



MTS MISSION MINDED Newcastle



GRIT & GRACE IN THE LAST DAYS

25th - 27th September 2025

Speaker David "Macca" McDonald

CONTENTS

Page 4 | Online Conference Page

Page 5 | Site Map

Page 6 | Timetable

Page 7 | Welcome

Page 8 | Helpful Information

Page 9 | Speaker Profiles

Page 11 | Personal Reflection

Page 12 | Main Sessions

Page 22 | Book Recommendations

Page 23 | Delegate Peer Groups

Page 24 | Passing the Baton Peer Groups

Page 24 | Mentoring

Page 26 | Seminar 1 - Roadblocks to Ministry: Work, Money and Family

Page 28 | Seminar 2 - Men and Women Working Well in Ministry

Page 30 | Financial Appeal

Page 32 | Gospel Expo & MTS Mission Minded Newcastle Partners

Page 33 | MTS Mission Minded Newcastle 2026

Page 34 | Extra Notes

ONLINE CONFERENCE PAGE

This is where you'll access all Conference information, including the Timetable, Peer Group allocations, Mentoring information, Expo videos and more.



Log in to your conference page

Scan the QR or visit
allforthekingdom.org/myconference/newcastle/



SITE MAP

Hunter Bible Church
Garden Suburb Campus
 10 Reserved Rd, Garden Suburb



- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| a Office | d The Lawn | j Lounge |
| b Garden Cottage | e Foyer | k Small Hall |
| c Downstairs | f Cafe | l Large Hall |
| g Kitchen | h Deck | |
| i Auditorium | | |

TIMETABLE

Thursday 25th - Saturday 27th September 2025

Thursday

17:00 Meet Hosts
18:00 Rego
18:30 Session #1
20:30 Dessert
21:00 Home to Hosts

Friday

7:30 Breakfast with Hosts
8:30 Coffee at Conference
9:00 Session #2
10:30 Morning Tea
11:00 Peer Groups #1
13:00 Lunch
14:00 Seminars & Mentoring
15:30 Afternoon Tea
16:00 Seminars & Mentoring
17:30 Dinner
18:30 Session #3 with Q+A
20:30 Dessert
21:00 Home to Hosts

Saturday

7:30 Breakfast with Hosts
8:30 Coffee at Conference
9:00 Session #4
11:00 Morning Tea
11:30 Peer Groups #2
13:00 Lunch
14:00 Session #5 with Q+A
16:00 Home Time

MTS
MISSION
MINDED
Newcastle



WELCOME – Ben Pfahlert

MTS' vision is "to prayerfully win the world for Christ by multiplying gospel workers through ministry apprenticeships." Since 1978, MTS has been recruiting and training apprentices who will go on to entrust the gospel to the next generation of Christians.

An apprentice spends two years working in Christian ministry alongside their trainer. They live the life of a Gospel Worker. They learn to preach the gospel, start new ministries, think strategically, form small groups and train leaders. They learn to think biblically about Christian ministry and end up with a mission mindset that helps them with any further theological education they go on to undertake.

MTS aims to help local churches and ministries identify and train godly and gifted men and women before helping them to decide on the next step in their ministry.

We want every Christian to:

- Be trained to be the best servants of Christ they can be
- Continually grow in the knowledge and service of God
- Do a ministry apprenticeship if they are qualified in line with 1 Timothy 3 & Titus 1

3,600+ men and women have completed an MTS apprenticeship since 1978. Over 1,000 of them are harvest workers today. MTS Mission Minded is a key moment in the work of MTS; it helps trainers multiply gospel workers. As those who are considering ministry are gathered with both gospel workers in training and current gospel workers, the conference helps disciples at each level to think through their next step in responding to Jesus' total Lordship.

For some, this might mean committing to ministry in their church more or undertaking an apprenticeship in the coming years. While for others it might mean training an apprentice soon after Bible College, or mentoring first-time trainers. Through peer-to-peer and intergenerational ministry, the conference inspires people with Jesus' total Lordship to live profoundly gospel-centred lives, whatever their stage in life and ministry.



Ben Pfahlert
MTS National Director

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Info Desk

The Info Desk is located in the foyer. Please visit the Info Desk for any enquiries, including:

- Lost property
- Directions
- Provision of medical assistance or first aid
- Bookstall
- Hosting inquiries

Bookstall

The bookstall is located in the foyer. We have ensured that a range of recommended and helpful books are available for purchase to assist you in thinking about ministry.

Meals

All meals are served in the foyer. If you have special dietary requirements and cannot find your appropriate meal, please ask one of the food team members.

Lanyards

Please wear your lanyards at all times. It makes it much easier for people to meet you and for you to meet other people. If you lose your lanyard, please visit the Info Desk.

Lost Property

Please visit the Info Desk.

Accommodation

If you have any queries about your hosting arrangements, please visit the Info Desk.

Internet

There is free WiFi access available to attendees of MTS Mission Minded. It's called *ChurchGuest* and doesn't require a password.

First Aid

If you require medical assistance or first aid, please alert someone at the Info Desk. Call (000) in an emergency, our address is 10 Reserved Rd, Garden Suburb.

Accessing Information Online

Please log in to your Conference page to access all your conference information, including the Timetable, Peer Group allocations, Mentoring information, Expo videos and more.

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<https://allforthe kingdom.org/myconference/newcastle/>



SPEAKER PROFILES

Speaker: Ben Pfahlert



Ben did not come from a Christian family. God saved him through very simple means. A bloke called Rhys read one chapter of Mark's Gospel each week with him during 1988. Ben became a Christian in 1989 and is very committed to the 'invest deeply in a few' model of discipleship.

