



Training in Honiara

Last week I was in Honiara, Solomon Islands for the first time in my life.

I was attending Multiplying Disciples and Churches (MDC) training, sponsored by the Discipleship Ministry Team of the South Pacific Division (of which I'm part) for pastors, elders, school principals and chaplains from the central region of the Solomon Islands Mission. We started meetings at 7:30 am and finished at 9 pm. We had breakfast/lunch break in the late morning and 4 hours break in the afternoon, Monday to Friday. On Sabbath our meetings finished around 4 pm. (Check what happened to me on the way back in another story in this newsletter.)

The Multiplying Disciples and Churches training was not the only event organised during that week.

Chaplains, Bible teachers and Deans, who joined us in the morning, had separate meetings in the afternoon and evening, led by Trafford Fischer, Murray Hunter and Alvin Schick.

Family life, Women's Ministries and Children's Ministries coordinators and leaders had discipleship training every evening and all day Saturday. Beverly Maega, director for these

ministries for the Solomon Island Mission (SIM) organised these meetings and the main speaker was Nasoni Lutunaliwa, Trans-Pacific Union Mission (TPUM) director for these areas of ministry.

In place of a sermon on Sabbath, I shared the Discovery Bible Reading plan with the women. They were very excited about learning this new way of Bible reading and left excited to share what they learned with those that don't know Jesus. (Check how to use the Discovery Bible Reading plan further down in this newsletter.)

The other participants made specific plans how they will put into practice what they learned about multiplying disciples and churches in their districts, churches and homes. We look forward with anticipation to hearing the reports from those areas.

Danijela



Calendar

2018

- 22 September
Greater Sydney
WM Conference
- 19-22 October
South New Zealand
WM Conference
- 22-27 November
Tonga
Prayer Breakfast and
Women's Ministry
events
- Preaching
appointments in
Sydney

2019

- 5-14 April
New Caledonia
Youth Week of
Prayer
- 17-21 April
Tonga
TPUM Women's
Congress

Ideas for Women

- Form groups to study the Bible through Discovery Bible Study with your neighbours, colleagues
- Encourage those who make preaching rosters to regularly roster women to preach
- Observe the needs in your community and find ways of meeting them
- Assess what you are good at, what you like doing – then use that for God
- You are needed in pre-evangelistic meeting preparation through your gift of relationships
- Take every opportunity to be visible in the church
- Encourage women who display many gifts
- Value and affirm women who are quiet but faithful prayer warriors

Multiplying Disciples & Churches, Solomon Islands, 19-26 August, 2018



Family, Women and Children's Coordinators and Leaders
Sabbath morning



Beverly Maeger, Women's Ministries, Solomon Islands
& Danijela Schubert, Discipleship Ministries - Women, SPD



Seif Ples

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All services are FREE!
132 Hotline available 24 hours/Medical care
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DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!
CALL 132 or 24677

I was encouraged to see this notice on the door of female toilet in the Solomon Islands. One step in the right direction to stopping violence in society.

Women Transformed in Jesus TPUM Women's Conference 2019

There's a buzz in the Trans Pacific Union Mission (TPUM). The leadership of this union has taken significant steps to empower its members in discipleship movement.

In their strategy for this quinquennium, TPUM has concentrated efforts to empower specific groups of their membership to be disciples who make disciples: pastors, elders, women and youth. They have completed their plans to empower pastors (2017) and elders (2018) and are now preparing to do the same for women (2019) and youth (2020).

The leader for Women's Ministry, Nasoni Lutunaliwa, is very excited with what he sees happening.

In Fiji in one of the public evangelism venues the organisers ran out of men preachers, so they came to the women and asked them to preach. Although these women were not preaching in their local churches, they took this opportunity and preached. Men listened, women listened and twenty new people attended. "This is what is going to happen in our churches everywhere," – he said. "We will see great things happening in the church when we engage women in evangelism."

Women's Ministry has been equipping women for ministry for over twenty years through leadership training courses. Now TPUM is planning a special event for women in their territory titled Women Transformed in Jesus: TPUM Women's Congress. It is scheduled for April 17-22, 2019 in Nuku'alofa, Tonga and over 500 women leaders are expected to attend.

"Women should preach from the pulpits, but women have been socialised to think lower of themselves, to not be visible, to not share their views. It is time to change how women feel about themselves, how men feel about women, and how we treat each other." – Nasoni said.

The gospel breaks down all cultural barriers when we lift Jesus! "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28) And all are needed and gifted to minister to those who do not know Jesus, their saviour. Danijela



Nasoni Lutunaliwa, Discipleship Ministries - Family, Women & Children

Closing the Gate

Something unusual, at the same time good and bad happened to me. Sunday I was on my way back home from Solomon Islands when this unusual event happened.

