

News Release

Contact: Melinda Merillat Public Relations & Corporate Communications <u>melinda.merillat@cbshouston.edu</u> 832.252.0745

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The College of Biblical Studies Sees Enrollment Increase Amid the Pandemic



Houston, TX – While higher education is seeing a downturn in enrollment due to challenges with the pandemic, the College of Biblical Studies has reported an increase in enrollment for the 2020 fall semester.

Like other institutions, CBS had to abruptly move on-campus classes to online learning at their three locations when the pandemic first hit in March 2020. Amid budget cuts and operational shifts, leadership saw a crisis looming. And with mainly an adult learner population, the effects were immediate. Students found the challenges too difficult to continue with school.

Staff and faculty immediately began working with each student to see how CBS could help them with their needs. From grants, scholarships, one-on-one tutoring, to providing students with computers, students were given personal support to help them navigate the unprecedented challenges.

CBS President Dr. Bill Blocker says staff and faculty were determined to see CBS survive and students thrive. "With challenges come opportunities. And this pandemic has proven to bring both. Our focus has changed from what's <u>not</u> working to what *is* working, and from there we have met these challenges with changes of our own."

Through it all, CBS has not only been able to stabilize enrollment growth, but also see some increase. Blocker is quick to admit that this has been a team effort. "We give God all the glory and we are so thankful for His provision. We didn't do this on our own. Dedicated donors have stepped up, staff have worked around the clock, students remain committed, and pastors and alumni are helping with recruitment. While we do not know what the future holds, we are celebrating God's hand moving in CBS.

About the College of Biblical Studies

The <u>College of Biblical Studies</u> is located in Houston, Indianapolis, and Fort Wayne. Leveraging its academic rigor and biblical worldview training, CBS offers an accredited college education on-campus and online, with several programs offered in the Spanish language. Students receive transformational education and training for service to families, ministries, businesses, and communities around the world. CBS has provided biblically based education since 1976 and is ranked as one of the lowest tuitions in Texas and Indiana.