

# Mark L. Prendergast, MS, CPA, CFP®, CDFA®, MPAS®

DIRECTOR OF TAX STRATEGIES, INSPIRED FINANCIAL

*“I’m a problem solver and pride myself on my ability to recognize tax nuances, evaluate complicated estate and tax planning issues and provide sensible easy-to-understand solutions that fit each unique client situation. 95% of financial planning has tax implications, and most wealth management firms do not have the estate and tax horsepower that we have at Inspired Financial.”*



Mark Prendergast has 40 years of experience in tax, estate and financial planning. He started his career working for Ernst & Whinney, then Price Waterhouse, before venturing out on his own in 1986. His education includes a Masters of Science Degree, Personal Financial Planning. Mark regularly teaches on income tax, estate and divorce topics at professional conferences (FPA, NAPFA, CalCPA, WealthCounsel, Institute for Divorce Financial Analysts).

Mark serves on the Editorial Review Board for the Journal of Financial Planning (2002-current) and on the Advisory Board for The Center for Investment and Wealth Management at the Paul Merage School of Business at UC Irvine. In the past, he served on the national Board of Directors for the Financial Planning Association (FPA) from 2011-2013, as well as volunteering at local chapter, regional, and statewide FPA leadership positions.

Over his career, Mark has served many roles in non-profit organizations, including the Board of Directors for New Life for Girls (women’s recovery home), The Birthing Center (birthing advocacy group), Valley Christian Center (church), and Fresno New Connections (a substance abuse clinic).

Mark is married to Evelyn Zohlen, and they truly enjoy life’s adventures together from work-to-travel-to-Disney and beyond! They miss their three adult children who live too far away for his pleasure: Alison (MBA), Josiah (JD), and Martha May (RN/MSN), all successfully launched in their careers.

## **Fun Facts:**

- I’ve run 20 marathons, including Boston in 2005 and Bhutan in 2017.
- Evelyn and I climbed Mt. Whitney in a day: 17 hours of marital bliss!
- I competed in international Frisbee disc competitions when I was in college.
- In 1976, I rode my bicycle from Boulder to Minneapolis with my best friend Luke. Later that summer, we hopped a freight train in Texarkana and ended up in Kansas City.
- I once got stuck in a tree while skiing, and my buddies had to untangle me.