

Greetings to you in our Lord! I am introducing myself and a transformational academic ministry God birthed in me over twenty years ago. This ministry, which is dedicated to training students in a revolutionary biblical approach to study, has empowered thousands of students to glorify God in their studies while becoming outstanding students academically at all levels of learning.

I have taught this biblical paradigm to law students, graduate school students, college students, and high school/junior high students. Regent University has offered the course in various formats to its students over thirty times. I have taught it in a variety of formats and under several different titles depending upon the audience to whom it was directed.

I personally discovered the revelation power of “study as worship” in the midst of an incredible inner struggle I was going through as the top student in my graduate program at Regent University. I knew how to make the grade and learn the material, but I was tired of the drudgery of study. I felt more like a caged bird than an eagle flying high. I did not know at the time that my utter frustration was the very thing that God would use to lead me into liberating, Spirit-led study.

My transformational experience began after seeking God for many days as to how He related to my academics. During my search God revealed to me a powerful revelation which has forever changed my life, and the lives of many others: Learning is a partnership with God. Learning was never meant to be a pursuit that took place alone—or in a mere paradigm of performance. Rather, God created the process of learning to take place in His awesome presence, as Adam experienced in the original learning event in the Garden. I began to understand that the ultimate goal of Christian education was to know God—really know Him and His ways throughout all of His created order--and not just about Him. In other words, *The Teacher* had something to reveal to me about the wonder of His hand in everything that can be studied--in every assignment--at the same time my teachers were instructing me.

As I began to cultivate an intimate relationship with God in my studies, my academic life began to soar. Joy replaced drudgery. Knowing God became my motivation far beyond getting an A. Prayer and worship became a regular facet of writing papers and preparing for tests. The very act of study became a form of worship and service to others, as the love of God and love for my professors became the driving force in my learning. God was being glorified in an awesome way as I experienced His abundant life in my studies. My learning potential was truly maximized through a full engagement and consecration of my mind and spirit to God. Through three years of my academic journey through graduate school, I experienced a passion and focus unparalleled to any prior academic experience I had while an undergraduate at Duke University. During this time my academic achievement also soared as I made a 4.0 GPA through two master’s programs. However, coming to know the love of God in my studies and apprehending His plan for me was the real treasure.

I believe the missing link in education today is the apparent disconnect between love and learning. The Great Commandment in the Bible calls us to do more than educate our mind. Matthew 22:37 calls us to love God with our mind which necessarily implies relationship. The purpose of *God's Way to an A* is to renew the mind of the student in academic work through a clear process of learning how to transform the secular into the sacred, and move beyond performance-based learning and into relationship-based learning. The irony is, the more a student moves away from performance orientation, the better his grades become. Motivation for learning takes on a higher and deeper meaning, thus fueling the student with more focus and passion to learn.

I am enclosing information that outlines the proposed content of a one-day seminar which could be offered in a single day or in two half days. I am, of course, open to suggestions that you may have that would enhance the benefit your students could receive. I am also enclosing testimonies from college, graduate, and law students who have benefited from the biblical paradigm for study, a short biographical sketch and an abbreviated listing of school settings in which I have taught the course. I have sent in the mail testimonies of younger students.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to visit the Academic Champion website for further information and insight:
<http://home.regent.edu/verokar/home.htm>. If you have any questions, I would be pleased to respond to them.

Sincerely,

Veronica Karaman

God's Way to an A

A biblical approach to academic success

One day seminar format: This can be offered during one full day, or two half days, such as a Friday night, Saturday morning.

8:30 – 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 9:30 Welcome and Worship

9:30 - 10:30 Session 1 - The Renewed Mind in Academics: *Study as Worship*

Based on Romans 12:1,2 the student will learn how to integrate faith and learning and gain a new vision for education. This session sets forth the unconditional love of God as the foundation for all true learning. A call for repentance is given for learning in independence from God and leaning on one's own wisdom. A real eye-opener and liberating message.

