



# aboriginal BIBLE ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011

Have you ever really considered what it means to be a “fisher of men”?

I had the privilege of making a trip up to Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador to be a part of a pastor’s leadership retreat. I was given ample time to meet with the pastors, make friends and share about the ministry of Aboriginal Bible Academy.

One of the days was set aside to go out ice-fishing for the day. It was a very enjoyable hour plus snowmobile ride (although I was quite sore the next morning) to the fishing hole. The day was filled with great fun, food and fellowship.

Growing up in the land locked province of Ontario (Newfoundlanders will tell you that the Great Lakes don’t count) for most of my life, I knew the pressure was on to show my fishing skill to these pastors from the east coast.

Apparently, the Lord perceived my pride and proceeded to “teach” me a lesson by systematically having every single fish in the bay avoid my hook and instead gorge themselves on everybody else’s. No matter what hole I moved to - the fish were no longer there. A conspiracy I’m sure. Aside from having a great time with new friends the only thing I really accomplished was to feed the fish.....not catch them.

It got me to reflect on the occasion when the soon to be disciples had returned from a night of unsuccessful fishing and while washing their nets they encountered Jesus on the shore. He then had them cast their nets on the other side of the boat. I’m sure this was something they already tried several times throughout the night - kind of like the hole-jumping I was doing, but out of obedience they followed the Master’s direction and in so doing reaped a bounty of fish. Peter was quickly convinced of the Lordship of Jesus and fell down in reverence and worship. Jesus then issued the now familiar phrase, “...*you will now be fishers of men.*”

Being *fishers of men* is a lot different then being *fishermen*. With some experience, ingenuity and knowhow, a person can become quite adept at catching fish. A *fisher of men* however is another matter. You can know all the right things to say, the proper “techniques”, and the steps to salvation...but that doesn’t guarantee anything.

When you are a *fisher of men* it’s less about “what” you know but “Who” you know. At Aboriginal Bible Academy our intention has always been to not simply supply “what” to know, but to assist the journey in knowing the “Who”.

Christ has called all of us to be *fishers of men*. And though the fish may from time to time conspire against our best efforts, the privilege to share “Who” we know with others is met with a confidence that, He who has called us has also equipped us.

# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING WITH ABA?

This new year has brought with it a continued momentum for the ministry of Aboriginal Bible Academy. Something that has been remarkable has been the opening of doors into not only Aboriginal society but the ethnic community as well. We have now forged a relationship with one of the PAOC's newest fellowships in the Ottawa-Gatineau area.

Pastor Faustin Akilimali is the lead minister of Pentecostal Community Church, an African church in the Ottawa area. Under his leadership a number of his congregation have embarked on the journey through ABA to improve on their Christian service skills.

**The fact that the training and teaching resources we use are not culture dependent has allowed for a variety of cultural backgrounds to involve themselves and benefit from the various study materials.**



Pastor Faustin



Pastor Terry Snow

While in Happy Valley-Goose bay, Labrador in early March, before my infamous fishing trip (story on front page) I had the occasion to meet many of the Pastors in the Labrador area. Pastor Terry Snow is the presbyter for the PAONL in Labrador and his church hosted a weekend leadership retreat. Pastor Terry currently uses our First Things First resource (see pg 3) to compliment his "New Believers" class.

The opportunity to bring exhortation from the Word was given in North West River, Labrador - about 45 minutes northeast of Happy Valley-Goose Bay by way of winding road. North West River is situated right next to Sheshatsheits: an Innu community desperately in need of the Lord.

Pastor Andy and his wife, Patsy have been pastoring in North West River for over 26 years providing much needed spiritual leadership and guidance in these 2 neighbouring communities.

There has already been some preliminary conversation with Pastor Andy about subsequent trips to the area. The need for the Word of the Lord to go forth is so great in many parts of our nation.

Please pray for the Pastors of Labrador. Many of them face difficult challenges in the small isolated locations that God has called them too - but they are fully committed to the Call and the Lord has been faithful to provide.



