



Moving ahead with MTS

This booklet has been designed to give you a basic understanding as to what it means to become a MTS Apprentice, and take the first step into full time Christian ministry work.

If you are interested in proceeding further please contact MTS – we will be able to help you to determine the best way forward.



Ministry Training Strategy

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MTS Supporting material

PASSING THE BATON

BY COLIN MARSHALL



In this guide for both apprentices and trainers, Colin Marshall outlines the biblical basis behind ministry apprenticeships, the essence of what a ministry apprenticeship is about, and some of the resources for making ministry apprenticeships happen.

ALL FOR THE KINGDOM

BY BEN PFAHLERT & KATIE OMROD



"This book is a very practical and realistic tool for those that the Holy Spirit is prompting to pursue full time gospel ministry. I pray that God may use it to raise up thousands of 21st century John Newtons."

Cristobal Ceron Pi, General Coordinator, Gimnasio (MTS), Chile

MTS information kit - 2016

multiplying
gospel workers
through ministry
apprenticeships





MTS Training Pathways

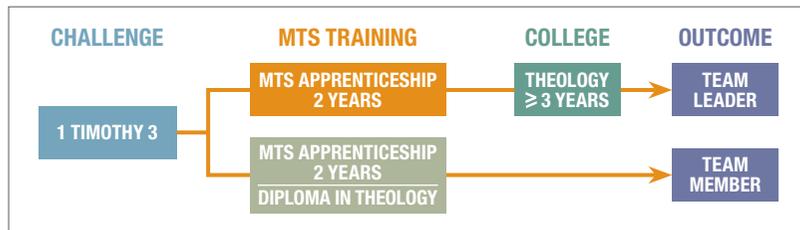
The MTS Apprenticeship Pathways

At MTS we think that a ministry training pathway that combines hands-on ministry experience with formal theological education is a great way to train for a lifetime of Gospel ministry.

There are two routes you can take:

1. You can follow a **TEAM LEADER** pathway, which involves going to Theological College after your apprenticeship.
2. Alternatively, you can follow the **TEAM MEMBER** pathway, where you complete a 2 year or 3 year Apprenticeship, combining hands-on ministry training with part-time theological study. Upon completion you will be ready to be involved in ministry on a full-time basis as a valued Team Member.

All pathways provide you with the opportunity to spend 2 or more years in a hands-on ministry apprenticeship – living the life of a full-time Gospel Worker.



The MTS curriculum is designed to help you discover how you are wired and in what way you might best contribute to growing God’s Kingdom in the future.

Completing an MTS Apprenticeship is a great way to work out your suitability for ministry work in the future.

MTS Scholarships

Many churches and other ministries sponsor scholarships to enable students to complete an MTS pathway. All persons seeking to undertake an MTS Apprenticeship are encouraged to apply for an “MTS Scholarship” to support them on their journey.



What being an apprentice involves

“If a person wants to be a farmer long term, they don’t start off at Agricultural College as a first port of call. They need to head off first to a farm and work alongside an experienced farmer for a couple of years. They need to live through a couple of cycles of the seasons. They need to know what it is like to deliver lambs in the middle of the night, harvest the grain before it is destroyed by rain and grapple with the blurred boundaries between work and rest.”

Ben Pfahlert, MTS Director

The MTS Team Leader Apprenticeship

Being an MTS Team Leader Apprentice involves a two year program based within a church or a specialist ministry team. You will learn through active participation in evangelism and Bible teaching, all under the leadership of a trainer.

MTS Apprentices would normally be immersed in the activities of their church or ministry. MTS has developed an apprentice curriculum which has both compulsory and optional elements. It is a flexible course that can be adapted to the apprentice’s context. This certificate course from the Australian College of Theology (ASTC – Academic Studies in Theology Certificate) is recognised by and eligible for Austudy.

You will be required to complete the MTS Apprentice curriculum over the two years.

The Academic Studies in Theology Certificate (ASTC) is undertaken through the Timothy Partnership, and is accredited with the Australian College of Theology (ACTh).

MTS Scholars do a 37.5 hour (per week) placement in a church or ministry. The MTS curriculum is 12 hours (1.5 days) of that 37.5 hour (5 day) week. The Timothy Partnership Certificate in Academic Studies (Theology) takes up one third of the MTS curriculum.

The MTS Team Member Apprenticeship

The MTS Team Member Apprenticeship is a two-year program combining theological study with active participation in evangelism and Bible teaching, all under the leadership of a trainer. You will do a maximum of 2.5 days theological study, which leaves you free to be immersed in practical ministry activities through the remainder of your week.



