

Aboriginal BIBLE ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2011

As we enter the “dog days” of summer, with kids having finished school, family holidays approaching and various camp meetings on the horizon, I’m often reminded at how much of the activity in our lives is arranged and pre-determined by what season we’re in.

For those that have children still in school and living at home, your life is consistently being rearranged around their schedule. Perhaps for many, it’s not until “summer break” arrives, with its 2 months of leeway, that some much needed leisure time can be set aside. Having that sizeable slice of time can certainly be seen as one of the benefits of a semester method of learning.

However, here at Aboriginal Bible Academy we have actually transitioned from a semester system to a distance education model. For most post-secondary individuals who most likely already have full-time commitments (family, job etc), being a full-time student really isn’t a viable option. Yet, through distance education methods, students are able to enrol in continuing adult education levels of study at any time of the year....at their pace....in the convenience of their own familiar setting. You can read about one ministry in particular (see pg 2) that has benefited greatly from this particular system of learning.

Aboriginal Bible Academy’s mandate is to *serve ALL people with the purpose to prepare them for Christian ministry*. Whether that “ministry” originates from behind the pulpit or from the pew, ABA’s passion is to have the Word of God not only deposited into the lives of people, but to see that Seed germinate and bring forth fruit of productive Christian living. By coming alongside other ministries and their efforts of outreach - whether

that be through releasing practical evangelism and discipleship resources (see picture on right) or going ourselves as a ministry to help train future leaders (see on left) - Aboriginal Bible Academy is committed to the charge:

“Go and make disciples”



1,000 copies of the Native Book of Hope supplied for a ministry outreach to a Six Nations community near Hamilton, ON

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING WITH ABA?

~ TOGETHER WE'RE BETTER ~

Back in early October of last year I had the wonderful privilege of being in British Columbia and visiting Potter's Place Mission - a street ministry located in the East Hastings area of downtown Vancouver. Potter's Place is run by Pastor Deborah Chien and her husband, Fredrick.



They founded the mission back in 1997 and have been offering tangible effective street ministry for over 13 years now by incorporating a unique partnership through Pastor Deborah's ministry connections with South Korea. Short to mid-term ministry teams from overseas come to study and learn practical cross-cultural ministry skills staying at the Potter's Place Mission ministering to the street people of East Hastings as well as in neighbouring First Nations communities.



Pastor Deborah & Fredrick Chien

Korean short team missions team to Potter's Place



Along with offering humanitarian ministry and holding daily services, Potter's Place Mission has been in partnership for over 4 years now with ABA utilizing our various training material in order to help develop, equip and establish Aboriginal leadership.



Street life on East Hastings

It's an unfortunate reality that a significant number of the homeless and transient population of the East Hastings area is Aboriginal but because of the consistent, faithful ministry of Deborah, her husband and their support staff.....lives are being changed!



Some students involved in their studies

A wonderful highlight while visiting Potter's Place Mission was the chance to meet (some for the very first time) the various students who are currently enrolled with us at ABA.

Some current ABA students



TOGETHER WE'RE BETTER (CONTINUED)

Practical ministry application is very much at the forefront of any disciple and leadership training at Potter's Place and so the students not only embark on scholastic endeavours through ABA but practical expression of serving as well. It brought about great joy to hear from some of them as they shared of their most recent outreach to nearby First Nations communities.



Kitchen duty



Preaching



Meal preparation



Worship leading

IT'S SO EXCITING to realize that many of these students, who perhaps just a few short months or short years ago were bound by sin and addiction, are not only participating in ministry outreaches to share the Good News of Jesus Christ but some are now even leading those ministry teams!

Some of you may recall a story that was shared from our newsletter back in the spring of 2010 about a man who for 40 years of his life spent his existence homeless and on the street consumed with alcohol and drug addiction. In addition to that, for 30 of those 40 "street years", by his own admission, he never read or wrote a thing. His efforts were taken up with keeping alive.....not keeping up with current events.

The long story short is, he comes to salvation through the street ministry of Potter's Place Mission and Pastor Deborah quickly enrolls him with us at ABA. Here was a man who in his own words confesses that he was sitting around the table with the other students and wasn't, "getting it", "it wasn't making sense". He tells of how he simply asked God to help him understand - and **God answered his prayer!**



Michael is now currently about half way through the Ministerial Studies Diploma program and at 60 years of age has a distinct calling on his life for ministry. He is now leading ministry teams to neighbouring First Nations communities where he's preaching, teaching and being used of the Lord to share the gospel and witness the power of God through salvations and healings. **PRAISE THE LORD!!**

At Aboriginal Bible Academy we are humbled to be playing a part in the equipping, educating and establishing of people like Michael and the rest of the students at Potter's Place Mission. Pastor Deborah, her husband Fredrick and their leadership team truly are to be commended for their faithful pursuit of not just making converts but the making of disciples.

To those that currently support the ministry of Aboriginal Bible Academy through your prayers and financial gifts...**THANK YOU!** Through your sacrifice, ABA is able to come along side quality ministries like Potter's Place and help develop indigenous leadership across Canada. ~*Together we really are better!*

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

www.aboriginalbibleacademy.ca