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Languages

Deutsch Español 쟑놹뻮 Nederlands **日本語** Рогtuguês Русский Tiếng Việt This article is about the evangelist. For the linguist, see William Bright. For other people with the same name, see William Bright (disambiguation).

William R. "Bill" Bright (October 19, 1921 – July 19, 2003) was an American evangelist. The founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, he wrote The Four Spiritual Laws in 1952 and produced the Jesus Film in 1979.

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Early life

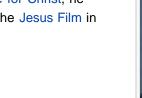
Born in Coweta, Oklahoma, Bright described himself as being a "happy pagan" in his youth. He graduated from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma with an Economics degree. As a student at Northeastern State University, he was initiated into the Zeta Chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. While in his early 20s he moved to Los Angeles, California and founded a company called Bright's California Confections.

Conversion / Early Ministry

In 1944, while attending the First Presbyterian Church, Hollywood, Bright became an Evangelical Christian. He immediately began intensive Biblical studies which led him to graduate studies at Princeton and Fuller Theological Seminaries (although he never completed a degree at either). It was while he was a student at Fuller that he felt what he regarded as the call of God to help fulfill Christ's Great Commission (Matthew 28:19) by sharing his faith, beginning with students at UCLA. This gave birth to the Campus Crusade for Christ movement.

During the decades to follow, Bill Bright and his wife, Vonette, remained faithful to this work, and the ministry expanded greatly. Campus Crusade now has more than 27,000 full-time staff and over 225,000 trained volunteer staff in 190 countries.

Bill Bright's authorized biography is titled 'Amazing Faith' by Michael Richardson with a foreword by Billy Graham.^[1]





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Accomplishments

Bright held five honorary doctorate degrees: a Doctor of Laws from the Jeonbuk National University of Korea, a Doctor of Divinity from John Brown University, a Doctor of Letters from Houghton Seminary, a Doctor of Divinity from the Los Angeles Bible College and Seminary, and a Doctor of Laws from Pepperdine University.

In 1983, he chaired the National Committee for the National Year of the Bible. He was named the 1996 recipient of the \$1.1 million Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion. He donated the prize money to causes promoting the spiritual benefits of fasting and prayer.

He wrote more than 100 books and booklets, and thousands of articles and pamphlets that have been distributed in most major languages by the millions. He was a signer of the document Evangelicals and Catholics Together.



Bill Bright receives the Templeton Prize, 5–1996

Bright was a co-founder of the Alliance Defense Fund

which funds high profile litigation cases on behalf of Christians' First Amendment rights. He was also a co-signatory of the Land letter of 2002 which outlined a just war rationale for the 2003 invasion of Iraq, providing a theological underpinning for the invasion being planned by President George W. Bush.

Bright was survived by his wife Vonette, sons Zachary and Brad, and four grandchildren.

The Rev. Billy Graham released a statement on Bright's death: "He has carried a burden on his heart as few men that I've ever known - a burden for the evangelization of the world. He is a man whose sincerity and integrity and devotion to our Lord have been an inspiration and a blessing to me ever since the early days of my ministry."

References	
1. ^ Authorized Bic	raphy - Amazing Faith 🗗
External links	
Bill Bright Memori	Website 🗗
 Bright Media Four 	lation 🗗
Campus Crusade	or Christ International 🗗
Review of John G	Turner's Bill Bright and Campus Crusade for Christ (University of North
Carolina Press, 20)8) 률
v·d·e	Templeton Prize laureates
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