



FaithLife Ministries

"Equipping Church Leaders Globally for 23 Years"

May, 2024
Newsletter

Our Global Trainer Network Celebrates its 10th Anniversary!



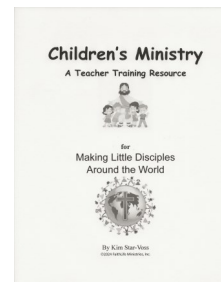
In March of 2014 we established our MCL Global Trainer Network (GTN) to enable us to multiply our training more rapidly than doing it all by ourselves. While we already had some pastors and leaders teaching our training to others, we decided to invite others and formalize the process. We began with 16 trainers in 13 nations, and in 10 years it has now grown to over 100 trainers in 51 nations! Today, 7 of those original 16 trainers are still actively teaching our MCL to others!

Over the past 10 years our GTN has trained 70,045 pastors and leaders via 1,312 conferences in 84 nations. Before our GTN we had trained only 3,593 pastors and leaders in the first 12 years of this training. Our GTN has also trained 89% of the total number of pastors and leaders we have trained since our beginning! Needless to say, our GTN has been the catalyst for our growth over the past 10 years. God has certainly done what we could never do on our own!

We thank and praise God for what He has done and rejoice in His blessings upon this ministry and those who have received our training!

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others."
2 Timothy 2:2 (NIV)

Children's Ministry Training Update



Kim has combined her Children's Ministry books into one book and has redesigned it to be a training resource for leaders of children's ministry. This new format makes it easier to photocopy and is intended to help children's ministry leaders around the world develop their own resources for teaching children rather than using prepackaged lessons from the USA and other first world nations. Kim's unique style helps children's ministry leaders create their own teaching and lessons that are Biblically based and culturally understood.

This updated book contains two main topics - discipling children and creative ministries. Discipling children topics include setting ministry goals while teaching children how to pray and share their own faith stories and testimonies. Creative ministries topics provide training on storytelling, puppet ministry, games, and worship & praise. The goal of this training is to reach the hearts of children for our Savior, Jesus!

This FREE book is now available on our website and replaces the previous collection of books. It will also soon be translated into Swahili. Other translations are being considered as well.

"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."
Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)

Global Training Summary



Over the past three months our global trainer network has been very active in teaching our various training courses. Here are the summaries for each of the past 3 months:

Our global trainer network had a busy month in March conducting 13 MCL training conferences in 9 nations in Africa and Asia. These nations were **Kenya, Cameroon, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, Bangladesh, Cuba, India** and the **Philippines**. They trained a total of 540 pastors and church leaders in these conferences. The photo is from an MCL training in **Morogoro, Tanzania** by **Pastor Peter Kitang'wa**. Our global trainer network continued to train at a strong pace through the first quarter of this year, and we thank the Lord for their efforts to bring our MCL training to communities & churches that need it!



Our global trainers were also very active in the month of April. There were 16 training conferences held in 11 nations including **India, Nepal, Pakistan** (see photo), **Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, the DRC, Nigeria, Peru** and the **USA** (online). In total, 801 pastors and church leaders were trained in these conferences.



In the month of May another 14 training conferences were held in the 9 nations of **Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Guinea, Zambia, Togo, Bangladesh, and England**. In these 14 conferences 850 pastors and church leaders were trained. Of significance in May is that we saw the first trainings by two of our newest global trainers in **England** and **Zambia**. We also saw the first training of Kim's new Children's Ministry Training Resource Book in **Tanzania**! This has brought the total number trained so far this year to over 3,400 trained!

If we are able to continue this pace, we will likely surpass our annual goal of 8,000 pastors and church leaders trained this year when we add in my training and that of our partner ministries.

New Global Trainers

We added 7 new global trainers to our global trainer network in March, April, and May. They include **Dr. Murphy Jackson** in **Buchanan, Liberia**, **Christopher Musonda** in **Solwezi, Zambia**, **Lionel Rubandana** in **Cankuzo, Burundi**, **Roberto Gomes** in **Fortaleza, Brazil**, **Carl Thompson** from **Indianapolis, IN** in the **USA**, **David Njuguna** from **Nairobi, Kenya**, and **Eric Wambua** from **Machakos, Kenya**.

Dr. Jackson found us on the internet and will be teaching our courses at Fellowship University in Buchanan. Christopher came to us through our website via an internet search and has already taught our MCL in Zambia. Lionel came to us through Lucent University where he took our MCL course. He has already taught our MCL in Burundi. I contacted Roberto who was my translator on two trips to Brazil 10 years ago. He is a pastor and trainer and will soon start training other trainers of our MCL in Brazil. Carl Thompson also found us on the internet and will be teaching our training in his global online Bible School. David and Eric also found us through our website and will be starting MCL training soon.

Please welcome these 7 new trainers to our global training network! With these new additions, our global trainer network now has 102 MCL Trainers in 51 nations!

Children's Ministry Update



Kim recently updated her children's ministry book (see page 1 article) to include some training instructions for those who do children's ministry or teach children. Her revised book, now entitled **Children's Ministry Training Resource Book**, was added to our website in March and we have seen a good response for this new material. Additionally, a few trainers have been providing copies to children's ministry leaders and have also begun to train children's ministry leaders and Sunday School teachers on how to use it as well.

