

Michael Zigarelli, Ph.D.

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Summary

Professor Zigarelli's research in the fields of leadership, law, and practical theology has appeared in several periodicals, including *Christianity Today* and *Christian Scholar's Review*, and he's partnered with Moody Press, LifeWay, B&H, Baker Books, and others to author 13 books. Professor Zigarelli is also the creator of the 9 to 5 resource center and [YouTube channel](#), where millions of viewers across 130 countries have accessed his instructional videos. Much of his work is available through MichaelZigarelli.com

Education

- Ph.D. Human Resource Management, Rutgers University
- M.A. Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University
- M.Div. Liberty University and Yale University
- B.A. Economics, History, Lafayette College

Academic Positions

- Professor of Leadership and Strategy, Messiah University Department of Business (2008 to present; Department Chair 2008-2011)
- Professor of Management and Endowed Chair, Charleston Southern University School of Business (2006 to 2008)
- Dean, Regent University School of Business (2004 to 2006); Associate Professor of Management (1999 to 2006)
- Assistant Professor of Management, Fairfield University School of Business (1994 to 1999)

Books

- [*Evidence for Heaven: Near-Death Experiences and the Mounting Case for the Afterlife*](#), Baker Books, 2026. Also available [in Spanish](#) and as an [audiobook](#).
- [*Influencing Like Jesus: 15 Biblical Principles of Persuasion*](#), 9 to 5 Media, 2020, B&H Publishing, 2008; Also available in Korean and Spanish.
- [*Management by Proverbs: Scriptural Wisdom for Superior Results*](#), 9 to 5 Media, 2020, Moody Press, 1999. Also available in Mandarin, Korean, and Portuguese.

- [*Christian-Owned Companies: What Does It Look Like When a Follower of Jesus Runs a Business?*](#) 9 to 5 Media, 2020.
- [*Soccer Field, Mission Field: 100 Coaches Reveal How They Play for Something More*](#), CS Press, 2016.
- [*The Messiah Method: The Seven Disciplines of the Winningest College Soccer Program in America*](#), Xulon Press, 2011.
- [*The Minister's MBA: Essential Business Tools for Maximum Ministry Success*](#) (with George Babbes), B&H Publishing, 2006.
- [*Freedom from Busyness: Biblical Help for Overloaded People*](#), LifeWay Christian Resources, 2006.
- [*Cultivating Christian Character*](#), Purposeful Design Publications / Association of Christian Schools International, 2005.
- [*Ordinary People, Extraordinary Leaders*](#), Synergy Publishers, 2002.
- [*Faith at Work: Overcoming the Obstacles to Being Like Christ in the Workplace*](#), Moody Press, 2000. Also available in Portuguese.
- [*Christianity 9 to 5: Living Your Faith at Work*](#), Beacon Hill Press, 1998. Also available in Arabic.
- [*Can They Do That? A Guide to Your Rights on the Job*](#), Lexington Books, 1994.

Selected Articles by Category

Theology and Practical Theology

- Zigarelli, M. (2026) "[Do Near-Death Experiences Offer Clues to the Scope of Salvation?](#)" *Christian Scholar's Review* (blog).
- Zigarelli, M. (2026) "[Will We Know Our Loved Ones in Heaven? Scripture, Near-Death Evidence, and the Case for Hope](#)," *Christian Scholar's Review* (blog).
- Zigarelli, M. (2026) "[Near-Death Experiences: Surprising Evidence for the Afterlife](#)," *Premier Christianity Magazine* (UK, cover story), August edition, 50-55.
- Zigarelli, M. (2024) "[Near-Death Experiences and the Emerging Implications for Christian Theology](#)," *Christian Scholar's Review* 53, no.2, 75-97.
- Zigarelli, M. (2023) "A Typology of Christian Discipleship Methods," [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), *Christian Scholar's Review* (blog).
- Zigarelli, M. (2022) "[Another Way In: 'Near-Death Experiences' as an Apologetic](#)," *Christian Scholar's Review* (blog).
- Zigarelli, M. (2022) "[Head, Heart, and Hands: Curricular Ideas for the Local Church](#)," *Ministry: International Journal for Pastors* 95, no.6, 60-61.
- Zigarelli, M. (2018) "[The Man-Friendly Church](#)," *Christianity Today* (cover story), 62, no.5, 34-36. Also available in longer form as a [monograph](#).

- Zigarelli, M. (2012) "[Training, Transforming, and Transitioning: A Blueprint for the Christian University](#)," *Journal of Research on Christian Education* 21, no.1, 62-79.
- Zigarelli, M. (2009) "Public Display: Are You Different in Public Than in Private?" *Homelife Magazine* (LifeWay), July edition, 16-17.
- Zigarelli, M. (2007) "[Christians Worldwide Too Busy for God](#)," *Christian Post*.
- Zigarelli, M. (2007) "[The Epidemic of Busyness Among Christian Leaders](#)," *Leadership Journal* (Christianity Today).
- Zigarelli, M. (1993) "[Catholic Social Teaching and the Employment Relationship](#)," *Journal of Business Ethics* 12, 75-82.

