Passion Narrative” at SBL Annual Meeting – November 21, 2022 (Denver)

Invited Respondent, Atlanta New Testament Colloquium, Responding to James A. Kelhoffer, Professor of New Testament, Uppsala University, Sweden, “‘The End of the Beginning’: Mark's Longer Ending (16:9–20) and the Adaptation of the Markan Storyline” – March 1, 2021 (Zoom)

Invited eTalk for the Mark 16 Digital Humanities project from the Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics (Lausanne), an audio, visual, and text lecture on *Gospel Women and the Long Ending of Mark* <https://mark16-etalk.sib.swiss/index.php?dir=KaraLyonsPardue#0> – September 2020

“Bite-Sized Expertise: Bible Dictionary Abstracts and Presentations” at SBL Annual Meeting – November 23, 2019 (San Diego)

Edmund Janzen Lectureship in Biblical Studies at Fresno Pacific University – March 28-29, 2019 (Fresno, CA). Academic Lecture title: “‘Little Daughters’ and Big Scriptural Allusions: Reading Three of Mark's Stories Featuring Women with Care.”

Panelist: “Eschatology and Missional Readings of Scripture” at WTS Meeting – March 15, 2019 (Washington, D.C.)

“In Praise of Ignorance: Knowledge in the Parable of the Growing Seed (Mark 4:26-29) and Its Implications for Proclamation in Mark's Gospel” at the 14<sup>th</sup> Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies – August 14, 2018 (Pembroke College, Oxford)

“The Old and New Births of Onesimus” at WTS Meeting – March 12, 2016 (San Diego)

“A Syrophoenician Becomes a Canaanite: The Narrative Functions of Two Portrayals of One Woman” at SBL Annual Meeting – November 21, 2015 (Atlanta)

“Two Mary Magdalenes: Eusebius and the Questionable Reliability of the Gospels' Female Witnesses” at SBL Annual Meeting – November 22, 2015 (Atlanta)

Panelist: “The Feminist Faithful: Connecting Faith with Feminism through Transgression and Justice” at National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference – November 15, 2014 (San Juan, Puerto Rico)

Review of Luke Timothy Johnson, *Among the Gentiles* (Yale, 2009) at SBL 2011 Annual Meeting – November 20, 2011 (San Francisco)

“Patterning Mission in the Likeness of a Woman (Mark 16:9-20)” at WTS Meeting – March 4, 2011 (Dallas)

“Mary Magdalene in a Quasi-Canonical Resurrection Narrative” at SBL 2010 Annual Meeting, Women in the Biblical World Section – November 21, 2010 (Atlanta)

“Wastefulness in Mark: Two Extravagant Women and Their Exemplary Status” at Mid-Atlantic Regional SBL – March 26, 2009 (Baltimore, Maryland)

“Miracle in Mark: Theological Reflection on Science's Questions,” at WTS Meeting – March 14, 2008 (Durham, North Carolina)

“The Formative Language of a Worshipping Community: Christological Usage of the Old Testament in the Gospel of Mark,” at WTS Meeting – March 4, 2005 (Seattle)

## **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)**

Invited Talk: Faith and Body Image, PLNU Wellness and Kinesiology, March 14, 2024

Guest Lecture on “Lent through the Eyes of Mark's Gospel,” The Forum, San Dieguito United Methodist Church, February 17, 2024

All-PLNU Faculty Development Lecture: “A Wesleyan Understanding of Scripture,” September 22, 2022

Lecture: “Women in the Gospels,” Rock School of Ministry, Women in the Biblical World Workshop – August 8, 2022 (San Diego)

Preaching and Adult Education Series on Revelation at St. Paul's United Methodist Church (Coronado, CA) – May 15, 22, and June 12, 2022