10:30 -11:00 Small group interaction and brief break

11:00 – 12:00 Session 2 - Biblical Motivations for Study: *Faith, Hope, and Love*

In this session the student will learn how to enter into the presence of God in his/her studies from a practical standpoint. Worldly motivations such as pride, fear, procrastination, self-pity, inadequacy are identified and replaced with eternal motivations of faith, hope, and love. Student testimonies of how to implement these biblical motivators will lead students into experiencing the abundant life of God.

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 Session 3 - Worshipping God through Recovery Strategies

God calls us to worship Him with our bodies. In this session students will learn principles of peak performance used by top athletes to create waves of stress and recovery on a daily basis. prayer, meditation, exercise, nutrition, proper sleep, and fellowship are addressed from an “energy management” perspective, showing students how to increase their endurance, resilience, and strength for study.

2:00- 3:00 Students create and implement their own academic wave.

3:00 – 4:00 Session 4 - Ministry and Student Dedication

Additional Information:

Seminar Fee: \$2,000 plus expenses (travel, hotel, meals, incidentals).

Plus \$30 per student for 200 page study manual which also serves as a 7 week Bible study curriculum.

I will provide handouts and permit the host school/church to copy them for purposes of the seminar only.

I request that the school/church provide a worship team for the initial worship session as well as registration personnel.

I will make an 8 tape audio series and 7 part DVD series available for follow-up in addition to the manual. The cost of the Audio series is \$50, DVD series is \$85.

I am also a certified life coach. For students interested in follow-up personal coaching services, I will be pleased to offer them via phone. A follow-up tele-course is also available for interested students who wish to continue their personal formation in *God's Way to an A*. The follow-up course will include the manual and audio series. Students will enjoy developing peer mentors for additional encouragement, support, and accountability. Please inquire for further information.

Graduate Student Testimonies:

(Additional testimonies included at the end of the proposal.)

Megan, American University

I was a graduate student preparing to write a 4.5 hour comprehensive exam that would determine if I received my MA in history. The exam has a 30-50% failure rate and I was terrified! Your talk on how God wanted to partner with me in my studies changed my outlook on the exam. I studied for God's glory and prayed that God would be glorified through a passing grade. Well, God decided He would much rather be glorified through a pass 'with Distinction,' the highest grade awarded on comprehensive exams and a grade not awarded by my department in years. Praise God for His utter faithfulness, and praise Him for placing you and your message in my path. Instead of a study in sleepless nights and fear-stricken days, my exams became a study of God's amazing love and faithfulness in my life. Thanks again and God bless you! Megan, American University

Felicia Craig, Regent University

Felicia started her work the day it was due in graduate school. She overcame her procrastination problem after attending only two God's Way to an A classes. That semester she earned a 4.0 GPA for the first time in her life and graduated with a nomination for Who's Who in America based on her service and academic record:

*What can I say I have
God Almighty has
week. Revelation of
everything you said it
the Lord oh my soul*

*"Changed and
Rearranges!!!"*

*Bless his Holy Name. I've never experienced anything like this in my life!! I have
supernatural drive and motivation!*

*no words to express what
done in my life over this last
God in my studies is
was and more. I will bless
and all that is within me.*

*It is almost like when I got saved in the area of my student life I feel new! All sorts
of lights are coming on. I believe and now know he who begins a good work in
me will complete it until that final day when Christ returns!!! What can I say! I
thank God for exposing me to his truth and I praise him for your obedience in
being a good steward of the ministry he has given you!!!! I don't want to go back
to the old way...I pray God will show me mercy and grace and continue to take
me from glory to glory...there is now one more area in my life where I might know
God and Jesus Christ whom he has sent! Felicia Craig*

Kimberly Smith: Regent University Graduate Student

*Before I took Veronica's course, I feared being put on academic probation at
Regent University. I was so intimidated by the demands of graduate school, I
procrastinated in completing assignments. This caused greater anxiety and
compounded the problem.*

*Through Veronica's course, I learned that the Holy Spirit is my study partner. I
experienced peace while studying and actually was able to enjoy my classes!
The focus was no longer on my ability to achieve, but on the power the Holy
Spirit gave me to bless my teachers by being the best student possible.*

*Two years after completing God's Way to an A, I graduated summa cum laude
from Regent University and was awarded the honor of being the "Most
Outstanding Graduate" in the School of Communications.*

I firmly believe this course should be required in schools for all grade levels.

