

# Blue Collar Ministry Apprenticeship

Blue Collar Christians  
trained as apprentices,  
equipped as leaders,  
making disciples.



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## A New Pathway to Vocational<sup>1</sup> Christian Ministry

In 2011 MTS is trialling a new approach to training Christians for vocational Christian ministry that incorporates qualifications from the VET<sup>2</sup> Sector and a ministry apprenticeship. While a pilot program will be started in Sydney next year, we hope in the coming years to make the training available throughout Australia.

### Why a new pathway?

Research into learning styles has shown some people learn best through reading, lectures and essays while others learn best on the job<sup>3</sup>. **We aim to provide Christian ministry training that suits those who learn best on the job.**

### Who is it for?

Men and women who are:

- Christian, with a trade background, who enjoy learning on the job.
- godly, have a passion to share Jesus with others and have demonstrated leadership ability.
- convicted to leave their work and become fishers of men and women. They might be 25 and single or 50 and married with children, it does not matter.

**Jesus said,  
“The harvest is plentiful,  
but the workers are few”**

Matthew 9:37



### What will the training look like?

You'll be trained for ministry like a building apprentice trains to be a builder. As such, the training will occur within a three year ministry apprenticeship. This would typically include:

- Four days a week on the job – the apprentice will work in their chosen ministry area (church, TAFE, prison etc) under a trained gospel worker.
- One day a week TAFE style training – ministry training through the MTS Training Institute in small groups with other blue collar ministry apprentices from all over Sydney. (MTS Training Institute is part of the Australian College of Ministries training network RTO #90965).

Over the three years, apprentices will obtain the following VET<sup>2</sup> Sector qualifications:

- 1st year Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology (30772QLD)
- 2nd year Diploma in Christian Ministry and Theology (30773QLD)
- 3rd year Advanced Diploma in Christian Ministry and Theology (30774QLD)

Assessment of apprentices' knowledge, understanding and skills will occur in a variety of ways including presentations, talks, workplace assessments, and observation.



## What will be included in the formal training?

The formal training will be provided by MTS Training Institute and will include training in:

**Head** – that is Biblical knowledge and understanding.

**Heart** – under God see apprentices transformed more into the likeness of Jesus Christ to live loving sacrificial lives that serve the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of those around them.

**Hands** – skills to communicate Biblical truth to others and lead God's people in being God's ambassadors in the world.

### The end goal of the Blue Collar Ministry Apprenticeship:

- Blue Collar Christian leaders making disciples and growing disciples.
- We are dedicated to training up soldiers of Christ who are equipped to fight behind enemy lines whether in a denominational uniform or not.

### Information for the Apprentice

- Cost is \$2,500 per year (Paid by apprentice or employer)
- AUSTUDY eligibility
  - > Year 1 – up to \$10,761
  - > Year 2-3 – none presently but we do hope the AUSTUDY benefits will be available by year 2 & 3 of the apprenticeship.
- Trainer – Apprentices must be supervised by a qualified trainer<sup>4</sup>.

## Information for the Training Church/Ministry

- The Church/Ministry must employ an apprentice on an apprentice wage.
- The apprentice is expected to receive an income of ≈ \$30,000 p.a.
  - > AUSTUDY +
  - > Ministry Wage
- The government will give the training church \$4,000 in the first year if the person has not completed a Certificate III or IV in the last seven years.
- The Church/Ministry must provide a qualified trainer<sup>4</sup> who will mentor the apprentice. This includes:
  - > meeting weekly for 1 hour
  - > allowing the apprentice to watch you in action
  - > observing the apprentice ministering in action
  - > providing the apprentice opportunity to complete assessment tasks

**Please contact Andrew Beddoe if finances are the only obstacle.**



<sup>1</sup> Vocational = paid employment. <sup>2</sup> Vocational Education and Training. <sup>3</sup> McCarthy, Bernice., About Learning, Excel Inc., U.S., 1997. <sup>4</sup> Someone who trains in accord with "Passing the Baton: A handbook for ministry apprenticeship" by Colin Marshall.