

WALKING WITH THE SPIRIT: A PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY OF
CHARISMATIC RENEWAL IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

By

MATTHEW T. GEESLIN

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By

MATTHEW TURNER GEESLIN

Approved:

DocuSigned by:
Graham Walker 3/23/2020
266263E60F234E0... Date _____

Graham Walker Jr., Ph.D.
Faculty Advisor for Thesis

DocuSigned by:
Nancy DeClaisse-Walford 3/23/2020
AAAAACD083E7404... Date _____

Nancy L. deClaisse-Walford, Ph.D.
Faculty Advisor for the Master of Theological Studies

DocuSigned by:
Karen Massey 3/23/2020
75ED4E7FC4F2451... Date _____

Karen G. Massey, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Masters Degree Programs
James & Carolyn McAfee School of Theology

DocuSigned by:
Greg DeLoach, D.Min. 3/23/2020
E37595A027044D5... Date _____

Greg DeLoach
Dean, James & Carolyn McAfee School of Theology

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ABSTRACT

MATTHEW GEESLIN

WALKING WITH THE SPIRIT: A PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY OF
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Under the direction of GRAHAM WALKER Jr., PhD

This thesis is a phenomenological study of charismatic Christianity in the global south as it pertains to the spread of charismatic Christianity in the country of Brazil. The purpose of this study is to determine the reasons for the rapid spread of Pentecostalism in Brazil in the last hundred years. Additionally, it seeks to identify any major theological and social trends through an overview of the country's religious, social, and political history. Extensive census data from the PEW Research Institute's study on globalized religion in Latin America will be used as a tool and reference point for this study and will also help frame Brazil in its modern context. The results of this research will conclude that there is a direct tie between Brazil's social, political, and religious history, and the growth of charismatic expressions of Christianity. Additionally, the conclusion will offer theoretical patterns of growth, history, and religious advancement, in an attempt demonstrate their intertwined nature. These patterns will be suggestive for future research in terms of identifying similar patterns or social behaviors in other areas of the global south.