



# BILL GARNER

## B.A. HISTORY '05

Sometimes you need a mulligan.

Or, as football guy Bill Garner might say, another down.

Many people would like to rewrite their high school experience. The reasons range from coping better with raging acne and teen angst to making more mature decisions.

Garner got his chance in 2005 when he became a Teacher at his alma mater, Valley Christian High School in Cerritos.

"I was a knucklehead when I was in high school, the kind of kid who was up to no good," says Garner. "Now I'm back at my school, investing in the lives of students, many of whom are just like I was."

Garner, who played football for Valley Christian for four years, currently teaches three academic classes and serves as Defensive Coordinator for the Varsity Football Team. Five years ago, he added Chapel Director to his responsibilities.

"I've never been more certain that I'm where I'm supposed to be, doing what I'm supposed to be doing," says Garner. "Whether it's the joy of seeing a student accomplish something on the athletic field or in the classroom, or overcome some social or family hurdle, getting to be a part of the journey is the most rewarding job of all."

When Garner isn't absorbed in his work, he enjoys watching *The Walking Dead*. He offers a relevant back story about his interest:

*CI Professor Buschmann once gave a lecture on zombies in response to the challenge, "If you knew you were giving your last lecture, what would you present?" Well, by the time it was over, we were all just staring at him like, "Huh?" Seeing our confusion, he said, "The point of tonight is to not take life too seriously." I have never been interested in the zombie culture, but I stumbled upon the show and have become a huge fan. Every Sunday I'm reminded of that lecture!*

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