

Mark Driscoll was born on October 11, 1970, and graduated from Highline High School in Seattle. Raised Catholic, he became a Christian as a college freshman in the fall of 1989 at Washington State University, where he received a B.A. in Speech Communications. In 1992 he married his high school sweetheart, Grace, whom he had dated since 1988.

Pastor Mark and Grace founded Mars Hill Church in Seattle in October 1996. The church started as a small Bible study in their living room and has since grown to include over six thousand people. The church meets in seven different locations throughout the Puget Sound region, with twenty weekly services broadcast via satellite from the Ballard campus. In 2008, Outreach magazine named Mars Hill Church the second most innovative church in America.

Pastor Mark co-founded and is president of the Acts 29 Church Planting Network, which plants churches in the U.S. and internationally. Outreach magazine has ranked Mars Hill Church as the second most prolific church planting church in America.

Pastor Mark also founded the Resurgence, an organization that hosts conferences and provides theological training for pastors, church planters, and other Christian leaders. The cooperative's website, [theresurgence.com](http://theresurgence.com), has become a major source for news and theology within the missional, emerging, and reformed communities.

He has received accolades from a variety of sources. Seattle magazine named Pastor Mark one of the twenty-five most powerful people in Seattle, ironically one of the least-churched cities in America. The Church Report and Christianity Today have recognized Pastor Mark as one of the most influential pastors in America.

Media coverage of Pastor Mark varies just as widely, including such outlets as National Public Radio, The Bible Answer Man, Mother Jones magazine, the Associated Press, USA Today, the New York Times, Blender music magazine, Outreach magazine, Preaching Today, Leadership magazine, and ABC Television.

Pastor Mark has published many books, including *The Radical Reformation: Reaching Out Without Selling Out* and *Confessions of a Reformation Rev.: Hard Lessons from an Emerging Missional Church*. In 2008 he published *Vintage Jesus: Timeless Answers to Timely Questions*, *Death by Love: Letters from the Cross*, and four books in the new series called “A Book You’ll Actually Read”: *On the Old Testament*, *On the New Testament*, *On Who Is God?* and *On Church Leadership*. He has also contributed to the books *The Supremacy of Christ in a Postmodern World*, edited by John Piper and Justin Taylor, and *Listening to the Beliefs of Emerging Churches*, edited by Robert Webber. In 2009 he will be publishing the books *Vintage Church*, *Religion Saves*, and *Doctrine*.

Pastor Mark reaches a global audience as his sermons are given away free on the Internet and are downloaded millions of times a year from around the world, including iTunes, where he is usually among the top ten Religion and Spirituality podcasts. In addition, Pastor Mark helps train other leaders through speaking trips around the country and internationally. In 2008, he spoke across the U.K. and Australia on two separate occasions, equipping and teaching pastors and church leaders about the centrality of the Gospel, the necessity of understanding culture, and the changing face of the contemporary church, with attendance reaching ten thousand people per event.

Pastor Mark holds a master’s degree in Exegetical Theology from Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon. He is also considering pursuing a Ph.D. in biblical studies.

Most enjoyably, Pastor Mark and his high school sweetheart, Grace, delight in raising their three sons and two daughters, playing baseball with the boys and accompanying the girls on “daddy dates.”