

Dennis Belkofer's Biography

Dennis Belkofer became aware of his writing ability while working on a counseling degree during the late 1980's at Regent University, a Christian graduate school located in Virginia Beach, Virginia, founded by televangelist Pat Robertson. During his first year of studies, Dennis lived off an inheritance from his deceased parents. When it ran out, he applied for a position as a fund-raising/development writer for the 700 Club, also founded by Pat Robertson. His writing sample impressed his interviewers and he was hired. Dennis credits his easy-to-read, conversational writing style to the training he received while writing for the 700 Club.

After graduating from Regent University in 1990, Dennis moved to New York City and worked as a drug-abuse counselor at a treatment center in Harlem and at two Christian counseling agencies, one in Manhattan and the other in Queens. In 1991, he moved to Chicago and since then has worked in the field of education. Dennis attends the Chicago Tabernacle, a plant of the Brooklyn Tabernacle and home of the world-famous Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir. He is a soloist with the Chicago Tabernacle's choir, which is directed by Chrissy Toledo, the daughter of Jim and Carol Cymbala. - Jim pastors the Brooklyn Tabernacle and Carol, an acclaimed Christian songwriter, directs its choir. Chrissy's husband, Al Toledo, is the Chicago Tabernacle's senior pastor. One of the many things Dennis values about the Chicago Tabernacle is that talent and gifting take second place to humility and servanthood. Quoting Pastor Toledo, "There's only one Superstar in the body of Christ: Jesus!"

Knowing Jesus and teaching the unadulterated Word of God are what matter most to Dennis. And what he writes reflects that priority. Dennis also writes from his own experiences and the abundant grace God has shown to Him since he accepted Christ as his Savior in 1966 at the age of twenty. He knows what it means to struggle as a born-again believer and speaks firsthand of the unrelenting love of God that refuses to let him go. Dennis wants his readers to know that if "God did it for him," He will "do it for them," too.

In April 2006, Christianity Today published *My Dirty Little Former Secret*, Dennis' reaction to *Brokeback Mountain*, last year's blockbuster movie about a homosexual relationship between two cowboys, and his own personal struggle with homosexuality. It captures his writing style and, most important, his heart and love for God. The article can be read by logging on to Christianity Today's website and searching for it by title or his name. Currently, he is working on a book about the healing that took place between him and his father and with his own son, Christopher. Dennis has written the synopsis of the book in article form for MyFirstChapter.com to put on its website. He welcomes feedback and can be reached at dennisbelkofer@hotmail.com.