



The Update

Old City Square, Santo Domingo, DR

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Making 'Disciples' or Making 'Converts' ?

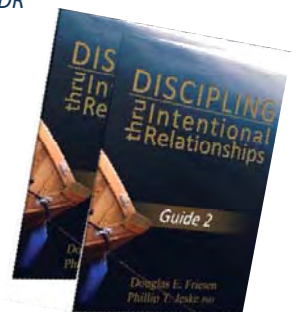
The Evangelical Association of Dominican Rep. invited Dr. Phil to do a workshop and plenary speaker at their National Summit Leadership Conference in September. This was a great opportunity to invest in several hundred key leaders in the island nation.

In his plenary session Phil shared from Matt. 28:19-20 regarding the mandate to "make disciples." Using various slides (see below by Patrick Johnstone) he depicted the exciting growth of the evangelical believers Latin American in the last hundred years. Yet without discipleship all we have done is make converts

lockdowns and shared realities in most nations in the last year. Leaders have had to grapple with the questions of not only how to do ministry, but more fundamentally, is "church" what happens when we come to a building or are we



Leadership Conference,
Santo Domingo, DR



discover their God given purpose on this earth. Many good contacts were made with leaders around the country that Carlos and his team will be able to follow up with further training.



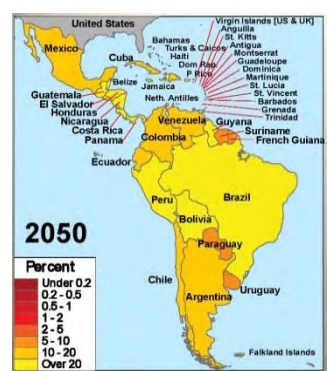
(something we are not asked to do anywhere in Scripture). Making converts who do not become disciples of Jesus results in a cultural Christianity that has no power to change lives from the inside out or in our society. This has been only magnified through

equipping all believers (the real church) to be salt and light in their community. This is our real task and perhaps the pandemic has indicted a need to rethink our priorities in this area.

Together with Carlos, they were able to then offer ICM's resources in Spanish. Both the *Discipling thru Intentional Relationship* Guides, which assists all believers become disciples of Jesus, as well as the *Mentoring thru Intentional Relationships* Guides, which focuses on helping disciples of Jesus

↓ The lighter the color the greater the percentage of Latin American believers.

Source: Patrick Johnstone



Around the Corner

While the ministry in the various countries we serve is not dependent upon Phil travelling there, being able to connect personally and encourage leaders is important. Thank you for our prayers as his travel schedule resumes in the fall, albeit with all the continued changes facing international travel.

SEPTEMBER

In September Phil just returned from the Dominican Republic, which is our base of ministry for the Latin America/Caribbean region. He was the plenary speaker for the National Conference of Evangelical leaders in DR. speaking on the topic, "Discipling the Nations in a Post-pandemic World." He was also able to do a workshop on investing in the next generation through mentoring relationships, as well personally invest in the various leadership teams with our partner ministry in the country.

OCTOBER

In October Phil plans to be in Ukraine to be with several leaders in Zaporozhye with whom he has worked for several years. Karl (E. Germany) will be joining him, as together with Max and Vlad they travel from this city in the far east to the far west of the country (Lviv) to introduce the new ministerial training model they have just completed (a competency based mentorship program, *Coaching thru Intentional Relationships*).

NOVEMBER

The final trip of the year will be in November, when Doug and Phil will be back in the Dominican Republic in order to launch our new *Coaching thru Intentional Relationships*

competency training program for pastors and church leaders. This utilizes all the materials developed over the last twenty years, as well as various new materials written over the last year. The goal is to provide a practical ministerial training model for church leadership based upon assessing forty competencies through a mentoring relationship.

JUNE 2022

Please also continue to pray for the

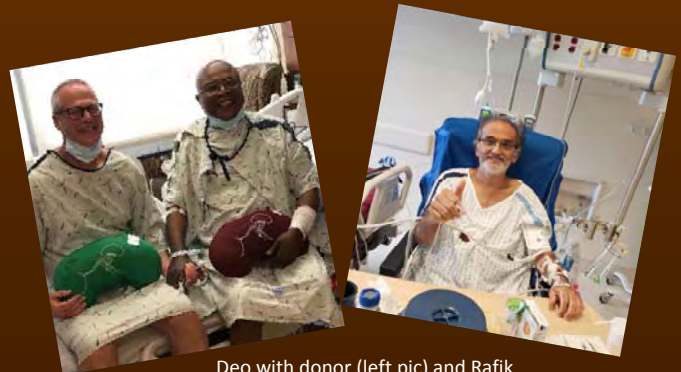
logistics for our regional meeting of Russian/Ukraine and Eastern Europe coaches in June of 2022. Due to the difficulties of travel between Russia and Ukraine and Phil not being able to get a visa to Russia, this will be held in Turkey and provide an opportunity to encourage these leaders and provide new materials for them to use as they serve leaders in their country.

Our African Focus

As many ministries, our ability to connect personally with those in our international Ministry Coaching Network (MCNet) has been curtailed due to the travel restrictions over the last year and a half. Pre-2020, Phil had joined Deo in Senegal (and other West African countries) as well as with Rafik in Tanzania.