We are pleased to add this new training resource to our other management and discipleship training resources and will wait upon the Lord to see how He will use it for His purpose and glory!

Our Need to Grow



There is a famous quote by William Burroughs that says, *"If you are not growing, then you are dying."* This applies to all types of organizations, including churches and ministries. That is why our ministry must always keep moving forward and resist the temptation to slow down or rest on our achievements.

Much of my time recently has been spent looking for ways to expand our training to more pastors and more nations where we believe that our training is most needed. Our own research into where the greatest need for our training exists has led me to schedule training trips to South Africa & China, seek global trainers for the nations of Mexico & Brazil, and to contact current and potential ministry partners to reach other nations.

If I knew exactly who to talk to you or how to reach those who would have an interest in our training, the task would be fairly simple. But that's not how it usually works. In ministry, like a church, God is the one in control, not us! As **Proverbs 19:21** says, *"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."* I just need to let God lead me and show me the way. He is the one who brings contacts to me and directs my steps along the path that He has prepared for me. My job is simply to trust Him and follow Him!

Please pray for us to be attentive to God's leading and submissive to His will, so that we keep moving forward and grow according to His purpose and plan!

"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

John 15:8 (NIV)

South Africa Training in September

Barry will be traveling to **Cape Town, South Africa September 2-11th** to train about 50 pastors and church leaders on our **Management for Church Leaders** training. Joining him to help train will be **Kevin Elseroad**, pastor of our home church in Georgia. Our host in Cape Town is **Pastor Tosomba Lokombekombe** (see photo with Barry) whom Barry met at the GPro II conference in Panama last November. South Africa is a nation that needs our training. So, this is a very strategic opportunity for us to not only conduct an MCL training conference there, but to also train someone at the conference to teach our training to others in this nation in the future. Please pray for this conference, our safe travel, and that God would use it to produce fruit for His kingdom in South Africa!



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Brazil Training Expansion



Brazil is the largest nation in South America and has a tremendous need for our leadership and management training. Our current trainer in Brazil had not been active and was focusing on his own ministry, so we needed to find another global trainer for Brazil to expand our training there. Barry reached out to **Roberto Gomes**, a pastor and trainer who was his translator when he first taught our MCL training in Brazil over 10 years ago. Roberto eagerly agreed to join our global trainer network due to his familiarity with Barry and our training. He arranged an online meeting on May 6th for Barry to meet with 11 pastors from **Brazil** to introduce them to our **Management for Church Leaders** training. The pastors who attended were very excited about our training, especially that it was at no cost to them. Roberto will be training them to train others so that our training will expand and reach more pastors and leaders in Brazil.

Please pray for Roberto and that God will use him to expand our training throughout Brazil in the coming years!

Our 2024 Schedule

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose/Host</u>
Feb 18-26	Cairo, Egypt	MCL & MCL #2 training— <i>MELTI</i>
June or July	Austin, TX	MCL training— <i>LCMS-TX District</i>
Sep 2-11	Cape Town, South Africa	MCL Training— <i>Embassy of Christ Kingdom Church</i>
Oct 13-23	Shanghai, China	China Ministry Symposium (<i>with China Partner</i>)
Nov 2	Cumming, GA	Annual FLM Board of Directors Meeting

Prayer Requests



- God's healing for **Gideon Nair**, our MCL Trainer in **India**, from a broken thigh bone.
- God's healing and restoration for the victims of **flooding in Kenya**.
- God's peace to reign in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**.
- God's protection for persecuted Christians in **Turkey** and for the safety of pastors in the **Ukraine**.
- God's healing for **Pastor Sikander Chand**, our MCL Trainer in **India**, from a liver infection.
- God's wisdom for Barry as he plans and prepares for his mission trips to **South Africa** and **China** later this year.
- Thankfulness to God for the addition of 7 new **MCL Trainers** this year!
- God's wisdom, guidance, and provision for **our vision** to train 150,000 pastors and leaders by 2030.
- God's purpose and will for His financial **provision for this ministry** through our annual fundraising appeal letters being mailed out in June.

Other News



- We have finished the recording of our **MCL #2 training** on video. The finished videos should be available by the end of August and will be posted on our website with free access.
- We have made some **changes to our website** to reflect the updated Children's Ministry Training Resource Book, to create individual webpages for our various training courses, and to eliminate some redundant page links. We encourage you to check it out!
- An audio version of our **MCL video training** was broadcast on Hope 103.1 FM in **Grenada** in early April. A rebroadcast is planned for June.
- Our new **Children's Ministry Training Resource Book** has been translated in **Swahili**. Training of this course in Swahili is planned in the **DRC** and **Tanzania** in June.
- We will be sending our **annual fundraising appeal letter** in late June. Your response and financial support for our ministry this year will be greatly appreciated!

2023 GPro Congress Video

Barry attended the **GPro II global conference** on pastoral training back in November in Panama city, Panama. GPro has released a short video about it that provides a better understanding of what GPro is all about and why our ministry is a part of GPro. You can watch the video here:

<https://vimeo.com/910288784/e02cad7b91?share=copy>

Thank you for your prayers & support!

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