



Becoming a Ministry Training Centre by Laura and Dan

Aim of this Seminar – (5mins)

- To do some practical planning together so we can see the types of things that encourage an environment of ministry training
- Give our churches a much better chance (God willing) of raising up apprentices
- *Data from 1978-2007. For every 1000 who attended a 'challenge conference' 125 people would go onto an apprenticeship. After the apprenticeship 70% males and 50% females go to a college. After that 70% males and 70% females go to into some sort of vocational gospel ministry.*
- Other than getting people to a challenge conference what else can we do?
- *Pass the Baton workbook* (Session 1 and 2)

Part 1 - Indirect/cultural methods (church focus) – (25mins) (pg. 30)

Imagine for a minute a church where the following was happening:

1. MTS apprenticeships are on the radar, people know what it is and why we do it.
2. People ask about apprentices/apprenticeships to give support to them.
3. The congregation sees church as place that trains people
4. The congregation members are recognising serving/ministry gifts in others
5. Congregation has a 'Godly dissatisfaction' when there are no apprentices
6. There are people in the congregation who are interested in pursuing apprenticeships

Break – 5min Exercise

- Rate how your church is going at each of these from 1 (not so great) to 5 (really great)
- Pick one low area to work on, and one high area to play to strengths.

Practical ways to work on these weaknesses/play to these strengths (also can YOU suggest ways to work on these). (*Have options for the leader, preacher, trainer, pastor pg. 32*)

1. MTS apprenticeships are on the radar, people know about what it is and why we do it
 - a. Have a yearly information night
 - b. Invite Ben Pfahlert to preach at your church
 - c. Have an information session for leaders/elders
 - d. Start meeting with one person to pray

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- e.
2. People ask about apprentices/apprenticeships to give support to them
 - a. Get any existing apprentices to give an update during church/church bulletin once per month
 - b. Have apprentices from other churches visit to give an update
 - c. Run a 'day in the life of an apprentice' in your denominations newsletter
 - d. Interview an apprentice along with two of their supporters at your ACM
 - e.
3. Congregation sees church as somewhere that trains people
 - a. When ever a new apprentice starts or graduates take the time to explain the concept of training at church.
 - b. Meet with key leaders to read passages like Eph 4.
 - c. Have a dedicated office space for apprentices (even if it is currently empty)
 - d. Put 'Training' as a line item in your budget
 - e. Encourage small groups/gospel communities to use MTS training papers
 - f. Recruit key church members to meet 1:1 with someone else
 - g. Run training sessions for the different ministries members can serve in eg. welcoming, kids ministry, evangelistic course
 - h.
4. Congregation members are recognising other peoples gifts in serving/ministry
 - a. Include your elders in the recruiting process
 - b. At your annual church camp do a gift survey and print the results (respecting privacy)
 - c. Upfront interviews with Sunday school leaders, small group leaders, GC hosts, etc
 - d. Encourage small group leaders to be thinking about the gifts of people in their groups
 - e.
5. Congregation is unhappy/dissatisfied when there are no apprentices
 - a. Start a apprentice scholarship/trust to fund
 - b. Publish a list of apprenticeships past and present (either in your church or across the wider network)
 - c. Have an eldership breakfast to pray for the next generation of leaders
 - d. Celebrate apprentices achievements especially at the end of their apprenticeship
 - e.
6. There are people in the congregation who are interested in pursuing apprenticeships
 - a. Make a list of people who might be interested and give them more information
 - b. Make an announcement about apprenticeships in services once a quarter
 - c. Talk to those who are discipling others to encourage the people they disciple to consider
 - d. Be asking people directly to consider apprenticeships
 - e.

Discuss – What will you do now? (5mins)

Part 2 - Direct recruiting methods (individual focus) – (25mins)

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Ask them to consider an apprenticeship

- Explain to them why you think they should do an apprenticeship – they might not have thought of doing one before
- Explain where it would grow and stretch them
- Hand them a job description/position description
- **Laura share experience of Mikey's direct ask**

Help people make decisions about their life

- What to do

Help people make the jump into ministry

- What to do if they want to but aren't sure how

Break – Exercises choose one

- With the person next to you Plan a 'considering MTS dinner'
- Name a time when... (examples on pg 44)

1. ...You would tell a student...
 - a. ...to drop out of uni to pursue ministry
 - b. ...not to drop out of uni to pursue ministry
2. ...You'd tell a younger person ...
 - a. ...to go into ministry against the wishes of their parents
 - b. ...not to go into ministry because of their parents
3. ...You'd tell an older christian
 - a.to pursue bible collage and vocational ministry
 - b. ...not to pursue bible college vocational ministry
4. You'd tell a Christian to investigate church planting as a good option for them
5. You'd tell a Christian to aim for being a church pastor in an existing church

Questions?

Pray to finish up