

Rev. Dr. Seth David Clark

Lead with Virtue.

M.A. | M.B.A. | M.T.S. | D.Min. | B.C.C. | P.M.C.S.F. | Ph.D. Student (Leadership Studies)

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Board member, executive, and Board Certified Coach who has led organizations across five continents — from startup nonprofits to multiethnic churches to cross-border advocacy campaigns. Combines M.B.A.-level financial acumen with doctoral research in leadership studies and 10 years of governance experience spanning fiduciary oversight, strategic planning, and stakeholder engagement. Founder of Life, Death, and Leadership, an executive coaching and leadership development practice.

BOARD & GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE

Board Member 2016 - Present

The Good Fruit Initiative (formerly Arete Theological Ministries)

Strategic guidance, budget approval, financial performance monitoring, legal/ethical compliance

Board Member 2022 - Present

The First Baptist Church of National City

Strategic decision-making, financial health oversight, operational efficiency, risk management

Finance Committee Member 2020 - 2025

Friends of Friendship Park

Financial oversight, strategic planning, budget allocation, risk management, internal controls

Steering Committee Member 2020 - 2024

Friends of Friendship Park

Strategic initiatives, policy decisions, stakeholder collaboration, resource allocation

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Founder & Principal

Life, Death, and Leadership, 2023 - Present

Coaches and develops leaders across North America, Latin America, Europe, and Asia. Designs leadership development programs and online courses.

Founding President & Exec. Director

The Good Fruit Initiative (fmr. Arete), 2016 - Present

Founded and leads nonprofit organization. Oversees strategic planning, financial management, program development, and regulatory compliance.

Lead Pastor & C.O.O.

First Baptist Church of National City, 2017 - Present

Provides strategic leadership for multiethnic, multicultural organization. Manages staff, operations, and financial sustainability.

Border Church Ministry

U.S.-Mexico Border, 2017 - 2025

Volunteered 2017 - 2019; served in formal roles 2019 - 2025. Ministered to tens of thousands of migrants during the U.S.-Mexico border migration crisis.

Contract Campaign Organizer

Friends of Friendship Park, 2024

Led cross-functional advocacy teams. Coordinated engagement with government officials and elected representatives for Friendship Park reopening.

Lecturer, Emerging Leaders

University of San Diego, 2023

Taught undergraduate leadership course. Developed curriculum on leadership models and experiential learning.

WHAT I BRING TO YOUR BOARD

- **Fiduciary Rigor:** M.B.A.-trained financial oversight with hands-on budget approval, performance monitoring, and internal controls across multiple organizations.
- **Governance Depth:** 10 years of board and committee service spanning nonprofit, faith-based, and advocacy organizations.
- **Strategic Range:** Experience steering organizations from startup nonprofits to multiethnic churches to cross-border advocacy campaigns.
- **Scholarly Foundation:** Ph.D. student in leadership studies researching C-suite identity reconstruction in retirement. Three published books, fourth forthcoming.
- **Succession & Talent Lens:** Board Certified Coach with expertise in executive assessment, leadership transitions, and organizational change.
- **Cross-Cultural Fluency:** D.Min. in Gospel and Culture. Led multiethnic organizations and cross-border ministry across five continents. Five languages.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Strategic Leadership & Governance
- Financial Management & Fiduciary Oversight
- Risk Assessment & Compliance
- Stakeholder & Community Engagement
- Fundraising & Resource Allocation
- Cross-Cultural Communication
- Ethical Leadership & Decision-Making
- Change Management & Organizational Development

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

- Ph.D. Student, Leadership Studies - University of San Diego (Expected 2028)
- D.Min. (Gospel and Culture) - Columbia Theological Seminary, 2020
- M.B.A. - Western Governors University, 2022
- M.A. - Bethel Seminary, 2013 | M.T.S. - Boston College, 2015
- Board Certified Coach (B.C.C.), 2025
- Leadership Coaching Certificate (A.C.C. Level 2) - USD, 2024
- Post-Master's Certificate, Spiritual Formation (P.M.C.S.F.) - Boston College, 2023
- Coaching Skills Certificate - University of Denver, 2023

SCHOLARSHIP & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

- Author of 3 books (one #1 in Amazon category); *Lead Like You Will Die* forthcoming
- Lectured at USD; teaches in graduate seminars and seminary courses
- Research: C-suite identity reconstruction in retirement (qualitative methods)
- Speaks across five continents on leadership, mortality, and meaning-making
- 3 online courses: ethical decision-making, Stoic leadership, leading with end in mind

LANGUAGES

English (native) | Spanish (conversational) | Ancient Greek, Latin, French (reading)