



MTS INFO NIGHT

CHURCH/MINISTRY NAME:

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Multiplying Gospel workers through ministry apprenticeships




WHAT IS MTS?

Ministry Apprenticeships are a profoundly biblical way of training young men and women who are considering full time leadership roles in the church both in Australia and overseas. The multiplication of well-trained people is one of the most strategic things we can be involved in as we seek, under God, to play our part in spreading the gospel to the ends of the earth. The apostle Paul wrote:

“And the things you heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach other”
(2 Timothy 2:2).

MTS is best thought of as a ‘hands on’ 2 year apprenticeship. Each ‘trainee’ has an MTS trainer, with whom they meet regularly. The essence of MTS is learning through active participation in Bible teaching, as well as learning through observation and formal training.

By undertaking MTS with us, the context of ages and various ministries affords apprentices the appropriate training ground for the pursuit of church ministry. MTS provides an opportunity for trainees to discover their gifts, try their hand at a number of ministries, initiate a ‘new ministry,’ grapple with theological and ministry issues, as well as learning hard lessons.

A photograph of two men climbing a large, light-colored rock. One man is already on the rock, leaning forward and reaching out to help the other man who is still on the ground. The background is a clear blue sky.

“Apprentices are not thrown into the deep end alone; they are thrown into the deep end with a trainer! That is, right beside them is someone who has already had significant experience in word ministry. Their job is to help the apprentice to swim and not to sink.”

Col Marshall

WHAT DOES MTS LOOK LIKE?

Our MTS program is tailored to every ministry apprentice individually. Apprenticeships are centred on prayer, Bible study and practical ministry. The essence of MTS is not only formal instruction but active participation.

Some formal aspects of MTS include:

- Training in accordance with the MTS Curriculum focusing on:
 - Conviction (Head)
 - Character (Heart)
 - Competency (Hands)
- Attending the MTS G8 National Apprentice Conference
- Weekly involvement in staff meetings
- Sermon preparation with minister
- Walk-up evangelism
- 10 in 2. Prayer fully seeking to win 10 people for Christ in the 2 years of your apprenticeship
- 1:1 Discipling
- Church service leading
- Preaching in Church
- Practical ministry setup
- Growth Group leading
- Start a new ministry (new high school group, social justice, new campus work, etc!)
- Train an evangelist or Bible study leader
- Attend conferences as a church/ ministry staff team (SPUR conference, Moore Theological College conferences, etc.)

Some informal aspects of MTS include:

- Mentoring by staff member
- Visitation and welcoming of church visitors and members
- ‘Shadowing’ staff at weddings, baptisms and funerals

Looks like a lot? Not every apprentice will do everything in the above list – remember the MTS experience is tailored to the individual.

A photograph of a park bench with a yellow text box overlay. The bench is made of dark metal and light-colored wood. The background is a blurred park scene with trees and a building in the distance.

EIGHT REASONS WHY I SHOULD CONSIDER IT!

1. 82 % OF AUSTRALIANS ARE GOING TO HELL!

According to the Australian Communities Report survey commissioned by McCrindle Research and Commissioned by Olive Tree Media:

- 50% do not identify with a religion
- 18% identify themselves as protestant/evangelical
- 23% of protestant/evangelical Christians 'very regularly' attend church

MTS wants every apprentice everywhere aiming to prayerfully and dependently upon God, seek to win 10 people (children, adults, family, friends, youth, seniors, workmates, teammates) for Christ in the 2 years of their apprenticeship.

2. YOU'LL LEARN HOW TO EVANGELISE LOST AUSTRALIANS!

Evangelism is about 3 T's:

- Teaching – people the Gospel of God despite opposition (1 Thessalonians 2)
- Team – you'll be part
- Time – you'll have time to follow people up

3. WORD MINISTRY MATTERS. A LOT.

- Word-ministry is the key to helping God's church grow (Mark 1:14-15, Matt. 28:18-20, Eph. 4:18-20).
- Therefore, it's worth asking yourself: 'Why shouldn't I aim to do Word ministry full-time?'
- Alongside friends and ministers, MTS is a great way to test out whether the Lord has gifted you for Word ministry.

4. MTS PREPARES PEOPLE FOR WORD MINISTRY.

- It's the best way to train. If you want to work out whether you're suited to be a farmer, don't work on a farm 1 day a week. Go and be a farmer full time for 2 years, 2 cycles of the seasons.

- By doing Word ministry, MTS gives a person a sense of the demands of full-time paid Word ministry (preaching, school chaplaincy, youth work, children's ministry, evangelism, etc.)
- Because a person is strengthened by the doing of Word ministry, they are prepared for the test of their lives in all kinds of service.
- Whether a person goes back into the workforce, or goes onto theological college, an apprentice has not wasted their time doing MTS. Not at all!

5. APPRENTICESHIPS CONFRONT PEOPLE WITH THEIR STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES.

- One of the best things an apprentice can learn is humility and their limitations.
- Isaiah, Jeremiah, John the Baptist and Peter were all horrified when they came face-to-face with God and realised how ill-equipped they were!
- On the flip-side, MTS helps identify strengths and gifts which can be nurtured through the apprenticeship.

