

MAX LUCADO

Read any Max Lucado book and you feel like you know the author personally. He likes it that way. Max doesn't like to be called Pastor, Reverend or even Mister, though he is all of the above. He prefers to be known simply as Max.

Max has enjoyed a double calling in his lifetime—to preach and to write. And the audience for each calling has grown exponentially during the last two decades. Over the last 25 years, more than 65 million Max Lucado books has been sold in every format imaginable – adult books, gift books, children's books,



study Bibles, devotionals, commentaries animated videos, live action movies, and gift products to name a few. At his home church, Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, attendance has grown from a few families in 1988 to more than 8500 people. The sermons preached at Oak Hills Church form the basis of his popular books trade titles.

Growing up in West Texas, Max never considered becoming either a pastor or a writer. He partied his way through high school, giving God and books little attention. He attended Abilene Christian University where a required Bible class on the life of Jesus captured Max's imagination. Further study at Abilene Christian convinced him to try a short-term mission trip to Brazil. He was hooked.

After graduation Max moved to Miami, Florida, for a pastoral position. One of his duties as associate pastor was a weekly column for the church bulletin. When he and Denalyn moved to Brazil as missionaries, Max compiled the columns and submitted them to 14 publishers. They all declined. The 15th publisher said yes, transforming his

collected writings into his first adult book, ***On the Anvil***, in 1985.

Max has published more than 60 adult and children's titles since then, and those writings have inspired a successful line of cards from Hallmark/Dayspring. The branded card line has sold 15 million units since its debut in 2001. His books have appeared on the most well known national bestseller lists including ***Publishers Weekly***, ***USA Today***, ***The New York Times***, the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association and the Christian Booksellers Association. In 1992 Max launched UpWords, inspirational radio messages.

In 2005, ***Reader's Digest*** magazine called Max "America's Best Preacher," and in 2004 ***Christianity Today*** magazine dubbed him "America's Pastor." He has been featured in countless media outlets and interview shows.

Max currently is the Pastor of Writing and Preaching at Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas. He and his wife Denalyn have been married since 1981. They have three grown daughters—Jenna, Andrea and Sara—and one new son-in-law, Brett.

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Birth Place: San Angelo, TX

Graduate: Andrews High School, Andrews, TX

Advanced Degrees: BA Mass Communications, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX

MA: Biblical and Related Studies, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX

Past Positions Held: Associate Minister, Central Church of Christ, Miami, FL, Church Planning Missionary, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Currently serving as Minister of Writing and Preaching, Oak Hills Church, San Antonio, TX

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