There have also been a few other challenges in the last year which affected our Africa coaches serving in this region. The good news is that Deo (West Africa) has recently received his kidney transplant and is in the process of recovering. He is hoping to return to West Africa by 2022. Remarkably, Rafik also had a major health issue requiring open heart bypass surgery in the fall of 2020. The good news is that he is back to full health and is also looking forward to returning to Africa (Tanzania) in 2022.

During this season of travel restrictions, various African translation projects have been completed. The remainder of our materials have been put into French (W. Africa) and our key *Coaching Guide* and *Ministry Guide* have been translated into Swahili, the primary language of East Africa. While the work has continued in these regions in their absence, we are looking forward to when they will be able to strengthen the leaders in these countries in person. Thank you for your prayers for these men, their families and the purposes that God still has on their lives.



Deo with donor (left pic) and Rafik recovering in 2020 (right pic)

Serving Families in St. Petersburg, Russia

As we are reported earlier, Valera and Narina (dear friends and colleagues in the Ministry Coaching Network initiated by ICM Canada in 2008) are now serving in St. Petersburg. They first opened up their Family of Churches to our ministry over fifteen years ago when they were living the Caucasus region of Russia.

They are now involved in a church plant and in various capacities serving families and teaching the Word. The pastor they work with recently wrote the following:

Dear ICM Team,

My name is Hansie and I'm the pastor of Hope Christian Centre in St. Petersburg, Russia. Valera and Narina have been part of the ministry in our church, since they moved to our city two years ago.

They lead our couple's ministry where they aim to strengthen families by teaching on a variety of topics and by building relationship with many of the families. They have also been active in raising up new home group leaders where the focus is discipleship and mentoring leaders. We really enjoy Valera's preaching and Narina's translation too! It's a joy to serve alongside them!

*May your team be blessed,
Pastor Hansie*

With her educational background and language skills, Narina has been asked to work with a local International school. Nancy (Jeske) has been working with special needs children in Canada since returning from Berlin in 2005. She recently had a video consultation connecting several of her contacts with the principal of the Intl school, in order to explore how they could serve the teachers and parents.

In 2010 Nancy joined Phil on a trip to Russia as Narina had arranged for Nancy to teach parents and school officials in the Caucasus (southern Russia) regarding some basics of being a support for parents of Down Syndrome children and how to best serve those with this condition. Often in that culture these children and their parents are ignored as people don't know how to deal with them.



Narina & Valera



Valera & Narina with family in church

Of course, as believers, we value all life and believe that God has a purpose for every person. After this seminar, many of these parents felt so cared for and loved that they began attending the church and eventually made Jesus their Lord. A care group for parents continued long after the seminar.

Now that Valera and Narina are in St. Petersburg, Nancy and her team have the opportunity to be a resource for the parents and teachers of special need students in this Intl. school where Narina is serving. The school began as a school for missionary kids, but now also has students from families of expat business executives in Russia.

In addition to her work at the school, Valera and Narina continue to serve in various capacities as ICM MCNet Coaches using our materials, from discipling new believers, mentoring young leaders, and serving at risk families. Thank you for your prayer as the team serves needy families in the Intl. school as well as for Narina and Valera as they serve families in St. Petersburg, Russia.



Nancy teaching with Narina in Caucasus, 2010 (top left); child in program (ctr); Nancy on video call with St. Petersburg, Russia (right)

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 and overseen by a Board of Directors.

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



This past summer I had the chance to take a road trip back to my camp meeting roots. Now I realize that for some this is a concept from the distant past, but back in the day people used to come together for a couple weeks for two (sometimes three) meetings a day at a camp. As youth we looked forward to this time to be with our friends, swim in the lake, as well as a time of spiritual renewal.

It was at this camp in Alberta some 45+ years ago that I sensed God wanted to use me in some way to "bless the nations" (Gen 12:1-3). Though I had been sensing this for some years, as a thirteen year old, I understood this more specifically as a call to "become a missionary." While we are all "ambassadors" or "missionaries" for Christ, I interpreted this to mean that my life purpose was to be somehow to be engaged in cross-cultural ministry.

A few years later, at the ripe old age of seventeen, I was at discipleship school in California. That year I took a trip to Mexico and it was there that the Lord confirmed in my heart my life's work. Well, as they say, the rest is history.

Much had changed, but this camp has kept true to its original mandate as a place for spiritual renewal. As I walked the grounds and revisited the ol' tabernacle, I was reminded that the majority of my journey was already behind me. While we typically value youth and "potential," I have also come to appreciate the value of "realized potential." What was only hopes and dreams or "potential" have become a lifetime of experiences for which I am grateful.

Though I don't think my work is quite done, the reality is that I recognize that some of those dreams will only be accomplished through the next generation. And this was God's plan all along. To this end we have organized the ministry in such a way that its focus is not on one person, but rather on developing others so that the ministry is sustainable and reproducible long term.

It is only with the hindsight time affords that one can fully appreciate the faithfulness of God over the years. Perhaps the pandemic has also provided you with such an opportunity to re-evaluate what is really important in your life and reflect on God's faithfulness up to this point.

Such reflection provides us with new hope and faith as we gaze into the unknown of the future. The same God that was with us from our early days will be there until the final lap of our journey. None of us know how long that will be, but we do know he will be with us all along the way. As we continue to walk with him, one day we will find ourselves taking that next step into his very presence as we join him on all the adventures he still has for us in eternity.



Still the ol' rafters but rug has replaced the ol' sawdust



Alberta Beach Camp Tabernacle

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