

# Moving ahead with MTS



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

If you are interested in proceeding further we suggest that you contact MTS.

MTS will be able to help you to determine the best way to proceed.

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# Multiply Ministry with MTS



**MTS Apprenticeship – Team Member Scholarship**

**Multiplying Gospel workers  
through ministry apprenticeships**



[www.mts.com.au](http://www.mts.com.au) | Multiplying Gospel workers through ministry apprenticeships

# MTS TRAINING PATHWAYS

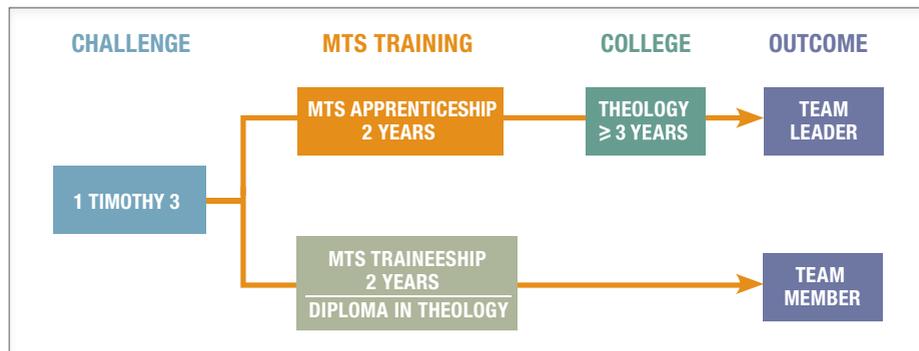
## The MTS Apprentice Pathways

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 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 Member Apprenticeship

The 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.

## How do I choose a Theological College?

The choice of theological education provider is primarily up to you, however MTS encourages consideration of three questions when choosing a theological education provider:

1. Is the college evangelical in its theological perspective?
2. Is the college supportive of ministry apprenticeships?
3. Which organisation is accrediting the course you are considering?

Many theological education providers offer courses accredited with the Australian College of Theology [ACTh].

## MTS Scholarships

MTS Team Member Scholarships run for two years (Diploma qualification) or three years (Advanced Diploma qualification). Subject to continuing financial support, apprentices may opt to extend their two year scholarship to three years, at the end of the second year.

## THE APPRENTICE: LEARNING THE WAY



**MATT STONES**

Gunnedah  
Anglican Church

### How did you come to be an MTS Apprentice?

My wife, Dee, and I came to a crossroads in life when we were preparing to buy a house and I was about to undertake a new course of study through work. It was at this time that Dee's father, who is also our Pastor, challenged Dee and I to consider full-time ministry and do an MTS apprenticeship. Making the decision to go into fulltime gospel ministry through an MTS apprenticeship wasn't by any means an easy decision. But as we sought to serve the Lord with our lives, we came to feel that this would be the best way for us to faithfully do that.

### What are the key ministries you're involved in as part of your apprenticeship?

My wife and I will continue to coordinate and run our Seniors Youth group. I've started some involvement with school based ministry such as a Primary School SUPA Club, Primary Scripture and a 'Chips n' Chat' High school ISCF group – all of these are new to me. I've been given the task of directing our annual holiday kids club and after that, of forming a weekly kids club to maintain established community links. As bible study is a key area for Christian growth I also run a young adults study group as well as meet weekly with a few younger guys to read one-to-one. Up front ministry at each of our various church services is also increasing, both for leading and preaching (on occasion).

### What are some of the challenges with doing an MTS apprenticeship?

Both of us left behind two full-time work positions - I was commencing my MTS apprenticeship and Dee is expecting our first child - so we knew it would be a financial challenge. We continually pray and put our full trust in God that he will provide the financial support we need to sustain us during my apprenticeship. Getting a handle around how much work is possible in the week when also studying towards a Diploma of Theology has also proven to be a challenge.

### What are you hoping to learn as part of being an apprentice?

In doing an apprenticeship, I am hoping to learn what areas I need to grow in order to keep doing full time ministry, and how I can use God-given gifts to serve Jesus. I hope that as I serve over the next two years that I will grow in Christian character, conviction and competence.