6. CHURCH-BASED APPRENTICESHIPS PREPARE A PERSON WELL FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDY.

- Theological study without a local church context is likely to result in a minister who struggles to connect their theological learning to the multifaceted nature of local church life as they study.
- A good theologian is a person who can integrate life and doctrine in the context of building God's church (1 Timothy 4:16).
- An MTS apprenticeship who has already dealt with the stuff of life (old-age, new birth, struggling families, etc.) won't study theology for academic qualifications, but for the extension of God's church.

7. CHURCH-BASED APPRENTICESHIPS HELP A PERSON WITH MINISTRY SKILLS – ESPECIALLY PEOPLE SKILLS.

- MTS helps develop a wide range of skills (preaching, leading, organising, administration, work with children, care for the elderly, cross-cultural work, etc.)
- One key thing an apprentice will learn is people skills. They need to learn to be personal.
- Potential apprentices will often say how much they love to teach the Bible – that's good, but not good enough!
- The church needs ministers who love all kinds of people, and who love teaching the Bible to them.

8. MTS EQUIPS PEOPLE TO START NEW MINISTRIES.

- Starting new ministries is an essential part of the work of a church minister – there needs to be Gospel risk-taking!
- Dealing with fear of failure is an important part of MTS training.
- You will see failure, feel disappointment, experience sadness, and have highs and lows.
- These are the sorts of things needed for a lifetime of Word ministry.

THE “WORD ON THE STREET”



AL STEWART

MINISTRY LOCATION AND YEAR?

UNSW – 1983 & 1984

BIBLE COLLEGE GRADUATION DATE?

1988

NOW SERVING AT?

Director of Evangelism and New Churches; Director of Geneva Push

HOW DID THE MTS APPRENTICESHIP PREPARE YOU FOR THE JOB YOU ARE DOING NOW?

Gave confidence that the Word of God changes lives...



RORY SHINER

MINISTRY LOCATION AND YEAR?

UWA – 1997 & 1998

BIBLE COLLEGE GRADUATION DATE?

2004

NOW SERVING AT?

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Shenton Park. Western Australia

HOW DID THE MTS APPRENTICESHIP PREPARE YOU FOR THE JOB YOU ARE DOING NOW?

MTS has been the single most shaping influence in my approach to ministry. It gave me, among other things, a sense of what a good pattern of ministry is, and a commitment to the priority of making disciple making disciples.



PAUL GRIMMOND

MINISTRY LOCATION AND YEAR?

Campus Bible Study – 1995 & 1996

BIBLE COLLEGE GRADUATION DATE?

2001

NOW SERVING AT?

Campus Bible Study (UNSW)

HOW DID THE MTS APPRENTICESHIP PREPARE YOU FOR THE JOB YOU ARE DOING NOW?

It taught me all of the fundamentals of ministry life and thinking. It laid the foundations for my theological training by encouraging me to be in relationships with real people in the real world with God's word open. I was challenged to step outside of my comfort zone and seek to serve people with the truth of the gospel while working out how to be godly at every turn. I also learned more and more to be thankful for God's generosity and forgiveness in the gospel. Perhaps the biggest thing that I learned on MTS was that I needed to keep thinking biblically and theologically about everything, because there were many situations that I hadn't encountered yet that I would one day encounter and I needed to work out how to know what God wanted in that situation.



GREG LEE

MINISTRY LOCATION AND YEAR?

UNSW – 1994 & 1995

BIBLE COLLEGE GRADUATION DATE?

1998

NOW SERVING AT?

Hunter Bible Church and AFES

HOW DID THE MTS APPRENTICESHIP PREPARE YOU FOR THE JOB YOU ARE DOING NOW?

When I began MTS I'd never even led a regular Bible Study Group! MTS gave me loads of great experience in teaching the Bible and loving people. But even more importantly it helped me to look at ministry through a biblical lens and not just a pragmatic one. I learned to do things in ministry because they matched the values and mindset of the Bible and not just because I thought they might work or loads of other people were doing them.

"I was challenged to step outside of my comfort zone and seek to serve people with the truth of the gospel while working out how to be godly at every turn."

Paul Grimmond



JANE TOOHER

MINISTRY LOCATION AND YEAR?

Centennial Park & UNSW
– 1989 & 1991

BIBLE COLLEGE GRADUATION DATE?

1995

NOW SERVING AT?

Moore College on faculty in the Ministry Department & Director of The Priscilla and Aquila Centre at Moore. The Priscilla and Aquila Centre has been established for the encouragement of the ministries of women in partnership with men.

HOW DID THE MTS APPRENTICESHIP PREPARE YOU FOR THE JOB YOU ARE DOING NOW?

I learnt about personal devotions, praying for others, 1:1 ministry, leading bible studies, giving talks, follow-up, visitation, evangelism, world mission, giving and receiving feedback, using time well, the importance of training others, teaching Scripture and ISCF, thinking theologically about what books you have on your church book stall, why you have the church service structured the way you do, and ministering to people of different ages to yourself. Many of these are basics and key for any ministry, and so as I train and encourage women (and men) in a variety of ministries now, it was good to have personal experience of these things and be trained by older mature Christian brothers and sisters in them.



