



# The Update

Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

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## The View from Eastern Ukraine

In May the core leaders from the Zaporizhia region of eastern Ukraine that we have been working with came together for a leadership retreat. Phil spent several days with these leaders building relationships as well as sharing principles from the *Coaching Guide*. This manual is designed to help leaders understand the importance of relevant wineskins (structure) and aligning the values of a group with their vision and strategy. It includes several assessments that make the somewhat abstract idea of vision, tangible and measurable.

Perhaps as important as the materials and teaching is the opportunity for these leaders to get away for a couple days to be encouraged and be able to have a bit of a retreat from the pressures of the ministry so that they can be recharged to serve in this



Participants in Leadership Retreat

training from the *Coaching Guide*, which is a multi-year process intended to bring about change in an organization or church, in order to equip these leaders as they develop strategies to reach into their communities.

While in Ukraine Phil was also able to follow up with some of the couples that on previous visits had gone through our marriage materials. He shared regarding Communication, Boundaries, and Intimacy from the MCNet, "The First Team."

(you can read about this and our other materials at [www.icmcanada.org](http://www.icmcanada.org)).



Teaching & Fellowship with leaders



Phil with key leaders from five participating ministries

challenging region.

Maxym (our local ministry coach) will be meeting with the leadership of these five ministries before Phil returns to the region in October. At that point they will continue with the assessments and



# MCNET COACHES' REPORTS



## MAGDEBURG, E. GERMANY



*Karl with team (L) and church service*

In May several members of the MCNet team had the opportunity to connect in person in Berlin, Gary & Gail (from Geneva), Karl and Claudia (E.Germany) and Phil & Nancy (Canada). It was over 15 years ago that they all first met when they were living in Berlin. They have travelled and taught together in several continents since then, but rarely are able to meet all together.



*Gary/Gail; Phil/Nancy; Claudia/Karl*

Phil and Nancy were also able to spend some days with Karl/Claudia's ministry team in Magdeburg. In addition to providing leadership to the church, Karl has also started a non-profit mission society that will facilitate his additional travel and ministry within the international network of leaders.

## GENEVA, SWITZERLAND



*Gary, Intl. Church Geneva*

Gary & Gail Cooper (coach with MCNet) are currently in Geneva, Switzerland. About 40% of Geneva's residence come from other countries making it the most international city in Europe. In their current bi-vocational missionary role, they are attending an international church and Gary has been able to serve the church that has been in transition between pastoral leadership.

Having started as missionaries in Guatemala and then pastoring an international church in Berlin for some twenty years they have been able to use their experience to minister to the congregation during this transition. The MCNet also benefits from Gary's experience as he periodically travels and teaches within the Network.







## CUBA, LATIN AMERICA



*Phil & Carlos Coaching Church Teams, Cuba*

Our ministry in Latin America/ Caribbean began in Cuba nearly ten years ago. Since then many leaders have been trained and are using our materials to train others. One of our Cuban coaches introduced us to Carlos in the Dominican Republic and we have been training leaders in that country for several years now. Raydel (from

Cuba) has now joined Carlos and is expanding this training throughout the island nation.

For the last few years Carlos has had a vision for leadership training in Cuba and has travelled there many times to support the church there. In addition, he and his team continue to have a vision for leadership training in other Latin American countries. We now work through Carlos' network in Cuba that he has initiated, together with the leaders that have been trained using our materials.

Last April Phil was able to join Carlos in Cuba to work with our existing coach, Javier, as well as launch several new leadership centers of training throughout the country. Working in partnership with our Dominican coaches, who are using our materials and have the vision of servant

# MCNET COACHES' REPORTS



*Cuba, April 2018:  
Carlos (DR), Javier & Aidelys (Cuba),  
Kent (EA- USA), Phil (ICM Cdn)*

leadership and mentoring, we look forward to being part of what God is doing in Cuba. It is also our goal that we will together be able to provide training in other countries in Latin America in the years to come.



## SENEGAL, WEST AFRICA



*Women's Conference, Senegal*



providing audio solar bibles as well as practical help such as water filtration units. Phil will be joining Deo in November as they together teach leaders in this predominantly Muslim nation.

Earlier this year Deo arranged for a group of ladies from Michigan to do a women's conference in Senegal. They also spent time in several of the surrounding villages



*Sarah & Deo Mwamba*



*Ministering in local community & churches*

### Our Mission

*Serving the church by mentoring and coaching ministry teams.*

### Our Purpose

Our goal is to see another generation equipped so that they may be relevant witnesses in their culture. We accomplish this through mentoring leaders, coaching and consulting with ministry teams, and providing culturally relevant materials that facilitate this process.

### Accountability

ICM is an interdenominational non-profit charity registered in both Canada and the USA. It is a faith mission and supported by free-will donations of those of like vision.

ICM adheres to the WEF & Lausanne Covenants statements of faith and takes an evangelical approach to Scripture.

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# From My Desk



**Phil Jeske, PhD**  
President

The other day I had the opportunity to share in our church from the life of Caleb. You remember him, right? He was the “other” guy. He was there with Moses and Joshua, yet had to wait forty-five years to get what was promised to him. Yet in all that time he never got disillusioned or bitter. That is the only way I can figure he could say in Joshua 14, “I am as strong at 85 as I was at 40, I will fight those same enemies in the hill country in order to inherit the land that God promised to me 45 years ago.”

It all began when he and Joshua were willing and able to go into the promised land the first time around, but due to the decisions of others they spent the next 40 years wandering in the wilderness until only they were left. Moses died, as well as their whole generation – acquaintances, friends and family. Only those who at the time were twenty and under were still alive. So Joshua and Caleb, now in their eighties, were the oldest guys on the trail.

What is truly remarkable is that Caleb did not get bitter for having his dream denied by others. Nor did he get envious when his best buddy got tapped on the shoulder by Moses to lead the people. He just kept eating the manna, packing up the tent, and cleaning sand out of his sandals. The reality is that it is impossible to have vision and hold on to God’s promises while holding on to bitterness at the same time. The fact that he at 85 could say, “Joshua, remember that promise that God made to me through Moses, I want to fight those same enemies and take what is mine now,” indicates that he had not become a disillusioned, bitter old man.

That I think is the main point. But I also see from his life that he had certain battles to face and overcome. Those enemies in the hill country, where still there when he was an old man, because they were *his* enemies to overcome. I kind of think that it is the same for us. We all have battles that are tailored just for us. We can try avoiding them, but if we want to fulfill God’s purposes in our lives we need to learn to conquer “our” enemies. I am not sure we ever can retire from them. Our role may change and the intensity of the battle may change, but it is possible to have the same passion and focus as Caleb, even as we get older.

Our emphasis on mentoring, I believe reflects a key component to how we can stay in the battle and do our part so that those coming behind us can benefit from the battles we have engaged in and won. As with Caleb, God will not forget his promises to us and as we trust in him, refusing to get bitter and cynical in the process, he will fulfill his will in our lives – even if it takes until we are 85!

### **Partnering Together**

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\$ \_\_\_\_\_/month

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