

PartnerNews



MTS Multiplies Ministry Opportunities

Recruiting and training up Gospel apprentice workers through MTS is a proven way of ensuring that the word of God continues to be faithfully proclaimed in the future.

Typically MTS apprentices have a good influence on peers and continue on in ministry. Their practical training and their encouragement of others can

have an ongoing impact as ministry opportunities are multiplied.

One of the hurdles that prevent apprentices from being taken on by churches and other Gospel ministries is the cost. Apprentices, under law, must be paid a minimum wage. Yet many prospective ministry employers are not able to afford this.

MTS has worked hard to provide solutions in this new environment. In 2012, we introduced the MTS Curriculum that enabled churches/ministries to pay for a Fair Work Australia approved training wage. In 2014 we will introduce the MTS Scholarship (read on for more details).



MTS Scholarships: A new initiative to support apprentices in 2014

The MTS Scholarship scheme effectively changes the apprentice's status from "employee" to "student". When classed as a student gaining work experience, the apprentice becomes eligible for Austudy government assistance.

Whilst MTS Scholarship apprentices stay involved in a two year program based within a church or a specialist ministry team, the "student" status

is also dependent on the apprentice undertaking an accredited course of study.

MTS has developed a new certificate course (ASTC – Academic Studies in Theology Certificate), which has both compulsory and optional elements. It is a flexible course that can be adapted to the apprentice's context as they participate in evangelism and Bible teaching, all under the leadership of a trainer.

The certificate syllabus material is provided by MTS through "The Timothy Partnership" with other content being delivered by Matthias Media. This course is accredited by the Australian College of Theology and is eligible for Austudy support. Individual supporters of the scholarship apprentice are eligible to receive tax deductibility for donations made through the MTS Apprentice Support Fund.

Graduation Day!!



Tomorrow's leaders share their visions for the future

It's graduation time! And around the country, celebrations and ceremonies are being held for the 79 MTS apprentices who are finishing up their two year experiences. Some will resume their former careers

with new found ministry skills. Many will continue on to do further theological study, with the aim of ending up in full-time ministry. At a recent graduation event in Sydney, 19 apprentices (pictured above)

celebrated and shared their visions for the future. It was an inspiring event, and it is so encouraging to see such gifted young men and women moving forward into ministry careers.



Dan Kenny

**Wyoming Church of Christ
@ Wyoming, NSW**

MTS has been one of those truly formative experiences. What I've learnt about myself in terms of character, conviction and competency would not have come out without MTS. Since finishing MTS, I've come on staff at the church where I completed my apprenticeship, and I've started a Master of Divinity at SMBC.



Dave Hawken

**St. Barnabas' Anglican Church
@ Westmead, NSW**

I loved that MTS is such a hands on practical experience of what ministry is like. I know what to expect in parish ministry much better than I would have otherwise. In 2014 I will be studying at the Presbyterian Theological Centre with a view to being a Presbyterian Minister, while working part time for a church doing youth ministry.



Elizabeth Shehata

**Cross-Culture Bible Church,
@ Arncliffe NSW**

MTS taught me the importance of training people to pass on the Gospel. At the MTS Graduation, we were each given a baton, this was to remind us to pass on what we have been entrusted with: the Gospel, His word. In 2014, my plan is to go to Bible College while continuing to help others grow in their maturity in Christ and become disciple-making disciples.

How the MTS Scholarship will benefit everyone

Minister



Greg Lee

Minister at Hunter Bible Church

What it means for our church

“Our church believes in raising up the next generation of gospel workers, and the MTS Scholarship has enabled that to happen to an even greater degree than before. In 2014 we’ll be able to take on more trainees, and give them the same great hands-on experience that we have always given.”

Trainer



Dave Moore

Trainer at Hunter Bible Church

How it helps me to be a better trainer

“With all the ministry our trainees do, there’s always a mountain of things to talk about as their trainer. The MTS program helps keep my trainee’s Christian character central, shaping their lives around God’s word – rather than just reacting to whatever happens.”

Apprentice



Anthony Allen

Apprentice at Hunter Bible Church

What I am looking forward to learning

“I think the thing I’m most excited about is the same thing I’m terrified about: being told to go and have a crack at evangelism and being people’s shepherd. Looking at the MTS program, it seems like a great way to keep me thinking through the big principles with the guidance of my trainer.”

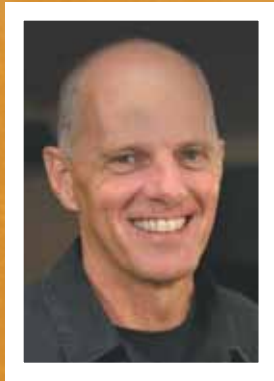
42 MTS Scholarships Awarded for 2014

2014 looks set to be an exciting year for MTS with the start of its new scholarship system. The scholarship still has at its heart the master and apprenticeship relationships – the experienced pastor training the learner. But what is new is that apprentices can receive Austudy and their supporters are eligible for tax deductibility, which means that the apprenticeships will be financially much more accessible.

MTS is praying, under God, that this training option will multiply the number of apprentices training across Australia and the world. Already in 2014, MTS have awarded 42 scholarships to apprentices training in Qld, WA, NSW, SA, the ACT and Victoria across a wide variety of denominations. They have scholars training in the country, in inland areas, on the coast, in the CBDs of the biggest cities in Australia, and in the outer suburbs.

This new initiative has enabled churches, like EV Church, Erina to double their apprentice intake each year. Kingsley Community Church in Perth is planning to train some 18 church planters in the next 5 years. This is staggering stuff! Churches wanting to find out more about the new scholarship system can contact Greg Gough at the MTS Head Office: ggough@mts.com.au

Church Planting Apprentices Wanted



“At EV Church, on the Central Coast, we want to train 38 Church Planting Apprentices over the next 5 years”

*Andrew Heard, Senior Minister
EV Church and Founding
Director of Geneva Push*

If this opportunity appeals to you, contact MTS and discover how to prepare yourself to become one of tomorrow's leaders through an MTS Apprenticeship.

A Joint Partnership between MTS,
Geneva Push and EV Church

All you need to know about applying for the MTS Apprentice Scholarship



Contact MTS for your free booklet

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Anyone who is currently under an apprentice employment arrangement, or who is interested in becoming an MTS apprentice, is eligible to be taken on under the MTS Scholarship Scheme.

WHY APPLY

Through the MTS Scholarship Scheme you can earn a Certificate in Theology in your ministry role and be eligible for Government support.

BENEFIT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

As an employer it costs you less. As an apprentice it gives you better support. As an MTS apprentice supporter it gives you the benefit of tax deductibility.

Financial Update

Help us cross the line!

As the calendar year ends, MTS needs to ensure its budget is met.

If you want to give a Christmas gift, that will help spread the message of God's gift of eternal life, please act now!

Currently we are still \$10,200 behind our annual target. Your gift will enable us to multiply Gospel ministry opportunities.



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