CARL MATTHEI

MINISTRY LOCATION AND YEAR?

UWS Nepean – 1995 & 1996

BIBLE COLLEGE GRADUATION DATE?

2001

NOW SERVING AT?

Unichurch, Kensington and Chaplain
UNSW

HOW DID THE MTS APPRENTICESHIP PREPARE YOU FOR THE JOB YOU ARE DOING NOW?

It taught me that ministry is all about teaching God's word and loving people. It taught me that often you have to do things with less preparation than you like. It taught me that ministry can be hard, frustrating, painful, wonderful and encouraging all in one.

“MTS is designed to give you life-experience for ministry.”

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



DOES THE TRAINING CENTRE INVITE PEOPLE TO DO MTS, OR DO THEY APPLY SOMEWHERE?

Both scenarios happen. Ordinarily churches/ministries invite 1 Tim 3 kinds of people to consider doing an apprenticeship i.e. people who are already Bible study group leaders, Beach Mission leaders, in children's ministry etc. Sometimes people want to train as an MTS apprentice but they cannot do it at their church. **MTS has an “MTS Apprentice Wanted” jobs board on www.mts.com.au.**

ARE THEY ANY AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR MTS?

People need “maturity” before starting an apprenticeship. Women are generally far more mature than men at an early age. In the history of MTS there have been many women who have trained as apprentices soon after finishing school or university. Men are a different kettle of fish. Men would do well to do 3 years in the workforce (2 as an absolute minimum) for the following reasons:

- to grow up relationally e.g. submit to bosses
- to learn basic time management and organisational skills during years in the workforce
- to understand the “ground hog day” feeling workers have
- to learn the joys and trials of workplace evangelism.

Anyone becoming a pastor will oversee a congregation in which 99% of the people are in the secular workforce. You need to know what the workforce is like in order to equip people to be disciple-makers in it.

DON'T I NEED TO DO AT LEAST A FEW YEARS OF 'SECULAR' WORK BEFORE STATING MTS?

No, that argument is total nonsense. People used to head into Moore College and train for vocational ministry straight after their university degree! What you should have before doing full-time vocational ministry is life experience, but starting MTS is at least 6 years away from that point! Besides, MTS is designed to give you life-experience for ministry.

“You’ll be on a team with trainer, and staff, and a congregation who love you and want to see you grow.”

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

CONT.



SHOULD I WAIT UNTIL THERE'S A BUNCH OF US TO DO MTS TOGETHER?

No. While doing MTS with other apprentices is a nice thing, so is doing it alongside the ministry staff. If the reason for not doing MTS is because you might be doing it alone, then you might want to reconsider your motive for doing it. If you're only up for ministry in big teams, then you'll be sorely disappointed in the future when you're running a church of your own. The bottom line is you're not doing MTS in the middle of Afghanistan on your own! You'll be on a team with trainer, and staff, and a congregation who love you and want to see you grow.

I'M NOT SURE I'VE GOT THE GIFTS FOR WORD MINISTRY...?

That's the very reason why you should do MTS! The very point of the MTS apprenticeship is to test out your gifts 'on the job' so to speak. If you haven't really tested out your gifts before, then it's pretty hard to tell whether you do or don't have gifting for the ministry! Most people do MTS in order to serve their local church, and have a minister give feedback about your gifts. Whatever you might discover – the two years of MTS training will benefit your church and family life for the rest of your life!

HOW MUCH DO MTS APPRENTICES GET PAID?

There are 3 ways a church/ministry can set up an MTS Apprenticeship. They are:

1. MTS Scholarship	\$23,000 (Scholarship)
2. MTS Curriculum	\$24,500 (Employee Status)
3. MTS Minimum Wage	\$31,000 (Employee Status)

There are different factors for all three. You'll need to discuss the various options with your trainer.



WHERE TO FROM HERE?

Everyone who knows and loves the Lord Jesus, and cares about his people and his kingdom should consider undertaking an apprenticeship in Word ministry.

Here's a few questions to ask yourself...

- Am I convicted of the fact that Jesus Christ is the only way that my family, friends, suburb and city are going to be saved from hell (John 14:6)?
- Are my circumstances such that I'm ready for MTS?
- Is my character growing to be like that of 1 Timothy 3?

If so, then MTS might be the right place for you...

- To test your competency in ministry skills and abilities.
- To have Godly counsel watch your life and doctrine, and give you feedback about whether full-time vocational is the right thing for you.

If you're keen, and want more information then there are 2 steps you can take.

1. Contact:

Let's have an initial conversation and talk about the possibilities of you doing MTS.

2. Register for the MTS Recruiting Conference in your State. Go to www.mts.com.au

02 9570 5193
Level 1, 420 Forest Road,
Hurstville NSW 2220
www.mts.com.au

Connect with MTS online

Twitter: MTS_Live
Facebook: MTS.Live
Email: mts@mts.com.au



Multiplying Gospel workers through ministry apprenticeships