Guest Lecture/Interview in three Gospel of Mark classes with Andy Johnson, Nazarene Theological Seminary – September 9, 23, and October 7, 2022 (Zoom)  
Lead Teacher at the New Mexico District Church of the Nazarene Family Camp, Mark Class for Pastoral Continuing Education at Bonita Park Campground – August 2-8, 2021  
Podcast Interview: New Creation Conversations Ep. 012 with Scott Daniels, “Dr. Kara Lyons-Pardue on the Gospel of Mark, Women in the Ministry of Jesus, and What We Learn from Philemon – May 4, 2021  
Guest Lecture on Philemon, Prison Epistles Course, Baptist Seminary of Kentucky with Lewis Brogdon – April 15, 2021 (Zoom)  
Lecture: “Echoes of Esther Echoes of Esther in the Dancing Girl of Mark’s Gospel” at Women Together, St. Paul’s Episcopal Cathedral – February 6, 2020 (San Diego)  
Guest Expert on *In All Things Charity* Podcast (Season 3), Episode “How We Got the Bible,” 2017.

## **SERVICE IN THE GUILD**

Co-Chair, Gospel of Mark Section, SBL (2022 to present); Steering Committee member (2021 to present)  
Co-Convener, Biblical Studies (NT) Working Group, Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies (2022 to present; Full Member, 2018 to present)  
Member of the SBL Mark Passion Narrative Seminar (2021 to present)  
*Bulletin for Biblical Research* editorial board member (2020 to present)  
Chair, Biblical Studies Section, Wesleyan Theological Society (2018-2021); Co-chair (2022-2023)  
Steering Committee, SBL Christian Theology and the Bible Section (2018 to 2022)  
Steering Committee, SBL Ethics, Love, and the Other in Early Christianity Consultation (2010-2012)

## **SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY AND SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND CHRISTIAN MINISTRY (SELECTED)**

Task Force on General Education Reform (Spring 2023 – Spring 2024, elected by vote of faculty)  
Faculty Committee for Rank and Tenure (5-year term, elected 2022; Chair, Spring + Fall 2024)  
Co-chaired with Dr. Montague Williams committee to create interdisciplinary major with Sociology and Political Science: Theology, Justice, and Peace (2022-23; major launched Fall 2023)  
Strategic Priorities Working Group to “Ensure Missional Culture” (2022 to present)  
Trained Peer Evaluator (2021 to present)  
Senior Honors Project mentor (2014-15; Fall 2016; 2018-19; 2021-22); Master’s Thesis/Project Advisor (Spring 2014; Fall 2014)  
Frequent invitations to preach and teach in chapel: incl. 2-part Bible Study series (Fall 2024), 7-part Bible Study series (Fall 2023 – Spring 2024), Renewal Week preacher (March 26, 2021), Chapel Preaching Team (Spring 2018)  
Further Faculty Committee service: Faculty Resource Committee (2018-2021; Chair, 2019-20); General Education (2014-2017) and Graduate Studies (2013-14)  
Task Force to create Humanities Honors Program (2014-15; program launched 2017)

**ORDINATION**, Minister in the Church of the Nazarene since June 1, 2015 (Elder: Educator)

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Sabbatical, Project: Righting Wrong: Understanding Sin, Judgment, and Atonement in the New Testament – A Book Project, Academic Year 2025-26 (Awarded; Forthcoming)  
Internal Institutional Grants, Point Loma Nazarene University: Wesleyan Center Fellowships and Grants, Research and Special Projects (RASP) Grants, and Alumni Association Grant (Spring 2025 [upcoming Fellowship], Summer 2024, Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2021, Summer 2018, Fall 2017, Summer 2016, Fall 2015, Summer 2013)  
Excellence in Teaching Award, Point Loma Nazarene University, 2019-20 and 2024-25  
Sabbatical, Project: Greek translation and research on the Gospel According to Mark, Fall 2018

Outstanding Dissertation Award, Wesleyan Theological Society, 2016  
Goethe Institut Stipendium (scholarship) – May - June, 2009 (Berlin)