Kimberly D. Smith

College Freshmen Testimonies:

I now feel that I have a great purpose in life, and through God's will I will achieve greatness. This class has turned out to be worth way more than one credit to me. The workbook has taught me more truths than I have learned in my entire life. Wade R.

I would strongly recommend this course to other students, whether they are straight-A students or F students. Megan M.

I began to discover a new outlook toward God in regards to my studies. Tina C.

God has given me peace and joy in my studies and I no longer have anxiety about school. Dana R.

These truths impacted me so greatly that I have began to use them and plan on using them for the rest of my college career and if need be for the rest of my life. Steve H.

Veronica Karaman - Credentials

M.A. Communication, summa cum laude, Regent University

M.A. Biblical Studies, summa cum laude, Regent University

B.A. Management Science, Duke University

Duke University Student-Athlete Scholarship

Beazley Scholar, Regent University

Most Outstanding Student Award, Regent University

1992 Genuine Hero Award, Trinity University

Author, *God's Way to an A*

Author, Academic Champion coaching program

1989 Women's U.S. Open Participant

Professional Golfer, Futures Golf Tour

Teaching Golf Professional, formerly with Kingsmill Resort

Author, *A Quiet Clap: Life Lessons Appreciating God and Golf*

Certified Life Coach, Transformational Leadership Coaching, Inc.

Founder, Veronica Karaman Ministries, Inc., 1991

Former Director of College Ministries

Biographical Sketch:

An excellent communicator, Veronica Karaman is a professional golfer, speaker, author, and certified life coach. Her passion is to bring out the best in people, with a special interest in training champion students to find success in academics and life.

For over twenty years, Veronica has been coaching students from the graduate level to the junior high level through her nationally renowned program, *God's Way to an A*. She is uniquely gifted through her background in professional athletics, education, and ministry to relate to students of various backgrounds

and ages from the struggling teenager with ADD to the performance driven graduate student.

Veronica has authored a 200 page study manual, audio series, DVD series, and Personal Journey book on *God's Way to an A*. She has also authored a golf inspirational book entitled, *A Quiet Clap: Life Lessons Appreciating God and Golf*, and offers Leadership Golf talks to companies and groups. Recently she was featured in the October 2005 issue of *Guideposts Magazine*. She is the founder of Veronica Karaman Ministries, Inc., a non-profit teaching ministry.

Currently an adjunct professor in the School of Communication at Regent University Undergrad, Veronica has also served as a college minister and lecturer at the college and graduate levels. A popular speaker at conferences, Veronica has appeared on numerous radio and television shows. A certified life coach with Transformational Leadership Coaching, Inc, Veronica offers life and academic coaching to individuals and groups.

Veronica graduated from Duke University with a B.A. in Management Science. She later received two Master's degrees from Regent University in Communication and Biblical Studies, summa cum laude. Her career highlight in golf was playing in the 1989 Women's U.S. Open.

Veronica currently resides in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Partial List of Speaking Engagements:

Regent University

Regent University Law School

William and Mary

Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Leadership Conferences:

Graduate and undergraduate representation from
American University, Georgetown Univ., Georgetown
School of Medicine, Howard Univ., Univ. of Maryland,
Florida Atlantic, Florida State, Univ. of Florida, UNC
Chapel Hill, and NC State

Frequent guest on CBN's *The 700 Club*

Concerned Women for America national radio broadcast

University of Tulsa

Oral Roberts University – undergraduate and graduate levels

Law Student Ministries National Conference, Washington, DC

(Student attendance from various law schools around the country.)