I was sitting in Brisbane airport, chatting with Peter Roennfeldt, the lead presenter for Multiplying Disciples and Churches training, when I heard my phone ring. It was an unknown number and I was very tempted to dismiss it, I was enjoying catching up with Peter on family news.

Am I glad I picked it up!

On the other side of the line was a woman. "Qantas airlines here. Do you still intend to fly with us to Sydney this afternoon?" – she asked.

Did I intend to fly with them? Well, of course I did! "Yes." – I answered.

"Please hurry up, the plane is ready to leave. We are closing the gate and everyone is waiting for you." – was her reply.

What?! I was shocked! The identity of the caller and the message were at the same time good and bad. How is this possible? I was sure I had enough time until my flight. I was confused.

There was no time to establish how it was possible that I am late. Without a proper goodbye to Peter, I excused myself, leapt from my seat and ran through the airport, down the ramp and

into the plane. So grateful I made it, but confused with how it came about that I'm late.

I checked my watch, it was 5:04. What's the rush? Is the plane leaving early? We were scheduled to depart at 5:30 pm. Or, were we?

I was puzzled, so decided to check my ticket. Lo and behold, the departure time was 5:05. Why did I think it was 5:30? I have no answer. I was wrong, that's all I know, and now even more grateful that I made it.

There were two people who didn't make it to the plane and we had to wait until their luggage was taken off the plane. I don't know whether they received the same courtesy call or not, but I'm very grateful I did. The inconveniences and expenses of missing that flight would have been many.

I learned two lessons from this event.

1. There is freedom in unreservedly admitting you are wrong.
2. There are many people around us who think they have it all under control, enjoying their life, not realising that their true timekeeper is God. They need you and me to give them a friendly call and remind them that God has a plan for this world. The doors for the journey to eternal life can close at any moment for anyone. Danijela

EndItNow Emphasis Day—25 August 2018

August 25, 2018 was EndItNow special emphasis day in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This year the emphasis was on emotional abuse.

What did you do? Let us know. We would like to share it in the next newsletter, to give the ideas to others.

Here is a report from New Britain New Ireland, PNGUM.

The interdenominational EndItNow march of more than 500 participants, included children from the local primary schools, mothers from the Catholic and United churches, youth, young girls, children from the Kokopo Secondary School. The youth brass band led the march. The keynote speaker was the Family and Sexual Violence Officer in charge of the province, Mrs. Eddina Timmie, an Adventist woman who is a strong advocate and supporter of EndItNow campaign. May we all stand together in blended ministry in advocating for women in the churches and society.

Dianne Pelap, Women's Ministries leader.



Organisations and nations who promote the full and equal partnership of male and female leaders tend to be amongst the most humane, economically vibrant and environmentally friendly.

Kate Coleman

Resources - Contact Jan at the SPD Office

Discovery Bible Reading

What is Discovery Bible Reading and how does it work?

It is a different way of reading Bible and giving Bible studies. Many in our communities know almost nothing about Jesus, or have very distorted views of who He is.

Meet with friends at work for lunch, share with your family, or share with a group of people in your community.

Benefits:

- If you are a Christian – you will discover much about Jesus by reading a Gospel this way.
- If a person has no knowledge of Jesus – you will be surprised by what Jesus was really like.

Process:

- Friends meet to read stories of Jesus (the gospel of Mark is a good place to start)
- One person prays a prayer like this: "Dear God, please guide us. Thank you."
- Start at the beginning, reading one story at a time.
- Read each story through twice, then retell the story in your own words.
- Discuss the story using 5 questions:
 1. What is new?
 2. What surprises you?
 3. What don't you understand?
 4. What will you obey or apply?
 5. What will you share with someone this week?
- Plan when to meet to read again.
- Pray for each other, something like this: "Dear God, Thank you for your word. Help us to follow you. Amen."
- If you don't understand something, don't argue – you will read more!
- Invite other people to join you.
- Give each person a bookmark (contact us if you'd like some)
- Encourage others to form groups.
- When you meet to read again you could ask:
 1. Who have you met or caught up with?
 2. What two things did you learn?
 3. How did you go applying the insights?
 4. How did you go with sharing?
- Then continue to the next story.

Anybody can be involved in Discovery Bible Reading. It is contagious.

Try it out and let us know how you are going.

For more information or training in multiplying disciples and churches please contact us and or go to www.following-jesus.com.



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We are here to help
women reach their
potential!

FOLLOWING JESUS

DISCIPLE-MAKING and MOVEMENT-BUILDING

DISCIPLES are protégés, learners or apprentices to Jesus who multiply disciples by following His methods, cultivating His movement, preparing people for His coming. So a disciple is a person who in every way is becoming more like Jesus!

MOVEMENTS occur where disciples of Jesus mingle, sympathise, meet needs, invite and make disciples who multiply within their relational or community streams!

PETER ROENNFELDT
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