## THE TRAINER: LEADING THE WAY



**SCOTT DUNLOP**

Gunnedah  
Anglican Church

### What are some of the rewards or challenges of training an MTS Apprentice?

I have served as a minister of the gospel in Gunnedah for the last 11 years. Training gospel workers for the harvest field is a great privilege no matter where you are living. Community happens in country towns, so the effect of someone giving up their secular job and being prepared to do a full time Ministry Apprenticeship with the church does get noticed in the town, and is a great witness for Jesus, as people watch on and are challenged. It's been rewarding seeing Matt sacrificially following Jesus and stepping up serving Him.

### How have you seen your MTS Apprentices skills develop?

Whatever God calls us to do for Him, He always equips us for. So it's very humbling to have God work through you and be used in His service in His strength. So it's been very encouraging seeing Matt serving and growing but also seeing God strengthening and equipping Him. MTS pushes you out of your comfort zone and causes you to step out in faith but doing that puts you in a good place for God to be at work, shaping and developing you as a gospel worker. Matt meets up to do 1 to 1 with two senior teenage boys and quite often their mum is left waiting in the car for them at pick up time, as they are in deep discussion with Matt about God's Word.

### What are the benefits of having an apprentice who is planning to stay in the country?

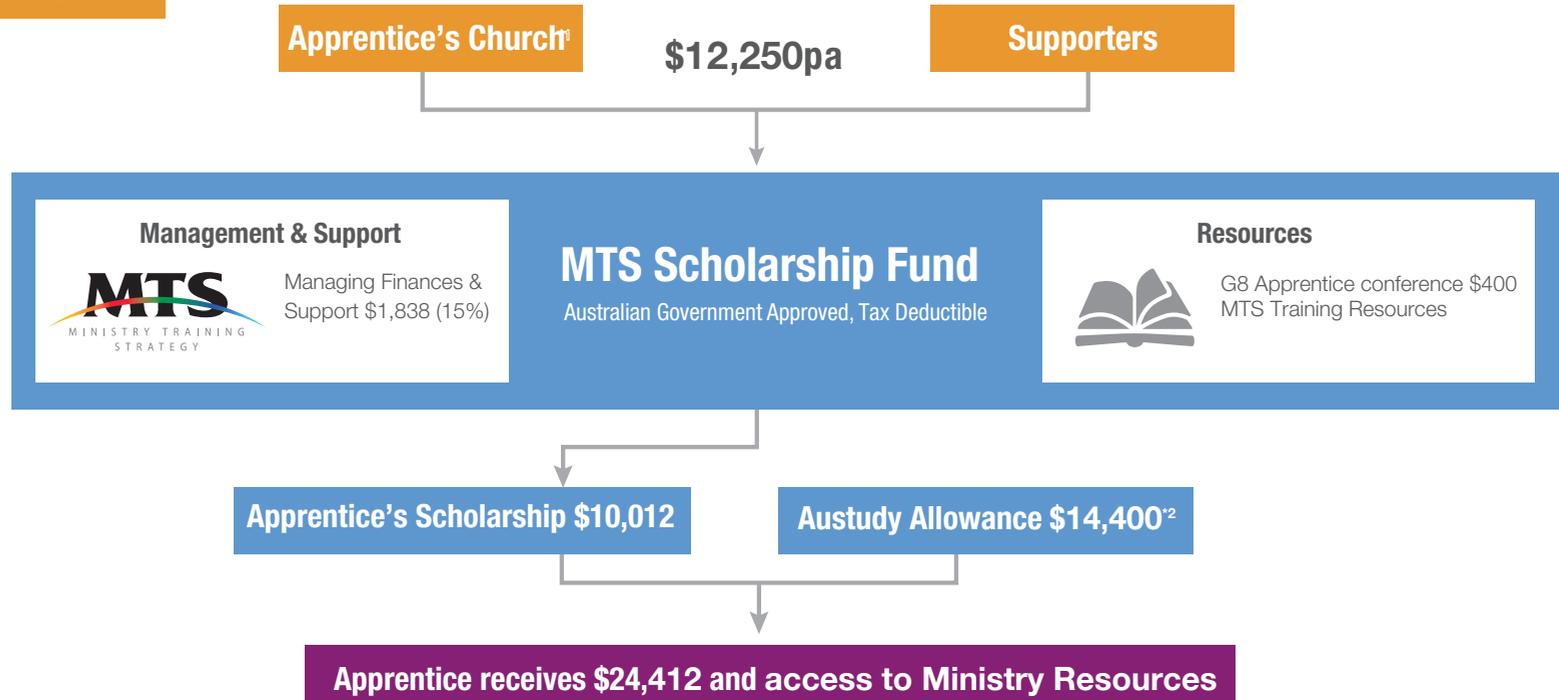
Rural people are uniquely gifted to minister to rural people so it's worth identifying and investing in rural people out here with ministry potential. Time is always precious in ministry and plenty of good things are always calling but what better time could be spent for the Kingdom than investing in a church leader of tomorrow.

