



The Update

Machu Picchu, Peru

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Training the Next Gen in Peru



Carlos with Cdn Board

In the summer Carlos, the regional coordinator of the Ministry Coaching Network (MCNet) in Latin America/Caribbean visited Canada. He had several meetings from Vancouver to Calgary, making contact with partners for the various ministries that he oversees in Dominican Republic (DR) and beyond. While in the Vancouver area he was able to spend an evening the ICM Canada board and share his vision of the ministry. In Calgary he was also able to meet with various groups that are supporting his work in DR. While there, he was able to meet with another ICM Canada board member and other friends of the ministry.

DOM REP & PUERTO RICO

Regarding the ongoing training in Dominican Rep., Raydel writes about the upcoming plans for the Christian Leadership Program (CLI), *"In January I will resume the CLI group that we have in Santo Domingo, as well as there is a new group starting in the city of Santiago, in the northern part of the island. We are also ready to start the training program in Puerto Rico, where we have two partner organizations wanting to work with us. We also anticipate more trips to Guatemala to follow up requests for training there."* We are also exploring options with several Bible Schools and Seminaries who are interested in using our materials within their own training programs.



Raydel in Puerto Rico

PERU

Over the last few years we have introduced you to Manny who has also been impacted by our teaching and who has been mentored by Carlos. He began a youth work in Dominican Rep and Phil has had several opportunities to coach him and his team as they mentor the next generation in DR. In April, Manny will be going to Peru to begin another branch of his ministry there. They will begin with the *Discipling thru Intentional Relationship* materials, which are designed to disciple someone in the faith. They will then introduce other leadership training as they train the next generation of young leaders in Peru.



Phil with Manny



Together with Cuban leaders

CUBA

Though it hardly seems possible, life in Cuba has become even more difficult. Having served in the country for the last fifteen years, the Cuban people have become very dear to us. In the last few years, Carlos and his team have continued this work. Esperanza, who works with Carlos in Dominican Rep. (DR), will be regularly going to Cuba this year to serve leaders there. Having become an effective mentor and initiating several training programs in DR, she will now be doing the same in Cuba. Thank you for your prayers and support for the ongoing work in Latin America/Caribbean.



Esperanza (right) with mentoree

Partners in Africa



Phil met Greg at a missions conference many years ago and has since provided his ministry some of our Discipleship and Mentoring materials. Greg began the *Seas of Life Missions* and continues to expand the network of youth churches and centers in Kenya around the Kisumu region. He explains, *"We desire and strive to help empower the Kenyan youth and young people in the most relevant ways possible. We find through our Youth Churches and Centers we are able to mentor, encourage, empower and create a safe, loving place for these young people."*



Greg (pic above) and his team (below)

The Jeskes started ICM Canada in 1989 and then moved as a family in 1990 to serve as missionary teachers in Kenya. Working together with ICM USA, many of the ICM programs were initiated in those early days in the 1990s. Phil helped write some of the materials and traveled throughout Kenya and Uganda teaching small groups of pastors. Today, the training ministry has continued in many African countries through ICM USA and its partners (check out www.icmusa.org for more details of the ongoing ministry in Africa).

Sharing about their mentorship program, Greg adds, *"Through our 'Leaders in Training' mentorship program, youth leaders who love Jesus are trained to minister to others in whatever way God has gifted them. Our friend in Canada, Dr. Phil is an amazing teacher, writer and mentor's mentor who has developed so many manuals and*

programs to assist leaders in training up others in ministry. It is the most effective way we have found that helpfully addresses every area of our lives and ministry to assist us in becoming all we can be for the kingdom of God. We are so grateful to Dr. Jeske for all he has done to help us with growth and development of our ministry. I cannot thank Phil enough for giving my ministry greater structure and a more lasting impact. I love how systematic the teachings are so that all we have to do is facilitate and enjoy the benefits of your research & insights."

Thank you for your prayers for his ministry and many other ministry partners who are using our materials to train and encourage the next generation of leaders. Your financial support enables us to continue to develop and provide these leadership materials for leaders, who are equipped to train other leaders, who then serve in a variety of ministries in their churches and community.

LEADERSHIPmatters Podcast

Phil continues to produce podcasts series based on his materials and teaching over the years. All sixteen episodes of his first series, "Mentoring Intelligence" has been completed and posted to our website (www.icmcanada.org/mentoring-intelligence). The topics covered are a bit broader than the title may suggest, such as, What is biblical leadership, The difference between power and authority, How to be a mentor, What is the difference between discipling and mentoring, to mention a few.

He is currently working on his next series, "Finishing the Race," which discusses how we can have meaning in our lives through every stage of life. Many have found this helpful and so if you would like to get these, subscribe and bookmark this series from our website.

Together with his co-author, Doug, Phil has also produced a short podcast for each of the 40 competencies in the MCNet Christian Leadership Institute (CLI) program. Translation of this four year training model into Spanish is complete, and is continuing into Russian.