Palm Beach Atlantic University

Southeastern College

Longer Testimonies Including Some From Law Students

Josh Snyder: William and Mary Law Student

Peace, new purpose, and freedom to witness to other law students

There are a-number of reasons why I decided to take **God's Way to an A**, and the experience has been a very fulfilling one. Naturally one of the draws was the "A" part of the title, however, as the course progressed, I saw that the most important part of the course was the "God's Way." I very clearly fit into the description that Veronica gave early on in the course of the student who separates his spiritual and academic life. They were two very different spheres for me and I separated them as such. The idea that I could find God in my academics was foreign to me. All my life I have heard the scripture that you should "do everything as if unto the lord" (Col. 3:23) and in fact, I heard it so much that generally I dismissed it. I always interpreted it merely as putting your full willpower behind what you are doing and that it meant just working hard.

Through the course I learned that it is more than just throwing yourself fully into your work, but rather a change in your entire lifestyle and attitude. The class has helped me integrate my schoolwork in with my faith and use my studies as a way to minister to others. I have learned that your studies should be motivated by love, love for God, love for other students, and love for your professors.

"I find that many classmates have turned to me for advice as to how I manage to remain calm in the midst of the exam maelstrom."

The law school environment is a bit different environment from that of the undergrad program. We have a mandatory curve and I am competing with a number of very intelligent, somewhat competitive people. There is generally an atmosphere, which rewards competitiveness and places great value on securing well paying jobs, prestige, and general admiration in the eyes of the world. Although there is not necessarily anything wrong with success, I have always felt a little disillusioned with the pursuit of these goals for the sole purpose of worldly prosperity. The entire atmosphere of the law school weighed very heavily on my soul and by the middle of this semester I was more burned out than I have ever been, and I did not know what to do. Even amongst the Christians in the school there is an atmosphere of competition and reluctance to open up to people because of a fear of showing weakness.

As the class progressed, and more specifically, as I was starting to synthesize the course towards the end, I began to realize that the depersonalizing atmosphere of the school need not absorb me, but rather I could use some of the lessons learned through the course to try to change the atmosphere. As finals approach at the law school, the atmosphere becomes very high charged. Being

that our entire grade is usually based solely on the final, naturally people become very stressed. Many of my classmates are complaining of crumbling relationships, failing health, and problems in their personal lives, all resulting from the stress finals bring. This semester for me, however, has been quite different. Although I find myself studying as much as ever, the entire procedure is much more painless, mainly because I can now see much more clearly the reason behind everything. I am where I am because God wants me here, and I am pursuing a degree not for the purposes of just gaining worldly prosperity, but rather to parlay the skills and experiences I gain here into something greater, and it is that sense of purpose which helps me in times which I previously would have felt disillusioned and directionless. I know that as long as I am in God's word, He will take me where I need to go, wherever that is.

Not only is the ultimate goal clear, but the way to reach that goal as well. I find it much easier to serve God where I am knowing where he ultimately wants to take me. I am one of those who tend to study best in groups and am generally a very relational person. Through these groups, I have had several opportunities to share the Lord with people. Because God has enabled me this semester to not go through many of the same stressful reactions that my peers have, I find that many classmates have turned to me for advice as to how I manage to remain calm in the midst of the exam maelstrom. This has happened on several occasions (and may I add, had not happened previous semesters mainly due to the fact that I was going through many of the same struggles they were). This gave me the opportunity to discuss why I have no need to fear for the future, because whatever comes, I know that as long as I am following God, it is the future He has for me. I have had the opportunity to be a blessing to others and plant seeds in an environment that so often discourages any kind of deep interpersonal contact. I am not sure where these seeds will lead, or where my grades will fall this semester (being that I have yet to take finals) but I am not worried because I know the Lord is with me as long as I fix my eyes on his purposes for my life, both present and future.

Josh Snyder

Monica Walker: Regent Law Student

Freedom from performance orientation in law school

I hate studying. Seriously, I loathe it. I am unable to fathom a worse fate than sitting down in front of a mountain of books, pouring over rules, philosophical dissertations, and economic analyses on various topics that quite frankly bore me to tears. I have struggled with this disgust for studying my entire life: the irony is, I am an excellent student.