ABA Director Dan Collado (without fish) in Labrador

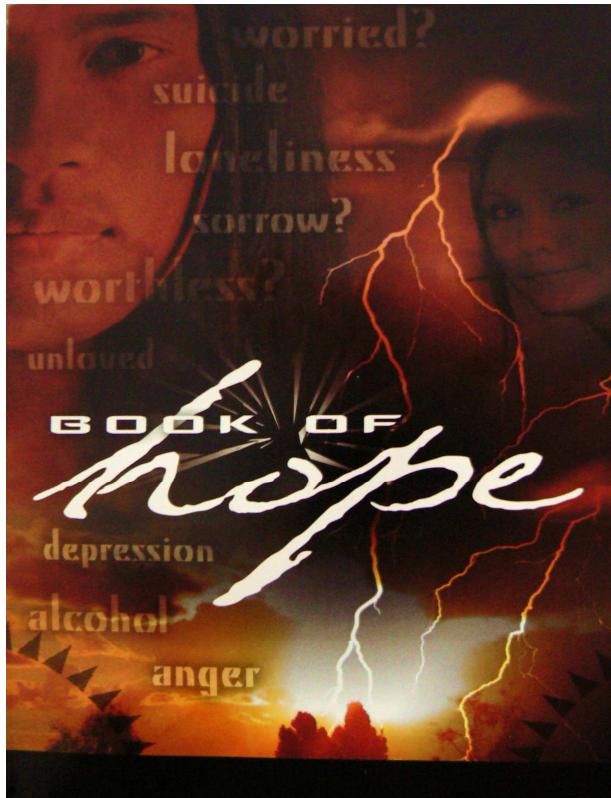


Pastor Andy McAuley

Pray also for the doors of opportunity to continue to open for us here at Aboriginal Bible Academy. The need for leadership development has never been more acute. **It is our prayer that ABA be used of God to not only save souls but to help make disciples.**



# SOME POWERFUL RESOURCES!



Some of you may recall that in our last newsletter (December 2010) we announced the arrival of a couple of significant ministry resources. As 2011 has progressed we continue to receive great reports and increased interest in the Native Book of Hope (on the left) and First Things First (see below).

The Native Book of Hope is a compilation of present day stories (stories of hope) from Aboriginal people who initially struggled with life controlling issues & addictions but who ultimately came into a life altering connection with Jesus Christ.

What's more is that it also reads like a simple devotional. The book contains the Synoptic Gospels in the latter half of its content and so it connects a present day story with a similar situation that Jesus encountered.

As well, at the end of each section is provided a little question and answer segment that encourages the process of thought & interaction.

It has been highly received as an effective non-threatening evangelism tool but we even hear of accounts where churches are walking through it like a Bible study.

**Copies can be made available through our office (613-344-1703) for a donation of \$5 per copy.**

First Things First is a 29 lesson Bible study that is introductory in nature. It's great for one-on-one and small group settings and is particularly beneficial to those individuals who are most in need of Christian foundational teaching.

Although only the outer cover is shown here, if you were to see inside, many would recognize the content as that of Seeds International founder, Rev. Keith Parks' original work: First Things First.

For over 30 years First Things First has been a successful discipleship tool that continues to be utilized in helping to develop maturity in ones Christian walk. Each lesson builds upon the previous, which further emphasises the Scriptural instruction to "add to your faith" (2Peter 1:5).



**Copies can be made available through our office (613-344-1703) for a donation of \$5 per copy.**

# ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BIBLICAL STUDIES?

## Here's How ABA can Help:

- Simply contact our office via phone, email or through our website. (Anyone is eligible to take the courses we offer)
- A "New Student Registration Form" will need to be filled out and returned to our office (by mail or fax)
- Included with the submitted forms needs to be a cheque for all appropriate academic fees made out to Aboriginal Bible Academy
- Once all forms and payment have been received by our office the process takes about 10 days by which time you can have your curriculum and study materials in your hand! If you choose to take your course online.....you can be well into your studies in 3-5 days!

---

## SOME COURSE SYNOPSIS

### **SYNOPTIC GOSPELS**

- A study of the life and teachings of Christ based on Matthew, Mark, and Luke. After a brief introduction to the world into which Jesus was born, it provides a chronological study of His life. Emphasis is given to the context of His teachings and miracles. The content is arranged to help students apply the principles of the study to their own lives and to use them in their preaching and teaching.

### **EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP**

- A biblical approach to the principles of leadership. This course applies those principles in the church setting, giving the student the practical skills needed to serve in a leadership role in the local church.

### **ESCHATOLOGY: A STUDY OF THINGS TO COME**

- A biblical study of end-time events written from a Pentecostal perspective. The course studies the Rapture, plus various views of the Tribulation and the Millennium. It provides excellent material for teaching and preaching on the second coming of Christ.

---

**aboriginal bible academy**  
TYENDINAGA MOHAWK TERRITORY

120B Hwy 49, PO Box 478, Deseronto, ON K0K 1X0

Phone: 613.344.1703

Fax: 888.344-0868

Email: [info@aboriginalbibleacademy.ca](mailto:info@aboriginalbibleacademy.ca)

[www.aboriginalbibleacademy.ca](http://www.aboriginalbibleacademy.ca)