

Suggested Interview Questions for Dr. Michael Horton

Author of *Ordinary: Sustaining Faith in a Radical, Restless World*

“*Ordinary*” has to be one of the loneliest words in our vocabulary today.

Who wants a bumper sticker that announces to the neighborhood, “My child is an ordinary student at Bubbling Brook Elementary”? Who wants to be that ordinary person who lives in an ordinary town, is a member of an ordinary church, and has ordinary friends and works an ordinary job?

Our life has to count! We have to leave our mark, have a legacy, and make a difference. And all of this should be something that can be managed, measured, and maintained. We have to live up to our Facebook profile.”

- Dr. Michael Horton

- How does our Christian subculture promote a “Next Big Thing” mentality? Is there something unhealthy or un-Christian about seeking to do big things for God?
- Why do you advocate for “ordinary” Christian faith in the 21st century?
- How has excellence been turned from a virtue to a vice? Is excellence opposed to ordinary faithfulness?
- What has the “Young, Reformed, and Restless” crowd gotten wrong?
- Can’t a call to “embrace the ordinary” be a cover for mediocrity? Or passivity? Why is “sustainable development” important for Christian growth?
- What is the problem with the question “How was church today?”
- How does our fear of boredom drive the appeal of “radical faith”?
- How does ambition morph from a vice to a virtue? Is ambition something we can harness for positive gains?
- Are churches today putting too much emphasis on ministers rather than ministry?
- Are we reading the Bible wrongly – especially the Old Testament –when we highlight so-called “heroes of the faith”?
- In Chapter 9 of *Ordinary*, you examine how many church youth programs can hinder spiritual growth rather than help. How should we be integrating youth into our churches today? Are we too youth-focused in our congregations?
- In Chapter 10 of *Ordinary*, you discuss how women from childhood are given expectations that can be daunting. What would you tell a woman listening to today’s broadcast about her gender-specific calling?
- How should our faith change as we age?

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Guest: | Dr. Michael Horton – author, theologian, teacher and blogger |
| Book title: | <i>Ordinary: Sustaining Faith in a Radical, Restless World</i> |
| Publisher: | Zondervan |
| Available: | October 2014, in bookstores everywhere |