During grade school, my test scores far exceeded those of my classmates. I was enrolled in classes for gifted children, and I even skipped three grades. During high school, I took all of the advanced honors courses, and even in college, my grades were outstanding. Everyone—my teachers, parents, and friends—were always showering me with compliments and praising my hard work, "Monica, you are so smart! Monica, you have the skills and talent to be whatever you want! Monica, you are headed straight for the top!" *Then, why did I feel so empty?* Of course, I enjoyed all the attention I got from being at the top of my class, and I worked diligently at my schoolwork, but I can honestly say, without recognizing God's Lordship over my studies, all of this was nothing more than drudgery rewarded by hollow achievement.

Previously, I would be devastated when I didn't get a perfect grade. I felt as if not only had I failed, but somehow, I had failed my parents and teachers, too. It's hard trying to face the world with all that disappointment and burden on your shoulders! **God's Way to an A** has changed me permanently. The principles in this program have completely transformed my flawed, selfish thinking, and I finally recognize that the world's opinion of me is merely temporary, whereas the opinion of my Savior is eternal. I no longer study to "make the grade," to make my parents proud, or because studying hard is the only way to get a good job. Suddenly, my focus is upward. The only person I have to please is my Heavenly Father, and when I study in an effort to honor and serve Him, he is made glad.

I have had a relationship with God most of my life, but when it came to my studies, He always seemed like this huge, ethereal being that certainly did not have time to bother with my piddly affairs. After all, He has to save people from their sins, protect world peace, and heal the sick, and I certainly did not need to trouble Him with my inadequacies and hatred for studying. Ha! I have learned that not only does God care about me, He actually cares that I hate studying. He is genuinely concerned if I feel too incompetent to finish law school, or that I am afraid of speaking in class. He cares that I'm afraid of failing. **God's Way to an A** has taught me that I no longer have to face school alone. My Lord is at my side, and it is *His* strength, not mine, that will persevere. It's even OK that I am inadequate! It does not matter if I am incompetent, scared, or bored because God is the One who teaches, comforts, and guides me. Suddenly, I have incredible freedom in my schoolwork! I finally understand that my grades are of little importance and are certainly not an appropriate gauge by which to

determine my personal worth. I am successful when I study as an act of love for God. He'll handle the details.

Monica Walker

Rob Monti: Divinity Graduate Student
Inner healing to maximize his learning potential
Entering into study as worship

When I first heard about **God's Way to an A**, I was a brand new student on the campus of Regent University. From what I was told, the class was designed to teach students how to extend their relationship with God into their academic studies. I thought, "Hey, good idea. After all, there's no dividing line between the sacred and the every-day. God cares about the little things - sounds like an interesting class."

Although my curiosity was piqued, I initially had no intention of attending. But after I heard a classmate rave about how the very first class had blessed him so much, I reconsidered. "What the heck," I figured. "It can't hurt." I'm so glad that I went!

During the first class I attended, the instructor asserted that our studies should be an act of worship. In worship, she insisted, the primary focus is not excellence, but wholeheartedness. Excellence is more a matter of performance, whereas wholeheartedness denotes devotion to God. The instructor pointed out that while excellence is certainly desirable in our studies, our main concern must be to study out of a sense of wholehearted devotion to Christ. As I turned these ideas over in my mind, God began to reveal strongholds in my life.

"God showed me that I needed to change my focus from one of performance in my studies (making the grade to impress) to one of worship to God."

I did my undergraduate work as a bassoonist at a competitive conservatory of music where "excellence" was the sole measure of our success and worth as musicians. My bassoon instructor had high hopes for me, and I fully expected that one day I would take my place in one of our nation's premier symphony

orchestras. Unfortunately, I met with a number of personal failures - soon I had a reputation amongst my peers and teachers as an undependable, slipshod musician who would never amount to very much. I managed to graduate with decent grades, but nevertheless it was under the cloud of unrealized potential and squandered opportunities. After three years (and a lot of change), God brought me to Regent University to study Divinity. As I began my first year as a graduate student, I vowed that I wouldn't repeat my undergraduate blunders - I

made it my goal to maintain a 4.0 grade point average and to graduate at the top of my class. But through the very first **God's Way to an A** class I attended, the Lord was showing me that I had set these goals out of an angry desire to prove all my undergraduate peers and teachers wrong by performing well: "I'll show you how wrong you were about me. I'm going to shine like a star here, and when I graduate with top honors I'm going to rub your face in it."