### Why should someone considering full time ministry an MTS Apprenticeship?

An MTS apprenticeship helps form and test a person's conviction, character, and competence, with the feedback and encouragement of an experienced trainer. Most importantly, an MTS apprenticeship teaches you failure in a supportive space, and reminds you of an incredible Saviour who is with you as you seek to continue the ministry He began. So an apprenticeship draws you into a prayerful dependence on God as you seek to proclaim His Word and minister to people with the help of His Spirit. That's great training for ministry in any context.

# THE MTS MINISTRY TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP

## YOUR ANNUAL FINANCES AT WORK



## YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE



\*1 Church to fund a \$3,000 refundable Training Bond for each apprentice. A non tax-deductible receipt will be provided to acknowledge payment.

\*2 Assumes apprentice is eligible to receive Centrelink benefits (e.g. Austudy). Benefits for a single student living out of home used in this example.

\*3 Assumes apprentice is eligible to charge their course fees to Fee-Help.

# WORKING WITH YOUR TRAINER

MTS' biblical blueprint for ministry training is based on spiritual parenthood... growing children of faith (1 Tim 1:2).

The outcome of the MTS Apprenticeship is dependant on the relationship between you and your trainer. As an MTS Apprentice you will be assigned to a workplace (which is a MTS approved training centre) where your MTS accredited trainer will look after you.

Trainers are expected to not just minister 'to' their apprentice but to minister 'with them'. Your trainer will invest into your life and ministry.

In return, you will be asked to commit to the following:

## MTS Trainee's Commitment to the Trainer:

- Respect the wisdom and advice of your trainer
- Meet with your trainer (at the agreed times) and to be adequately prepared for each meeting
- Conscientiously attend to your ministry responsibilities and study obligations
- Attend Training Days in your state
- Attend the Recruiting Conference in your state
- Attend the G8 Conference (National Gathering of Apprentices)

## MTS Trainer's Commitment to the Apprentice

- Care, guide, teach and walk beside your apprentice through all stages of their spiritual journey
- Provide feedback, encouragement and correction to your apprentice
- Train apprentices in accordance with the MTS Apprenticeship approved curriculum
- Meet with the apprentice at the frequency agreed upon and for the period of time agreed upon
- Develop detailed Ministry Development Plans for the apprentice every 6 months
- Attend the MTS Training Days and events as required



### **PASSING THE BATON** BY COLIN MARSHALL

A guide for both apprentices and trainers.

What a ministry apprenticeship is about and the resources needed for making ministry apprenticeships happen.

# USEFUL INFORMATION

## Is an MTS Apprenticeship really a Cadetship?

Yes, but the image of the master-craftsman imparting hard-earned pearls of wisdom to their apprentices, captures the essence of MTS ministry preparation training.

## MTS training centres

The MTS training centre is the church or the organisation where the ministry Apprenticeship takes place, and needs to provide the apprentice with a trainer for the duration of the apprenticeship and to enfold the apprentice into its community.

The training centre is also responsible for ensuring that you are equipped for all the tasks you will need to carry out, including support raising.

## MTS Scholarships

MTS Team Leader Scholarships start on the 1st January and complete on 31st December of the following year.

Scholarship commencement is dependent upon Semester 1 ASTC fees and a demonstrated capacity to raise support and maintain a funding buffer of four scholarship payments.

## Government Assistance

Most Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses offered by theological education providers have been approved for Austudy support. Please note that while the course you plan to take may be approved to Austudy support, the apprentice must also meet Austudy's eligibility criteria for benefit recipients.

Where an apprentice does not qualify for Austudy support, the training centre has the option to increase the value of the scholarship awarded (this assumes a commensurate increase in donations).



### **ALL FOR THE KINGDOM** BY BEN PFAHLERT & KATIE OMROD

A very practical and realistic tool for those that the Holy Spirit is prompting to pursue full time gospel ministry.

We recommend that if you are considering becoming an MTS Apprentice, read and consider these books.