

ATS TIMES

Vol. 3 Issue 1, August 2014

A Welcome from
Assoc. VP
Glenn Back



A word of welcome from alumnus and Associate VP of Enrollment and Student Services. Hear part of his story as you begin your semester with ATS.



What Americans
Are Watching



- 74% of Americans watch TV daily
- 51% watch 1-3 hours daily
- 44% watch 4 hours daily
- 30% watch 5+ daily

Surprisingly, irrespective of generation *The Big Bang Theory* is a top-5 favorite show. For a complete listing of what your church family is watching, and how often visit the Barna Report [here](#).

Less Stuff, More
Happiness



Like cleaning out our calendars is important to create space for Sabbath and rest, might it not also be the case that cleaning out our actual space carries a similar significance?

How to Escape the “Cult of Busy”

As many of you have just completed your first week of graduate school, and many others return, perhaps for a final time, it is important to offer a reminder of perspective.

So many of us are busy doing 100 wonderfully important things, and the value that comes from this fruitfulness can often become a narcotic that provides a sense of value, and importance or self-worth which we find ourselves chasing after.

Ever-so-slowly we can find ourselves leaking into the pit of busyness, too often for busyness' sake. This article from [lifehacker.com](#) helps put into perspective some of the meaninglessness of our busyness, and offers a few self-checks to nudge ourselves in the right direction? Click the above image for the full article. Let us know your thoughts or critiques of the position at mlarson1@ashland.edu



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Welcome to Seminary—Glenn Black; Assoc. VP Enrollment & Student Services

My journey at Ashland began in the fall of 2003 when my wife and I moved into what would be our home for two years of training and formation before I returned to a warmer climate (we came here from Arizona). We all have our reasons for choosing Ashland. For me it was the commitment to personal transformation that went beyond promises of “learning”. Well here I am, 11 years later still being formed by Ashland. This community has been blessed with outstanding, quality faculty; dedicated administrators; and caring, skilled support staff. All of them are here for one purpose, to fulfill our mission to “integrate theological education with Christ-centered transformation as we equip men and women for ministry in the church and the world”.

Welcome to Ashland. Welcome to the next season in YOUR journey. In the midst of the classes, papers, worship times, and conversations over coffee, I want to ask you to keep your eye on the mission written above. You are a part of the fulfillment of what God has called Ashland to be. Together we can experience the favor of God that comes from walking with him; living the life of the Kingdom here on earth.

Upcoming Events

Add Period Ends: Aug. 25

Labor Day: NO CLASSES

Drop Period Ends: Sept. 2

City Gates Cohorts Begin October
For information on the [City Gates Initiative](#) (workplace missions)

Website of the Month

Design shouldn't be hard but somehow along the way we became bogged down with expensive, complicated software that put design out of reach for most people. Canva is here to change that, with a tool that makes design simple for everyone.

Canva.com gives you everything you need to easily turn ideas into stunning designs. Create designs for Web or Print: blog graphics, presentations, Facebook covers, flyers, posters, invitations and so much more.

Explore Canva [here](#), to update your sermon slides, freshen up your announcements, or to add a professional touch to your class presentations.



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[LogMeIn Pro](#) gives you fast, easy remote access to your PC or Mac from your browser, desktop and mobile devices. Premium features like file transfer, sharing and remote printing help you stay connected and productive wherever you go.





The answer is ALWAYS, "Yes!"

Less Stuff, More Happiness

The average American home has doubled in size in the last 50 years, while the average family size continues to shrink. Americans use far more than the lion's share of global resources and create an absurd amount of the world's waste. (See [*The Story of Stuff*](#) for more info of this nature.)

Is it not at least possible that we'd be significantly happier, and perhaps even more deeply connected to God if it weren't for all of the material distractions we fill our homes and lives with. Graham Hill explains in this succinct video some reasons to consider this perspective and offers a few tools to help us assess. Click the image above for the complete video.



Entrepreneur, Do-Gooder and Designer, Graham enjoys variety although now finds his future happily confined to social entrepreneurship. Past businesses include forays into fashion, web-development, viral email and plant-based air filters. In 1995, with his cousin, he started and grew the web-developer, SiteWerks, to 60 people doing work for large companies such as Microsoft and sold it to a New York company in 1998. He currently focuses on pushing sustainability into the mainstream through TreeHugger.com, which in 3 short years had become one of the most respected and trafficked environmental sites on the web and was sold to Discovery in August of 2007.



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