



MTS APPRENTICE CURRICULUM

GROWING TODAY'S APPRENTICES

INTO TOMORROW'S LEADERS

MTS APPRENTICE CURRICULUM

GENERAL INFORMATION

The ministry apprentice curriculum involves doing practical ministry under the specific guidance, support and supervision of an MTS accredited ministry trainer. The training program is designed to be undertaken prior to doing formal theological study, with the purpose of enabling apprentices to get a feel for what a life of ministry is like, and to help them decide whether they are suited for it in the long run. The apprentice will be based within a church or a specialist ministry team, and while the exact duties and responsibilities will vary according to where they are serving, the aim is that every apprentice will be exposed to ministry in a wide range of contexts and receive thorough on the job training and feedback.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

- An MTS apprentice will serve in a full time (40 hours per week) position for a fixed term of two years.
- Responsibilities and duties will vary from week to week, but the overall breakdown of an apprentice's working week should reflect the following proportions:
 - 1.5 days MTS curriculum (unpaid) as outlined below
 - 3.5 days employed ministry

This is a five day training partnership between MTS and the local church to train and develop the next generation of gospel workers.

- Each apprentice has a program tailor-made for them and their training context, but the three broad areas addressed in all programs are training in the three 'C's':
 - Christian conviction
 - Christian character
 - Competence in the work of Christian ministry

These three areas are further divided into eight key learning areas, as shown in the table below.

	Key Learnings Areas
CONVICTION	1. Bible Study
	2. Thinking theologically
CHARACTER	3. Prayer and godliness
	4. Relationships in ministry
COMPETENCE	5. Evangelism and world mission
	6. Teaching the Bible
	7. Training others in ministry
	8. Leadership

APPRENTICE TRAINING OBJECTIVES

	KEY LEARNING AREAS	LEARNING OBJECTIVES (On completion of their training, apprentices will be able to...)
CONVICTION	1. BIBLE STUDY Apprentices should develop commitment to the Bible, respecting it as the revealed and reliable word of God, as well as cultivating the desire and the skills to read and apply it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why the Word of God is reliable. • Demonstrate persistence in the discipline of daily Bible reading. • Demonstrate persistence in the application of the Bible to daily life. • Construct a timeline showing the flow of events in Scripture. • Explain the meaning of specific passages within their immediate context and the whole message of Scripture.
	2. THINKING THEOLOGICALLY Apprentices should have a sound understanding of the gospel, and grow in their ability to reflect theologically and critically about Christian ministry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the gospel of God's grace in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The elective purposes of God – The nature of sin – God's righteous judgment – The person and work of Christ – Justification by faith. • Explain the doctrine of revelation and critique alternative views of knowing God. • Explain the elements of evangelical ministry and critique alternative views of Christian ministry.
CHARACTER	3. PRAYER AND GODLINESS Apprentices should strive to live out a mature Christian life, characterized by a love for and trust in God. Their reliance on his power should be expressed through prayer. Apprentices should demonstrate a commitment to personal integrity, especially in the areas of faithfulness, truthfulness, purity and self-control.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate perseverance in daily prayer. • Demonstrate extensive prayer, reflecting God's concerns. • Demonstrate leadership of family and friends in the Word of God and prayer, encouraging them in Christian faith and maturity. • Consciously submit to the Word of God in obedience, making specific changes in thinking, attitude and actions. • Identify ungodly motivations—for example, wanting to preach in order to get attention or praise from people instead of wanting to preach in order to love and serve people.
	4. RELATIONSHIPS IN MINISTRY Apprentices should cultivate a humble, self-giving attitude towards others. Apprentices should exercise sober judgement and pastoral sensitivity, and grow in their listening abilities and skills in building rapport and trust. They should be teachable and open to feedback.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer for unattractive jobs. • Demonstrate 'going the extra mile' in serving people. • Serve in areas outside of formal responsibilities. • Demonstrate reliability in big and small matters. • Demonstrate a long-term interest in people. • Work cooperatively with others. • Look not only to their own interests but also to the interests of the team, even prioritising the interests of the team above their own. • Submit to leaders and be loyal. • Listen to others. • Speak the truth in a gentle but firm manner. • Respond to feedback in a teachable manner. • Resolve personal conflicts with people. • Respond to criticism in an open, non-defensive manner. • Demonstrate awareness of how their manners and person affect others. • Build rapport with people from other age groups and backgrounds.

