



Many of us have experienced disappointments and heartbreak as a direct result of our personal relationships. Many of us are fearful of the future, due to our past experiences. We are often afraid to make choices for fear of failure, inadequacy or fear of the unknown.

Dr. Rachel grew up separated from society as a direct result of her parent's extreme religious beliefs. Her family lived under very harsh conditions in an old, abandoned house atop a remote range of hills in Tennessee, awaiting the end of the world. Then at the age of 16, Rachel was forced from the only environment she'd known and required to face a world in which she had no experience. Struggling to adjust, she faced confusion, heartbreak, and defeat but eventually developed a full, balanced, and vibrant life. From living in an old school bus to earning two doctoral degrees, Rachel is sharing her poignant and life-changing journey and the lessons learned with captive audiences around the country, inspiring hope, courage and freedom.

Rachel Williams-Smith, Ph.D., Ed.D.

SPEAKING TOPICS

The Power of Taking the Next Step:

Pushing Through the Impossible to True Fulfillment

- The Power of Taking the Next Step: Pushing Through the Impossible to True Fulfillment
- Out of the Woods and Into the World: The Rachel Williams-Smith Story
- The Extraordinary Power of Choice: The Past Does Not Need to Derail Your Future
- Healing the Wounds of the Past
- Overcoming Polarization and Extremism

REVIEWS

“Rachel Williams-Smith is the embodiment of perseverance, resilience, hope. Her book is a must read for people of all ages, and from all walks of life. They will, indeed, be motivated to overcome any adversity.”

Lucas L. Johnson II, former Associated Press reporter and author of the book, Finding the Good

“Dr. Rachel Williams-Smith moved past an unbelievably challenging childhood to earning two doctorates and achieving significant professional success. Rachel tells her story with humility, humor, and warmth...Her story is one that is moving and inspiring, reminding all of us that there is no limit to what we can achieve despite the obstacles. Simply put, Rachel inspires me.”

Ellen Didier, President & Creative Director, Red Sage Communications, Decatur, Alabama

“Through a torturous series of gutsy, boot-strapping, life-altering decisions, Rachel, faith intact, discarded her bonnet, earned a Ph.D., settled into a rewarding occupation, and established a stable marriage...Knowing Rachel's story will serve as a bulwark against the lure of religious extremism and a testament for the power of determination to reshape one's life.”

Jim Hayward, university chemistry professor

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Dr. Rachel serves as Dean of the School of Journalism and Communication at Southern Adventist University.
- She holds degrees in Communication (Ph.D.), Educational Leadership and Management (Ed.D.), English (MA), and Language Arts Education (BS).
- Rachel is available to speak to abuse and relationship recovery, teen/pre-teen, student, and professional women's groups, and more.



Born Yesterday captures Dr. Rachel's incredible story of growing up in isolation due to religious extremism and how she broke free. Available on Amazon.