The instructor prayed for me that day, and I realized that I needed to forgive my undergraduate classmates and professors, repent of any anger and bitterness I had toward them, and that I needed to forgive myself for what had happened. Most importantly, God showed me that I needed to change my focus from one of performance in my studies (making the grade to impress) to one of worship to God. Out of that experience, God brought healing to my heart in places where before I could only feel the sting of defeat. And now I feel His presence and His guiding hand more than ever as I study. My task as a student is not to please men by besting my colleagues out of a worldly competitive attitude, but to worship my Maker in all I do and say. It may sound like an elementary concept to some, but to me it was a liberating revelation. I thank God for what he has done in me through God's Way to an A.

Robert Monti

Susan Russo: Future William and Mary Graduate Student Inner healing to pursue her academic dream

Let me begin by saying that I'm really glad we were given this assignment, because I've had a **God's Way to an A** testimony since the very first class.

In elementary school I was given an IQ test and scored highly and I was put in the gifted program. In middle school I had trouble adjusting in the new school and didn't do well in my classes, so I was taken out of the gifted program and put in lower level classes. It was very frustrating, because I knew I could do more than what was required of me, but I didn't think I would be able to do well in more advanced classes.

I've wanted to go to William & Mary since my class took a field trip to Colonial Williamsburg in the fourth grade; but because there were only lower level classes on my high school transcript, I was put on the waiting list and ended up not getting in. So I attended a community college for two years and transferred to William & Mary as a junior. Even though I graduated in four semesters with a B average, I never felt like I was as intelligent as the students who got into W&M right out of high school.

“God used **God’s Way to an A** to heal part of my life, and to equip me for my future.”

After I graduated, I worked as an archaeologist with the National Parks Service for a while, and then I went to Kentucky to do home repair with the Christian Appalachian Project, and eventually I came back to W&M as a Chi

Alpha missionary aide. The whole time I made it a point to generally avoid thinking about graduate school. I would tell myself that I was taking a break, or that I was going to wait a few years so I wouldn't have to take the GRE, or even that a master's degree was nothing but a waste of time and money.

At the Chi Alpha spring retreat, one of the breakout sessions was something called **God’s Way to an A**, and I thought, "Oh, that will be good for the students," and also "Oh, how inapplicable to me in any way." But the students really enjoyed it, so much so that they wanted to start a **God’s Way to an A** program at W&M. I went to a session one Sunday night, just kind of on a whim, so I could stay informed about what the students were doing. I was sitting there, kind of zoning in and out, and suddenly I heard God say, "Susan, you're afraid of going to graduate school. That's why you don't want to go." And that thought had honestly never entered my head before that moment, but as soon as He said it, I realized it was totally true, and I wondered how I could have not seen it before. Before that session was over, I was able to confess my fear, as well as the lies that I had believed about my intellectual ability. Everyone prayed for me that God would speak truth to me about my worth and potential, and that I would be able to walk boldly into the future He has planned for me. I was still a little scared, but I was excited about the paths for my future that I had closed off as being too difficult, and that were clear once again. After that, I thought, "I *have to take this class!*"

Over the next few weeks, as I prayed and sought God, my fear of graduate school entirely disappeared, and now I am even eagerly anticipating that opportunity in my future. I am going to be studying for the GRE this summer, so I can be prepared for where God will lead me next.

All that to say, that even though I'm not currently a student, God still used **God’s Way to an A** to heal part of my life, and to equip me for my future.