APPRENTICE TRAINING OBJECTIVES

	KEY LEARNING AREAS	LEARNING OBJECTIVES (On completion of their training, apprentices will be able to...)
COMPETENCE	<p>5. EVANGELISM AND WORLD MISSION</p> <p>Apprentices should engage in proclaiming the gospel while firmly relying on the Holy Spirit. Apprentices should have a heart for the lost, sympathy for the background of their hearers (individuals and groups), and a commitment to world evangelism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build friendships with non-Christians. • Establish rapport with people in evangelistic situations. • Explain the gospel clearly. • Boldly urge people to respond to Christ. • Offer the appropriate 'next step' for individuals. • Answer questions and objections. • Follow up new Christians. • Foster commitment in others to evangelism. • Cultivate a world vision for evangelism, not just a local vision.
	<p>6. TEACHING THE BIBLE</p> <p>Apprentices should work at building mature Christians by teaching the Bible one-to-one, in small groups and in public settings to children, youth and adults.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exegete and explain a passage of the Bible. • Help individuals make progress in the Christian life by applying the Bible to their lives. • Read the Bible one-to-one. • Lead a Bible study discussion. • Give a talk from a passage of the Bible. • When teaching the Bible, apply principles of how people learn. • Lead in church and/or in other gatherings by reading the Bible, chairing meetings, interviewing people and so on.
	<p>7. TRAINING OTHERS TO MINISTER</p> <p>Apprentices should proactively identify people's gifts and potential. Apprentices should work at equipping these people through the Word of God for godly living, instilling in them the vision to reach the world with the gospel, and encouraging them to develop skills to minister to others.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise people's gifts and therefore in what ministries they should serve. • Train a personal evangelist. • Train an assistant in small group ministry. • Actively identify and coach those who should consider vocational ministry.
	<p>8. LEADERSHIP</p> <p>Apprentices should work at motivating, inspiring and organizing people to work together in teams. Apprentices need to set a clear vision, and think and act strategically, even initiating new ministries to break into uncharted terrain to advance the gospel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise how to use their time, make plans and implement them. • Identify their own leadership style, their gifts and their flaws. • Adapt a style so that it enhances rather than hinders relationships. • Recruit others onto a ministry team. • Develop and implement ministry plans. • Delegate responsibilities and follow-up. • Resolve conflict positively. • Start a new ministry. • Raise money for ministry. • Provide the vision and direction for a ministry.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PRE-READING:

- Passing the Baton: A Handbook to Ministry Apprenticeship
Col Marshall
- MTS Discussion Papers:
 - 8.01 'Adjusting to Ministry as Work'
 - 8.02 'Orientation to MTS'

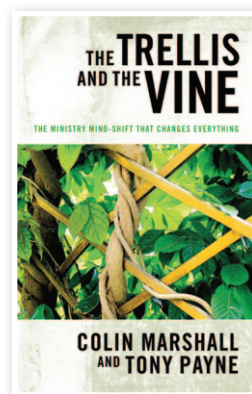
In each of the 8 key learning areas there are compulsory (or core) units of reading and exercises, and also elective (or recommended) reading. All compulsory units or work must be completed within the 2 years.

The MTS curriculum requires that all trainees complete 1080 hours of training (540 hours per annum). The compulsory curriculum detailed in the table below, caters for 649 hours of training to be completed over the two year period. In order to satisfy the curriculum requirements, candidates will be expected to complete a further 431 hours of training from the MTS elective syllabus.