Law

- Zigarelli, M. (2022) "[The Williams Way: Why Roger Williams' Philosophy of Religious Liberty Remains Imperative Today](#)," *Eleutheria Theological Journal* 6, no.2, 189-200.
- Zigarelli, M. (2021) "[9-0. Can We Please Take Religious Freedom Seriously Now?](#)" *LinkedIn*.
- Zigarelli, M. (2014) "[State Versus Faith: What's at Stake in the Hobby Lobby Case?](#)" *Pittsburgh Tribune*.
- Zigarelli, M. (1997) "Clarifying the Boundaries of Sexual Harassment and Employer Liability: Judicial Application of *Harris v. Forklift Systems, Inc.*," *Employee Responsibilities and Rights Journal* 10, no.1, 49-63.
- Zigarelli, M. (1997) "Cybersmut in the Workplace: A New Legal Minefield for Employers" *Journal of Individual Employment Rights* 6, no.3, 179-191.
- Zigarelli, M. (1996) "Compulsory Arbitration of Non-Union Employment Disputes" *Human Resource Management Review* 6, no.3, 183-206.
- Zigarelli, M. (1996) "Bargaining Law Provisions and Teacher Bargaining Outcomes," *Journal of Labor Research* 17, no. 1, 135-148.
- Zigarelli, M. (1995) "Drug Testing Litigation: Trends and Outcomes," *Human Resource Management Review* 5, no. 4, 245-265.
- Zigarelli, M. (1995) "The Legal Pitfalls in Compensating Employees Based on their Family Need," *Journal of Church and State* 37, 813-830.
- Zigarelli, M. (1995) "The American and Catholic Models of Worker Rights: A Comparison and Appraisal," in Samuel Natale and Brian Rothschild, Eds., *Work Values: Education, Organization, and Religious Concerns* (Vol. II), Amsterdam: Rodolphi Press, 73-87.
- Zigarelli, M. (1992) "Random Drug Testing in the Public Sector: The Legal Parameters," *Employee Relations Law Journal* 17, no. 3, 459-471.

Selected Editorials

- Zigarelli, M. (2026) "[Has science dismissed near-death experiences too quickly?](#)" *RealClearScience*.
- Zigarelli, M. (2026) "[If you're looking for proof of Heaven, this could be it](#)" *Daily Mail*.

- Zigarelli, M. (2026) “[AI now lets you ‘talk’ to dead relatives. So why won’t we talk about the afterlife?](#)” *Washington Examiner*.
- Zigarelli, M. (2024) “[Made for More? Here Are Five Clues to Your Calling](#)” LinkedIn Op-Ed.
- Zigarelli, M. (2023) “[What Does It Look Like When a Follower of Jesus Goes to Work?](#)” LinkedIn Op-Ed.
- Zigarelli, M. (2021) “[New Research Reveals How Christian-Owned Companies Really Operate](#)” LinkedIn Op-Ed.
- Zigarelli, M. (2019) “[Can Rightsizing Tuition Supersize a College?](#)” *Patriot News* (Harrisburg, PA)
- Zigarelli, M. (2018) “[‘Narrow’ Win for Christian Baker Has Broad Implications for Religious Liberty](#),” Christianity9to5.com

Web Sites, Podcasts, Videos, and Digital Publications

- [MichaelZigarelli.com](#)
- [Podcasts](#) guest appearances
- Creator and curator, [Christianity9to5.com](#) and its [YouTube Channel](#): Resources to equip followers of Jesus for leadership and career success
- [Learning Leadership Through Film](#): A ten-session study
- [Ten Leadership Theories in Five Minutes](#) (video)
- [Churches That Attract Men: What Makes Them Different?](#) (video)
- [The Power of Encouragement](#) (video)
- [Excellence as a Way of Life](#) (video)
- [Four Proofs in Four Minutes That Jesus is God](#) (video)
- [Does God Exist? Three Proofs in Three Minutes](#) (video)
- [Distracted from God: A Five-Year, Worldwide Study](#) (see also the [Christian Post article](#))

Selected Talks ([click here for a playlist of sample messages](#))

- Alexandria LA (Louisiana Christian University): Faith in the Workplace
- Atlanta GA (Beulah Heights Univ. Faculty Retreat): Integrating Faith and Learning
- Charleston SC (LifeWorks): The Power of Simplicity
- Easton PA (Legatus): Influencing Like Jesus as a Business Owner
- Greensboro NC (High Point Missionary Baptist Association): The Man-Friendly Church
- Indianapolis IN (Christian Business Leaders Association): Pride and Humility in Management
- Londrina Brazil (South American Theological Seminary): Faithful Leadership (4 sessions)
- Miami FL (LifeWay Español): Influencing Like Jesus in the Hispanic Community
- Nashville TN (LifeWay Management Retreat): Preserving the Simplicity to Excel
- Orlando FL (Association of Business Administrators of Christian Colleges): Influencing Like Jesus on Campus
- Oxford England (University of Oxford, St. Catherine’s College): Comparing the American and Catholic Models of Employee Rights

- Phoenix AZ (Christ's Church of the Valley): Cultivating a Culture of Excellence
- Wheaton IL (Wheaton College): A Faith-Based Model for Business Decisions

Consulting and Other Experience

- Management consultant for churches and Christian schools, 1994-present
- AT&T, Researcher, Selection and Testing Group, Morristown NJ
- National Labor Relations Board, Field Examiner, Newark NJ