



JOHN PIPER

John Piper is a pastor and author who is the founder and leader of desiringGod.org and Chancellor of Bethlehem College & Seminary. For 33 years (1980-2013), he served as senior pastor at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Piper attended Wheaton College (1964-68) majoring in literature and minoring in philosophy. Studying romantic literature with Clyde Kilby stimulated his poetic side, and today he regularly composes poetry. In college he was originally on the pre-med track, only to decide to go into ministry during a bout of sickness. He then completed a Master of Divinity degree at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. While at Fuller, he took several courses from Daniel Fuller and through him discovered the writings of Jonathan Edwards. Along with C. S. Lewis, Edwards and Fuller are noted influences in Piper's life and ministry. Piper received his Doctor of Theology degree in New Testament Studies at the University of Munich, Germany (1971-74). His dissertation, *Love Your Enemies*, was published by Cambridge University Press and Baker Book House. Upon completion of his doctorate, he taught Biblical Studies at Bethel University and Seminary in St Paul, Minnesota for six years (1974-80). In 1980 he accepted the call to serve as pastor at Bethlehem Baptist Church.



John is the author of more than 50 books, and more than 30 years of his preaching and teaching are available free at desiringGod.org. His books include ECPA Christian Book Award winners *Spectacular Sins*, *What Jesus Demands from the World*, *Pierced by the Word*, and *God's Passion for His Glory*, and bestsellers *Don't Waste Your Life* and *The Passion of Jesus Christ*. The evangelical organization Desiring God is named for his book *Desiring God: Meditations of a Christian Hedonist* (1986). In 1994, he founded this organization with the aim of "spread[ing] a passion for the supremacy of God in all things for the joy of all peoples through Jesus Christ."

In 2010, a *Festschrift* was published in his honor. *For the Fame of God's Name: Essays in Honor of John Piper* included contributions from Don Carson, Sinclair Ferguson, G. K. Beale, Thomas R. Schreiner, Wayne Grudem, Al Mohler, C. J. Mahaney, Mark Dever, John MacArthur, and Bill Mounce.

John and his wife, Noël, have four sons, one daughter, and twelve grandchildren.