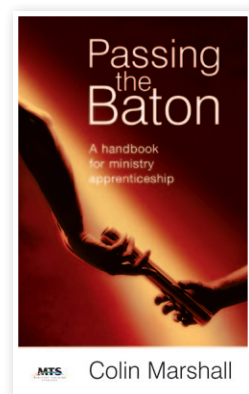
For the purposes of this document, only the compulsory reading and exercises are shown in the table below. For a fuller explanation of the Training Exercises, and also for information regarding elective reading and other helpful resources, please see the MTS website.

The course syllabus is intended as a framework. Trainers, in consultation with apprentices may agree to exchange core or elective modules with other material of comparable depth and quality.

Apprentices will also be expected to attend the MTS G8 National Apprentice Conference. It is at this conference that they will be able to attend the "Passing the Baton" and the 'Trellis and the Vine' Training Workshops.



THE TRELLIS AND THE VINE
BY COLIN MARSHALL
& TONY PAYNE



PASSING THE BATON
BY COLIN MARSHALL

CORE READING

	CORE READING	TRAINING EXERCISE
1. BIBLE STUDY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to Plan Graeme Goldsworthy (8 hrs) <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God's Big Picture Vaughan Roberts (8 hrs) • 'How to Read the Bible' Matthias Media Briefing #55 (1 hr) <p>MTS Discussion Papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.02 'Must I Learn to Interpret the Bible?' Don Carson (1 hr) • 1.03 'Bottom Up and Top Down' Andrew Shead (1 hr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.01 Read the Whole Bible (77 hrs) • 1.03 Expert in a New Testament Book (20 hrs)
2. THINKING THEOLOGICALLY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cross of Christ John Stott (12 hrs) <p>MTS Discussion Papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.01 'Biblical Pragmatics' (1 hr) • 2.05 'Four Ways to Live' (1 hr) • 2.06 'The Christian Experience of God – Part 1' John Woodhouse (1 hr) • 2.07 'Subjective Evidence for the Truth of Christianity' Peter Bolt (1 hr) • 2.08 'The Christian Experience of God – Part 2' John Woodhouse (1 hr) • 2.10 'Slogans – Reformation' John Woodhouse (1 hr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.01 Prepare a Gospel Talk (5 hrs) • 2.02 Design a teaching program on 'Guidance and the Bible' (20 hrs) <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.03 Design a teaching program on 'Predestination' (20 hrs) <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.04 Design a teaching program on 'Justification by Faith' (20 hrs)
3. PRAYER AND GODLINESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Call to Spiritual Reformation Don Carson (8 hrs) <p>MTS Discussion Papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.01 'Living God Who Hears' Graham Cole (1 hr) • 3.03 'Why Do We Pray?' Tony Payne (1/2 hr) • 3.04 'Why We Don't Pray' Tony Payne (1/2 hr) • 3.05 'How Can We Pray' Tony Payne (1/2 hr) • 3.06 'What to Pray' Tony Payne (1/2 hr) • 3.07 '7 Principles of Prayer' Broughton Knox (1 hr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.01 Prayer Habits (2 hrs for recording prayer habits) • 3.02 The Extra Mile (at least 1 hr per week = 96 hrs) • 3.03 Pray with Others (1 hr per week = 96 hrs)
4. RELATIONSHIPS IN MINISTRY	<p>MTS Discussion Papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4.01 'Facing Opposition' (1 hr) • 4.02 'The Ministry of Welcoming' Rick Lewers (1 hr) • 4.03 'Welcoming the Newcomer' Rick Lewers (1 hr) • 4.04 'Dealing with Antagonism' Kenneth C. Haugk (1 hr) • 4.05 'Ministry of the Pew' Col Marshall (1 hr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4.01 Ministry of the Pew (5 hrs) • 4.02 Visit Newcomers and members (20 hrs) • 4.07 Ministry amongst Elders (5 hrs)