Types of MTS Apprenticeships

	Name	Future ministry expectation	Apprentice Receives	Annual support required		Austudy and FEE-HELP approved	Duration	Award <i>(certificate or diploma)</i>	Ministry experience	Study
				Tax deductible	Non tax deductible					
Team Leader	MTS Scholarship Team Leader Apprentice	Go to bible college	\$23,460 ²	\$23,000	-	Yes	2 years	Academic Studies in Theology Certificate	3.5 days	1.5 days
	MTS Scholarship Team Leader Apprentice (Cornhill)	Go to bible college	\$23,135 ²	\$24,000	-	Yes	2 years	Academic Studies in Theology Certificate	3.5 days	1.5 days
	MTS Curriculum Team Leader Apprentice	Go to bible college	\$23,911 ¹	-	\$27,302	-	2 years	-	3.5 days	1.5 days
	Fair Work Australia (FWA) Minimum Wage Team Leader Apprentice	Go to bible college	\$34,159 ¹	-	\$37,575	-	2 years	-	5 days	-
Team Member	MTS Scholarship Team Member Apprentice	Begin work as a full time team member in a church/ministry eg. evangelist, exec pastor, specific ministry pastor	\$23,674 ³	\$11,330	-	Yes	2 years	Diploma of Theology	2.5 days	2.5 days
	MTS Scholarship Team Member Apprentice (Youthworks)	Begin work as a full time team member in a church/ministry eg. children's minister, chaplain, SRE teacher	\$23,571 ³	\$15,450	-	Yes	2 years	YWC Diploma of Theology	2.5 days minimum	2.5 days max.
	MTS Scholarship Team Member Apprentice (Blue Collar)	Begin work as a full time team member eg. assistant minister, factory or community chaplain	\$25,485 ³	\$19,000	-	Yes	2 years	Diploma of Christian Ministry & Theology	2.5 days	2.5 days

¹ Stipend for FWA Minimum Wage and Curriculum Team Leader Apprentices.

² Comprises of scholarship plus \$7,030 from Austudy – assuming eligibility to receive full Centrelink benefits for a certificate level course.

³ Comprises of scholarship plus \$14,060 from Austudy – assuming eligibility to receive full Centrelink benefits for a diploma level course.



MTS Apprentice Week at a Glance

This is a typical week for a Team Leader ministry apprentice training in larger church. Please note the mix of study/training and hands-on ministry experience opportunities. As one of the objectives of MTS is to enable an apprentice to experience life 'as a full-time Gospel worker' this typical week has been structured to replicate the hours a committed lay church member (who works full-time) would spend at work and at church, ie. 5 regular working days plus 1-2 nights and also Sunday.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Bible reading and prayer • Youth group staff meeting • All staff meeting/training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Bible reading and prayer • University ministry day involving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Student exec meetings » Small group » Small group leader training » 3-4 one-to-one discipleship meetings » Staff training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Bible reading and prayer • Lead Bible study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Bible reading and prayer • MTS Study/training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Bible reading and prayer • One-to-one discipleship • MTS study/training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Bible reading and prayer • Day off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Bible reading and prayer • Morning church
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning church staff meeting • Night church staff meeting • One-to-one discipleship 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet and prepare with Bible study co-leader • MTS study/training and meeting with trainer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MTS study/training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth group preparation • One-to-one discipleship 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead youth Bible study
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Night off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Night off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Bible study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Night off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth group 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Night church



Leading and learning the way



Anna-June Veale is an MTS Apprentice at North Coast Church in Kingsley WA

“When I started my MTS apprenticeship I expected to help people mature in Christ, I didn’t expect to learn how much humility you must have to be in ministry. We are all a bunch of rotten sinners and the only one that can actually instigate change in our hearts is the Holy Spirit! Not me! That has been truly eye opening and unexpected.”



Duane Olivier is the lead pastor of North Coast Church in Kingsley WA, and an MTS trainer.

“You only fall in love with gospel ministry by doing gospel ministry. There is no shortcut to the sweet partnership and fellowship with Jesus Christ other than throwing yourself fully into His mission. MTS is the best way to throw yourself in, It gives you the experience of a full ‘immersion’ in gospel ministry so that you can objectively assess whether this is something you ought to do for the rest of your life.”



Brett Middleton is an MTS Trainer at St Luke’s Anglican Church, Miranda

“An MTS apprenticeship is the place where big questions can be answered. Am I the right person for paid gospel ministry? Do I have the desire and drive? Am I prepared to serve? Am I ready to step into this without looking back? Your years spent asking these questions while you serve the kingdom in new and challenging ways will not be wasted.”



