

The 2:10 Effect

IGNITING KINGDOM IMPACT

For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Ephesians 2:10

WELCOME TO THE 2:10 EFFECT

God touched Randy Reese's heart with Ephesians 2:10 while driving California's 210 Freeway, (you can read the story on our website) – "2:10" seemed just right.

It is our hope that you will be encouraged by these stories of God's work, made possible by the gifts of those who are partnering with VantagePoint3.

Thank you for joining in this journey and vision to take VP3 to more people and more churches and for sharing these few moments with us.

In this issue, read how God is using the VP3 Pathway in local churches to help others walk alongside people who are facing change and transition in their lives.



Aaron and Wanda with their
A Way of Life group

When Aaron and Wanda Cranton moved from London, Ontario to Edmonton, Alberta in 2012, they thought they were moving there because of the booming oil and gas economy, but they would come to discover God had much grander intentions for their move.

Aaron, an atheist at the time, and Wanda, without any real sense of having a relationship with God, initially started attending McKernan Baptist Church because they thought "a little bit of spirituality would be good" for their son. It would be through the ministry and nurture of this church community, just a two-minute walk from their new home, that they would discover God's gracious and reconciling movement in their lives.



Aaron and Wanda with son Kip

After a month of attending church they started attending an Alpha class to help provide them with a better understanding of Christianity. In time they joined a small group. And it was in their small group that someone shared with them what VP3's *The Journey* was all about. They sensed that this process might be a way to deepen their discovery of God's intentions and how he could work in and through them. Over the next two years Aaron and Wanda would grow within the structure of their VP3 groups.

"WE NOW LOOK AT THE JOURNEY AND A WAY OF LIFE AS AKIN TO THE TIME JESUS SPENT WITH THE APOSTLES..."

Aaron shares, "We now look at *The Journey* and *A Way of Life* as akin to the time Jesus spent with the apostles and then instructed them to go out and deliver the Message. Christ explained why they must proclaim His Kingdom, but equally important he showed them how they could achieve their Mission. He spent long hours proclaiming and demonstrating in their presence so they could see for themselves and learn first-hand. He would then reconvene with the apostles and, in the safety of community, review and discuss what they had witnessed. And in the end he sent them on Mission.

"And that is the greatest impact that the VP3 processes have had on Wanda and myself. As a church community we're told through Scripture that our primary purpose is to make disciples—to glorify God, but how does one purposefully and effectively execute our mission? Well in essence that is what the VP3 processes do. We now know our calling; we know where our calling fits with his purpose for creating humankind and we know how we can implement our calling. Without the 'how' we could never be effective disciples."

You are part of Kingdom work

LIFE TRANSITIONS

One research study says that 80% of all adult learning can be attributed to coping with a life transition. The turns or detours or sidetracks in our life stories offer significant possibilities for discovering who we are, who we are becoming, and how we serve others in Jesus' name.



As I have recently been thinking about my own life and those around me, Jim Houston's wise words have been a timely encouragement and challenge:

"Most of us think of the frustrations and suffering of our life in negative terms. But although these experiences are painful, they can be allowed by God to help us in our growth as persons."

"We can so easily fall into the danger of thinking that we know precisely what is good for us. Paul the apostle begged God three times to take an affliction away from him, but God refused. When this happens to us, we may think that God does not care about us. However, God's silence means that he is showing mercy towards us, rather than indifference. He is educating us in the school of prayer to become familiar with the way he works in our lives."

We serve a very creative and developmental God who uses life's disruptions to shape and mature us. May we each be open to being surprised by the Spirit's presence and mercy toward us...

Rob Loane



Larry and Sally Neufeld

TAKING
The Journey
WHEREVER
THEY GO

Larry Neufeld retired from full time ministry a few years ago. But Sally, his wife, says his schedule hardly reflects "retirement."

Since retirement, Larry and Sally have served interim pastoral positions in three churches in the Pacific Northwest.

"THE GOAL IS TO HELP THE CONGREGATIONS PROCESS THE FUTURE AND EVALUATE THEIR DIRECTION."

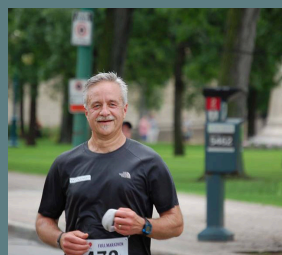
As they began their service at each church, Larry and Sally implemented *The Journey*. "It helps people process who they are, who God is, and their purpose in life," says Larry.



Larry gives us a snapshot of some of his fellow travelers through *The Journey* . . .

- Bob was in his 80s and had just lost his wife. "She was the spiritual leader – now I'm lost." Bob began to study and ask questions. "I had always believed, but now I understand my faith so much more."
- For a time Barbara had been investigating what it would mean to follow Christ. She wanted to understand it, but she wasn't yet ready to embrace it. Christianity was not part of her family experience and it was pretty foreign to her. She worked through *The Journey* with diligence. Barbara made the decision to follow Jesus and was baptized last Easter.
- Melissa had a high stress government job while raising two teenage sons. When she decided to join a *Journey* group, Larry wondered how she could make the time commitment. "I don't have a choice," she answered. "I need to realign my priorities and take time to focus on God." Her life changed. Melissa left her government post and now has a position which better suits her life and priorities.

Larry has brought *The Journey* to three different churches. "I see so many people who are broken," he says. "*The Journey* helps them see God in their brokenness."



A FAITHFUL RUN

Thanks to the many of you who sponsored Randy on his marathon run and thereby partnered with VP3 and our work. Your support is helping others to experience the transformative impact of the ministry of VP3. We are praying for the Lord to surface 100 people who feel compelled to partner with us by giving \$50 per month, and for 100 people who feel compelled to give \$100 per month. Go to our website and click on BLOG to read about Randy's *Faithful Run*.

The VP3 Team

VANTAGEPOINT³

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