Susan Russo

Maria: Law Student

Experiencing the presence of God for the first time in her studies

It happened in the heat of my December finals. I was doing research in the library. It was a take-home exam, which required above all, a significant time input.

My speed of moving along a list of problems came to a complete stop when I got stuck on THAT particular question. I read and re-read, searched, and tried all over again. After many hours of diligent work, my level of anxiety, frustration, and impatience sky-rocketed. I was STUCK!

It was then that I cried out to the Lord. I wasn't questioning whether He was truly out there, nor was I attempting to comprehend why He was allowing this thing to happen to me. Rather, I was desperately seeking confirmation of His Holy Spirit's presence and guidance.

Under the circumstances of my being tired and stressed out, it was not a regular, casual prayer—if such a thing exists at all. Instead it was my heart-spilled-out cry for Him: “Please, Lord, I do not want to give up. I need Your help. I need it NOW!”

As I closed my eyes during the prayer, I was still holding an opened book with high piles of many other books all around me... “Please Lord...” When I opened up my eyes, my finger was pointing at the right answer in the book—in black and white right in front of my eyes!

At first, I could not believe it. After all, life can not be that simple. I read and re-read both the question and the answer before I realized it was in fact what I had been looking for. It was a miracle and I was a part of it! I felt like screaming at the top of my lungs to everyone in the library, “Hey everybody! Over here! It’s a miracle!”

My friend, whether you are taking finals, doing homework, struggling through or enjoying life, remember that you can be a part of His miracles, too!

**Lee University Undergraduate Student
Learning from the Greatest Professor of All**

I am a friend of someone who recently attended your seminar on **God's Way to an A**. I have been a student at a Christian college for two years and am pursuing a degree in biology with a pre-medical emphasis.

While in college, I have maintained a 3.7-3.8 GPA and my academics have never been an area where I needed God's help. How wrong I was! Everything drastically changed this past spring semester.

My grades were so low that I was literally failing every class! This was a first for me. I have always considered a C to be as horrible as failing. I would study for hours and nothing would sink in. I would go to take a test that I had studied a week for and leave half of it blank. Needless to say, I was suffering from a great deal of frustration, but my pride wouldn't let go. I was still sure that somehow I would take care of it--that I would somehow save my grades.

My friend was aware of the difficult time I was having and upon returning from the seminar he ordered all the audio tapes. He told me that I needed to hear your seminar and told me much of what you taught. He received the tapes in the mail two days before my two hardest final exams--chemistry and immunology.

Let me say here that chemistry gave me nightmares. I hated it, did not understand it, and was sure that it could not have been created by God. My highest test grade at the time of the final was 47.

My friend studied with me for the final for two nights before the exam. While I studied we listened to the seminar tapes. No matter how hard I studied or how many problems I did, it just would not sink in. I cried and studied and finally asked my friend to pray with me late Thursday night, the night before the final.

He prayed that I would let go of the responsibility, realize that God was with me no matter what the outcome, and that I would allow the Holy Spirit to teach me all that I needed to know. After that, everything began to click. I studied with the peace of God upon me and went to take my final the next day.

At first I began to panic when it seemed that I did not know how to do many of the problems, but I remembered what we had prayed, told God that I knew He was with me, and that it was His test.

I got an 80--the second highest grade in the class--and was the only person in the class to get two of the hardest problems correct, one of which I had never seen in my life! Praise the Lord!

In the end, I received a B for the class, saving my GPA and my scholarship. I am not neurotic about my GPA, but my largest scholarship which allows me to financially stay in college is dependent upon my maintaining a 3.7.

Scholarship has always been something very important to me and now I am learning from my greatest Professor of All, my Heavenly Father. My whole perspective on learning and education has changed. I hope and pray that this seminar will continue to touch the hearts and minds of all students.

