



Marvin's Ministry Update

April – June 2013

A Ministry Overview

On May 7, the Board of MentorLink Canada met for our first Annual Meeting (AGM) since I had been serving for a full year as the Executive Director. Together, we thanked God for the ways in which the ministry of MentorLink Canada is developing, especially as new opportunities continue to arise and some of our visionary goals are beginning to come to fruition. We rejoiced that approximately 25 individuals or couples have committed to pray regularly for this ministry; we also praised God that our annual revenue stream from donations is now slightly above \$110,000. Other income from projects and honoraria are above that amount

Personal Mentoring

I continue to be challenged and blessed by the privilege of mentoring and/or coaching about 17 men on a regular basis. The variety of age and experience they bring to our conversations is quite broad so our interactions are always engaging. One younger man who is early in his development as an associate pastor gave me permission to share with you what he wrote recently as we completed a year of mentoring conversations and activities.

"At the end of my first goal session, I'm really encouraged...Before I started the goals, I was constantly frustrated by the feeling of wanting to do so much with my life, but not being able to get any traction. With this exercise, I was excited about the thought that I might get some momentum going, and that momentum has carried me from a place of frustration to a place of excitement and encouragement.

A residual effect is that in the last few weeks, I have been in an increasingly healthy routine of spending time with my family and spending time with God and doing enriching activities and have been living with much more discipline...I feel like I have made significant and hopefully lasting progress."

Training Bible College and Seminary Leadership Teams

My trip to the Philippines from April 10-17 was a positive experience and laid a good foundation for further training opportunities. Ariel and Yna of PARTNERS International, who promoted the event and managed all the details, were very pleased with the results. The venue was excellent. We had 27 presidents, senior administrators, and board members from 18 schools come to the event. The enrollment in the schools ranged from over 1000 students to as small as 15.



We have already begun planning for several more training events in a variety of locations in the Philippines in May 2014. Here is a brief comment from Ariel...



"Everyone present has expressed appreciation for the idea of coming together more so because of the information you brought which has challenged them to process and reflect with those important principles...I also noticed that you were able to quickly connect with them and they with you because of your common experiences...I look forward to the time we can plan on having you back."

New Canadian and Ethnic Church Leadership Training

Seminar #3, designed for those who had attended Seminars #1 and 2, was held on Wednesday, June 12 at SIM. We had 23 people present. At the conclusion, we recognized the 9 people who had completed all three seminars. Tim Jacobson of SIM Canada and I are planning to hold the three "Passing It On!" mentoring seminars in three locations in the GTA next year. We plan to try one on a Saturday. One young lady who attended the first two seminars wrote...



"I used some of the materials to spark a discussion on Christian leadership, with some of my seminary colleagues! I still love that Leader's Covenant and the chart moving from worldly leadership to servant leadership convicts me every time!"

Other Ministry Responsibilities and Opportunities

- a. Serving on the MentorLink International leadership team of four people. We are going to meet in Toronto in November to plan our next International Gathering for May 2014.
- b. Serving on the presentation and coaching team for CREST Leadership Ontario cohorts (a larger report in the next newsletter).
- c. Planning a training event for this fall for several leaders who serve various indigenous people groups in the north of Canada. We are going to teach people the basic ML values and how to use the Days with Jesus tools. We will explore which languages are the most strategic for translating the DWJ tools.
- d. Working with the AGC Eastern Canada leaders to hold a series of 6-8 church leaders gatherings beginning in the fall to help inspire them to create a culture of mentoring in their churches.
- e. Leading, preaching, and consulting commitments in various churches and organizations.

Thank you for your faithful, focused prayer support for the amazing opportunities and important responsibilities God continues to give to us. Also, please thank God for safety in my travels and for His blessing upon this ministry.

"As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10)