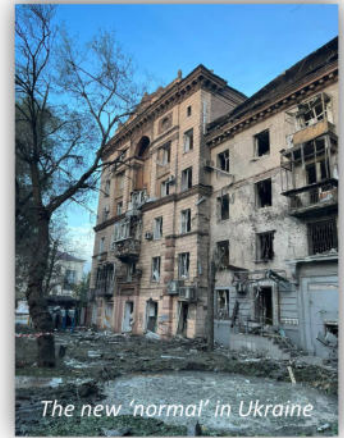


Ongoing Ministry in Ukraine

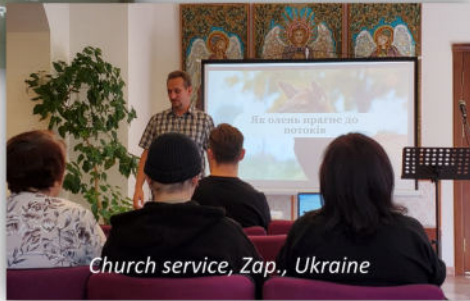


Maxym and Anya continue to serve in their home city of Zaporizhzhia in

discuss with Max ways to encourage the giftings of those within the body of Christ so that the work load can be shared by all members. This has become more of a challenge, as most members are dealing with their own challenges due to the ongoing war.



eastern Ukraine. In spite of increased missile and drone attacks in the city, and regular power outages, they continue to see their church plant grow and develop.



They now have around 50 members, with a new children and teenager ministry. Due to the war, there are not that many young men in the church, but they continue to serve their families and loved ones. In a recent video chat, Phil was able to

In his last trip to Ukraine, Phil visited with a pastor from Kharkiv, whose team he had coached before the war. It is likely that you have heard of Kharkiv in the news, as it is close to the Russian border and has sustained extensive damage. This pastor and his team continue to provide humanitarian aid to displaced people and minister to the children and women throughout the region.



Willi, a newer MCNet ministry coach, continues to serve the Ukrainian people in a variety of ways. When he is not travelling to Ukraine, he serves Ukrainian and Russian speakers in Germany with training and encouragement. He recently provided some training for the team leaders of a children's home for Ukrainian refugees in Germany.



From his travels in Ukraine this past year he tells the following story: *Yan is one of the participants of the pastors' mentoring group in Ukraine. When he first joined, he wanted to give up, as it seemed too difficult for him and he felt inferior, but then he gathered courage and completed the mentoring course without missing a single class. At the beginning of the war they made a decision as a church to build, in spite of the war. Since then, the number of church attendees has doubled. They are rebuilding an old building and preparing the hall for another 250 seats. Though Yan had the opportunity to leave the country, he has*

stayed and continues to provide courageous leadership.

Please remember many of our brother and sisters who continue to serve others, even in the face of their own personal challenges in the country of Ukraine.

CLI Consultation – June 2025

Thank you for your continued donations and extra year-end gifts to help with the cost of our CLI Consultation, which will be held in eastern Germany in June. We will be meeting in a venue close to Magdeburg where Karl and Claudia pastor. Participants will be from Russia, Latin America, as well as those serving in Ukraine & Central Asia (Willi). As the MCNet *Christian Leadership Institute* develops in various countries, various decisions need to be made regarding the direction and expansion. This will also be a time of meeting new team members and encouraging one another to improve our serve in these regions.



From My Desk



Phil Jeske, PhD
President

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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Now unless you are a Latin buff, or were around several hundred years ago, the phrase DV (Deo Volente), will likely not mean much. But, actually, it was very common in the seventeenth and eighteenth century. Christians (and others), would use it at the end of a letter or when bidding someone farewell. The direct translation from Latin is, "God Willing," or more loosely, "If the Lord wills."

It was likely inspired by James 4:15, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." In context, James is reminding us not to be too bullish on our ability to carry out our plans in our own strength and wisdom. This may be a factor of age, but at some point it dawns on most of us that we are not as much in control of our destiny as we once thought! As the well known proverb says, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." (Prov. 16:9)

As with many sayings and conventions, over the years it became less common until it fell out of usage completely. But I think it is a great reminder (particularly in our western 'can do' theology), that we should have a large dose of humility in predicting what we will accomplish in the future. This passage (and others) does not seem to indicate that we should have no plans and just sit and do nothing. Rather, that we need to exercise humility, holding our plans loosely, recognizing that he is ultimately in control. No matter how chaotic life and this world may seem, he is still on the throne. This can really bring down our anxiety level and greatly reduce our tendency to worry.

Now I don't think it's my life mission to bring back the saying, DV! But I do think it is a great reminder of who really controls our life and times. He has appointed my days, your days. He not only knows how our story ends (on this earth), but is directly engaged with us in fulfilling his purposes in our lives. The amazing thing is that his purposes for us go far beyond our life on this fallen earth. This is why what we do while here is so important (and why he is so engaged with us). In some way, which we likely can't fully comprehend this side of eternity, he is preparing us for his ultimate plans for our lives in our real home.

As we embark on another year, personally and as a ministry, we are excited about the possibilities ahead. From the development of the podcasts series, to meeting with our team in June, and the continued growth and expansion of the CLI training program. But after making our plans, we then say, "Deo Volente." Sure we have our plans, but we lay them all before him as he weighs our motives and in his wisdom truly knows the best course of action. Our confidence is in Him and not our ability to pull off what we think are great plans.

So as we look to the rest of this year and make our plans, let me bring back the convention and conclude with, "DV."

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