Mellisa Wang is an MTS Apprentice at Australian Asian Church

“My MTS journey has been like visiting a famous site that I’ve only seen in postcards – I knew what it would look like but to personally walk it has brought challenges and growth that I would not have experienced had I not undertaken the apprenticeship. I am not a ‘super Christian’ here to save the day but just another recipient of God’s amazing grace, called to do the work he has prepared for me to do so that I may bring him glory.”



Trainer FAQ

Who is an MTS trainer?

“What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

2 Timothy 2:2

MTS Trainers are Christian leaders who take on ministry apprentices for a set period – normally two years. The biblical paradigm for ministry training is spiritual parenthood. Jesus called the 12 disciples his “children” (*John 13:33*). Paul called Timothy “my dear son” (*2 Tim 1:2*). This language is not accidental. Indeed, all Christians are encouraged to call God “our Father” when praying (*Matthew 6:9*).

Therefore, an MTS Trainer is a spiritual father. Like any father, their job is to mould, shape, correct, encourage and instruct their child – the MTS Apprentice.

“It is one way to ensure we are being responsible and raising up the next generation to be able to guard the gospel, preach the gospel and live out the gospel.”

Tracy Gowing – MTS Trainer



Mentor the apprentice live life alongside them as a spiritual parent



Train the apprentice in conviction, character, and competency



Send the apprentice out to do for others what was done for them

MTS helps the trainer by running Training Days for apprentices, having sessions particularly geared for trainers, providing books and online discussion material, and offering personal support.

How the numbers work



Future ministry expectation	Team Leader Apprentice				Team Member Apprentice		Blue Collar	
	FWA Minimum Wage	MTS Curriculum	MTS Scholarship	MTS Scholarship (Cornhill)	MTS Scholarship	MTS Scholarship (YWC)	MTS Curriculum	MTS Scholarship
	Team Leader	Team Leader	Team Leader	Team Leader	Team Member	Team Member	Team Member	Team Member
Expected Allocation of Time								
Ministry Experience (paid)	5.0 days	3.5 days						
Ministry Experience (ministry placement)			3.5 days	3.5 days	2.5 days	2.5 days	1.0 days	2.5 days
MTS Curriculum		1.5 days	1.0 days	1.0 days				
Theological Study (Certificate)			0.5 days	0.5 days				
Theological Study (Diploma)					2.5 days	2.5 days	1.0 days	2.5 days
Employer Expense								
Stipend	\$34,159	\$23,911						
Supn Guarantee (9.5%)	\$3,245	\$2,272						
Workers Compensation insurance premium	\$171	\$120						
MTS Registration / Training Fee		\$1,000					\$3,120	
Total Employer Expense	\$37,575	\$27,302					\$3,120	
Donor Support Required								
Tax Deductible Donations			\$23,000	\$24,000	\$11,330	\$15,450		\$19,000
DGR Donation Admin Fee (12.5%)			-\$2,875	-\$3,000	-\$1,416	-\$1,931		-\$2,375
Apprentice/Trainee Income								
Stipend	\$34,159	\$23,911						
Scholarship			\$20,125	\$21,000	\$9,914	\$13,519		\$16,625
Austudy/Youth Allowance*			\$7,030	\$7,030	\$14,060	\$14,060		\$14,060
Matthias Media (access to <i>GoThereFor</i>)			-\$300	-\$300	-\$300	-\$300		
Timothy Partnership Certificate course fees*			-\$3,395	-\$3,395				
Course expenses ineligible for FEE-HELP				-\$1,200		-\$3,708		-\$5,200
Net Student/Apprentice Income	\$34,159	\$23,911	\$23,460	\$23,135	\$23,674	\$23,571	\$0	\$25,485
Impact of Tax-deductibility for Scholarship Funding								
After-tax cost of employing an apprentice or offering a scholarship (@ 34.5% marginal tax rate)	\$37,575	\$27,302	\$15,065	\$15,720	\$7,421	\$10,120	\$3,120	\$12,445
After-tax cost of employing an apprentice or offering a scholarship (@ 39% marginal tax rate)	\$37,575	\$27,302	\$14,030	\$14,640	\$6,911	\$9,425	\$3,120	\$11,590
Is FEE-HELP available for course fees?	n/a	n/a	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

If eligible to receive these benefits (calculated for a single person, living away from home)

* Course fees for Diploma courses to be charged to FEE-HELP