Rod White: Graduate Student

Apprehending the love of God in his studies and the freedom to excel

I first heard of Veronica and the *God's Way To An A* program during my first semester as a Divinity student at Regent University. I had returned to school after 10 years away from any form of university education and the challenges of coming back to school abounded! For starters, my family (my wife and three kids) and I were unable to move into the area. What compounded the problem was that I had anticipated being able to move, so my job graciously transferred me to the office closest to Virginia Beach. This meant that I had to drive 2 hours, one-way to class and 1.25 hours to work each day! On top of this, I came to Regent with a desire to correct the wrongs of my undergraduate days. I had studied for the "A" and had done well, but I couldn't say that I had properly learned all of the subjects. I had vowed that this time, I would do better.

It didn't take long for the effects of the driving, my responsibilities in a new job, my responsibilities as a husband and a father and a rookie graduate student to wear me out! With much regret, I missed the university seminar on balancing family, life, studies and work, so when I heard about Veronica's seminar, I made sure that I attended! Needless to say, it proved to be the most moving experience of my early graduate career!

As I sat there listening to Veronica, I realized that I had divided my life into two huge areas – the secular (work, etc.) and the sacred (church, divinity studies, family, etc.). Depending on which area I was in at the moment, I became a different person. Soon, I was simply exhausted with all of the movements of my soul! Veronica spoke about how she had no joy in her studies until she found that the Holy Spirit was her teacher. As she spoke, I sensed that the incredible truths that she was teaching were correct. God had never intended us to live split lives and He is very much interested in our studies as well as our jobs, families and all the other areas of our lives. She prayed for me and I began to listen to the tapes that I had bought after the seminar. For four hours a day (both to and from school), I listened to the tapes and tried to apply the teachings. I felt closer to God and more purposed in my studies. But that was about to change, as God wanted to go deeper into my heart.

Around October, I had to turn in a paper for my Bible study class. I had been "tutoring" others in the course and thought that I had a good grasp of the principles. I was totally expectant of an "A", but when I got my paper back, I had only gotten a B+. Now to most people that would be good enough, but I was

teaching others this stuff! How could I get anything less than an “A”? But God wanted to go deeper. As I was driving home, I continued to have a certain memory, from my elementary school days, play over and over in my mind. It was seventh grade and my mom was meeting after school with the school counselor to determine whether or not I should be allowed into the “gifted and talented” program at my school. My best friend was in the program and I waited in expectation to be let in. Mom came out and I was given the news – they had felt that I was “challenged” enough in the regular classes and that I should not be allowed into the “gifted and talented program”, i.e., the “smart kid” club. I can’t quite describe it, but on that day something like a big “B+” was seemingly stamped on my chest. It unconsciously worked in my mind for years. I became obsessed with A’s, yet I would hold off on studying until the last minute! I think I was too afraid to really try and find out that I only had a B+ mind! Needless to say, I graduated high school with a B+ average. And while I received Magna Cum Laude honors in my undergraduate studies, I still felt like I had an only “B+” education and perhaps even a “B+” mind.

The next week I ran into Veronica in the Regent Ordinary and asked if I could talk to her when she had the time. A week later, we met and I told her about the grade and the re-occurring memory. Among many other insights that she gave me (concerning time management and emotional work/rest cycles) she led me in a prayer to the Father about that time in my life. She felt that she had a word from the Lord for me, which I eagerly accepted. As she spoke and further discussed the love of the Father with me, I felt as though the old curse had been destroyed. The B+ mind was nailed to the cross and my true mind in Christ was available to be used by Him.

Not much changed in the way of my situation. We were still unable to move to Regent until the following spring semester. The drive never shortened and work was difficult to manage, but God proved faithful. Study time was at a premium and I struggled with the workload of school, job and family – but God is faithful!

I am happy to say that I got all “A’s” that semester and I was informed that my Church History project and other work was selected to give to other new students as examples of academic excellence! This was more than I could imagine! While there is so much more to tell, I am very thankful for Veronica’s ministry and the changes that the Lord has done in my life! By the end of last semester, I was lending out the teaching tapes and telling others about my discovery. Again, I thank God for His blessing and urge everyone to learn the principles in *God’s Way To An A* by Veronica Karaman. I think all new students should take this course and maybe a refresher or two as well!

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