



KAREN CAMPBELL

M E D I A

Museum of the Bible Chief Development Officer Using a Lifetime of Experience to Achieve One Goal—Engaging People with the Bible

The Museum of the Bible, scheduled to open in 2017, is already making a global impact that will span generations. It will be one of the largest museums in Washington D.C., just blocks from the U.S. Capitol, with 430,000 square feet and thousands of artifacts and rare books. It's a monumental undertaking that includes the top scholars, theologians, priests and rabbis of our time.

One of the many men and women charged with the opening of the museum is Timothy L. Smith, Chief Development Officer for Museum of the Bible. With 35 years of



museum of the Bible

experience working with non-profit organizations he is known as a leading expert in his field. His first job in fundraising was to raise \$1,000 and now, in his role at the Museum of the Bible, he is charged with raising \$1 Billion for one of the most important jobs of his life—helping people engage with the Bible.

“The Museum of the Bible is the largest, most robust project I’ve worked on,” says Smith. “this monumental project...”

Smith is not only an expert in building the capacity of large non-profit organizations, his attention is also on the donor. His book, *Donors are People Too*, is required reading for many non-profit organizations committed to a ministry-based philosophy when developing a major funding program. It is being re-released in 2016 with updated information. It is an insightful book for anyone involved in ministry from church leaders to those working at Christian non-profit organizations.

“Because people are important to God, they are important to me,” says Smith. “Donors are not just money to get to where an organization wants to go. The principles I use have framed my entire life—they’ve become part of my DNA.”

Smith says, “Friendships can happen even when fundraising is happening.” Through his work with the Museum of the Bible, he is building and cultivating great friendships all while engaging the Bible.



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Timothy L. Smith is known as a leading expert in building the capacity of Non Profit Organizations. He has over 35 years of experience with Non Profit Organizations in Administration, Management and Fund Development. He has held a variety of roles in executive leadership for mega size organizations.

Tim has advised numerous NPO's in Leadership, Organization and Major Funding development. He is widely recognized as a leading authority in these fields.

His book, *Donors are People Too* is required reading for many NPO's committed to a ministry based philosophy when developing a major funding program.

Currently he serves as Chief Development Officer for Museum of the Bible.

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Suggested Interview Questions for Tim Smith

1. You mention the Museum of the Bible is the largest project you've worked on. Tell us about the Museum and your position.
2. Do you think there's an issue with Biblical literacy in the United States? How will the Museum of the Bible help?
3. Changing the conversation about the Bible and bringing it back to relevance
4. Is there a challenge to get non-religious people to care about the museum?
5. Tell us about the One Million Names campaign—how can we get involved and be part of history?



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6. If there are church leaders listening, what are some things they can do to get involved? Is there something churches can do as a whole to get involved?
7. Tim, you often say “If all you do is have a museum in one location drawing millions, you have failed” How is it impacting people who would never make it to Washington DC? we 2-3 million people a year, we’re not reaching far enough” reaching people globally...education, MOTB curriculum “The Book” curriculum (using this at a hospital in Israel and the children are getting better now as a result.” (put at #2)
8. What do you feel is the most interesting exhibit or artifact at the Museum of the Bible?
9. In your book, *Donors are People Too*, you talk about relational fundraising. How can churches and other Non Profit ministries follow this model?
10. Why are partnerships so vital to fundraising?
11. How did you get started in fundraising? Was it something you’ve always wanted to do?
12. Where can people go to learn more about you, your work with Museum of the Bible and fundraising?