CORE READING

	CORE READING	TRAINING EXERCISE
5. EVANGELISM AND WORLD MISSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God J I Packer (6 hrs) • '10 in 2' Ben Pfahlert (Sola Panel Blog) (30 mins) <p>MTS Discussion Papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.01 'Aren't All Good People Christians?' (1 hr) • 5.02 'Giving a Testimony' (30 mins) • 5.03 'Walk-up Evangelism' (30 mins) • 5.08 'Pastors as Ghetto Blasters – Creating the Evangelistic Pastor' Colin Marshall (1 hr) • 5.09 'Things to Say When You Are Asked the Question of the Moment' John Dickson (1 hr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.01 Walk-Up Evangelism (10 hrs) • 5.04 Follow up contacts (3 hrs) • 5.05 Follow up a new Christian (3 hrs) • 5.06 Establish New People in Church (3 hrs) • 5.07 Evangelistic Talk (5 hrs) • 5.08 Q&A Evangelism (5 hrs)
6. TEACHING THE BIBLE	<p>Growth Groups Col Marshall (8 hrs) OR Leading Better Bible Studies Rod and Karen Morris (8 hrs)</p> <p>MTS Discussion Papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6.01 'How to Run a Meeting' (1.5 hrs) 6.02 'Ministry to Individuals' (1 hr) 6.03 'Preparation for Preaching' (1 hr) 6.06 'One-to-one Prayer and Bible Reading' Colin Marshall (1 hr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6.01 Read the Bible One-to-One (20 hrs) • 6.03 Lead an Adult Bible study (1 hr for preparation per study. Assuming 40 weeks of Bible Study a year = 80 hrs) • 6.04 Read the Bible in Church (1 hr) • 6.05 Lead in Prayer in Church (1 hr) • 6.06 Lead the Meeting (2 hrs) • 6.07 Listen to Preaching (3 hrs) • 6.08 Give a Bible Talk (8 hrs)
7. TRAIN OTHERS IN MINISTRY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Trellis and the Vine Col Marshall (8 hrs) • All For the Kingdom Katie Omrod and Ben Pfahlert (4 hrs) <p>MTS Discussion Papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaching Papers 1 & 2 • Recruiting to Ministry • Training Men and Women • Interview Guide • Train Others 	<p>Trellis and the Vine Training Workshop (Run at the MTS G8 National apprentice Conference each year. Designed for first year apprentices.) (21 hrs)</p>
8. LEADERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courageous Leadership? Bill Hybels (8 hrs) • Leadership on the Front Foot Zac Veron (8 hrs) • MissionMinded Peter Bolt (8 hrs) • Passing the Baton Col Marshall (8 hrs) <p>MTS Discussion Papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.01 'Adjusting to Ministry as Work' (1hr) • 8.02 'Orientation to MTS' (1 hr) • 8.03 'What is the Place of Strategic Planning in Christian Ministry?' Col Marshall & Geoff Campbell (1 hr) • 8.05 'Making Decisions About Gospel Work' Rob Smith (1 hr) 	<p>Passing the Baton Training Workshop (Run at the MTS G8 National apprentice Conference each year. Designed for 2nd year apprentices.) (21 hrs)</p>

ELECTIVE SYLLABUS*

*Sample only. For full selection see www.mts.com.au

	ELECTIVE READING	ELECTIVE TRAINING EXERCISE
2. THINKING THEOLOGICALLY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.02 'Children of the Resurrection' (1 hr) • 2.03 'Eschatology' (1 hr) • 2.04 'Ministry and the Relationships between the Testaments' (1 hr) • 2.09 'Inspired Aspirations – The Holy Spirit – Part 1' Phillip Jensen (1 hr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.05 Design a Ministry Program (20 hrs) • 2.06 Organise a Christian Bookstall (5 hrs) • 2.07 Prepare a talk on Choosing a Church (5 hrs)

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