Ben worked as a Civil Engineer in Melbourne for three years before doing an MTS Apprenticeship alongside his wife under Gordon and Fiona Cheng, through AFES at RMIT University, 1992-1993. Ben and Emma both studied at Moore Theological College (Sydney) before returning to Melbourne in 2001. Between 2001 and 2006, Ben wore three hats: he was an AFES University Minister, the Pastor of the evening congregation of Scots Presbyterian Church and the MTS Network Coordinator for Victoria. Ben was appointed MTS National Director in 2007 and is thoroughly committed to MTS' Vision 'to win the world for Christ by multiplying Gospel workers through ministry apprenticeships.'

Ben and Emma have 4 adult children and 1 son-in-law. Ben loves ordinary family dinners, chatting with the kids, triathlons, upside-down fires and watching a good TV show with Emma. He also loves seeing (+ supporting) grassroots MTS movements all around the world and believes that '2 minutes in glory will be far more satisfying than 80 years of the best pleasures this world has to offer.'

Speaker: Dave “Macca” MacDonald



Dave was blessed to grow up in a Christian family, where the Bible was read and prayer was a priority. However, like many young PKs (preacher’s kids), he found himself wrestling with these truths and the assurance of being a Christian. While studying Social Work at UNSW, he became clear on the gospel and grew to love how the whole Bible points us to Jesus.

Dave married Fiona at the end of University before exploring ministry and then studying at Moore Theological College. They started a university ministry in Canberra in 1990 and then Crossroads Christian Church in 1996. While in Canberra, they had four children, who are now all married, and they have seven grandkids.

In 2011, their family faced a huge challenge when Dave was diagnosed with incurable lung cancer. In God’s mercy, Dave is still with us. God has opened huge doors for ministry to those impacted by cancer and serious life situations. Dave and Fiona have written *Hope Beyond Cure*, which God has used to bring eternal hope to many.

God has opened the door for Dave and Fiona to serve in ministry with Stromlo Church in Canberra, Salt Church in Bonny Hills, and now Manning Bible Church in Taree. Dave also spent 3 years as the National Director of FIEC. He is also engaged in ministries of mentoring/coaching/pastoral supervision.

Dave is excited to be sharing the message of 2 Timothy with us at Mission Minded.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

We understand that MTS Mission Minded is a big weekend and can get a little overwhelming if you don't pause, breathe and reflect. So we've inserted this page as a reminder for you to take time out during the Conference to read your Bible, reflect on what God has been teaching you and pray that He might lead you to do the good works He has prepared for you to do.

What have I been learning and loving about God?

How has God's Word been encouraging and challenging me?

What do I want to keep thinking and praying about?

What next step will I take after the conference?

Session One:
**SHAMELESS
SUFFERING**

2 Timothy 1:1-18

A tough calling

- Shackleton

- Jesus (Mark 8:34-38)

- Paul (8)

Last words of a dying apostle

- Personal

- Weighty

- Urgent

Go on with it (6)

- Fan into flame (6-7)

- Don't be ashamed (8)

- Join me in suffering (8-12)

- Stick to the truth (13-14)

- Real life examples (15-18)

My response

Session Two:

MULTIGENERATIONAL IMPACT

Psalm 22

1. Personal Anguish (vv 1-21)

2. Praising with Peers (vv 22-26)

3. Posterity - all future generations (vv 27-31)

Session Three:

GRIT AND GRACE

2 Timothy 2:1-13

Guard the gospel (1:13-14)

- The Wollemi Pine
- Grit and grace (1)
- 5G gospel ministry (2)
- Who to look for, who to become (2)

Grit

- Soldier (3-4)
- Athlete (5)
- Farmer (6)

- Reflect (7)

Grace

- Remember Jesus Christ (8)
- The unchained word (9)
- The salvation of the elect (10)
- Trust this! (11-13)

Grit and grace

- Begin with the end in mind
- Don't let the good become the enemy of the best

My response

Session Four:

CHARACTER AND CONVICTION

2 Timothy 2:14-3:17

Disaster stories

- Infamous
- Closer to home
- Hymenaeus and Philetus

Do your best

- Focus on the finish (2:15)
- Remind God's people (2:14)
- Warnings (2:14,16-18, 22-23)
- God's solid foundation (2:19)

- Able to teach (24-26)

Understand the times

- What people love (3:2-4)
- Religious counterfeits (3:5-9)
- Know your teachers (3:10-14)
- Forewarned is forearmed (1)

Continue in the Holy Scriptures

- God-breathed (16)
- Life-giving (15)
- Life-changing (16)
- All-sufficient (17)

My response

Session Five:
MINISTRY
MANIFESTO

2 Timothy 4:1-22

Public promises

Timothy's charge

- Presence (1)

- Preach (2a)

- Persuade (2b)

- Pressure (3-4)

- Pay attention (5)

- Pattern of perseverance (6-8)

Ministry matters (9-22)

- Grit

- Grace

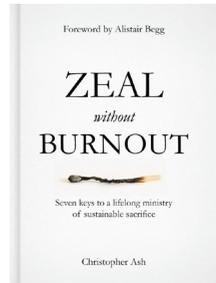
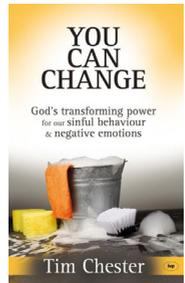
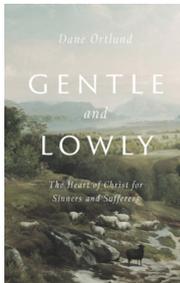
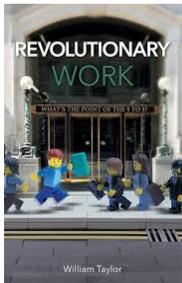
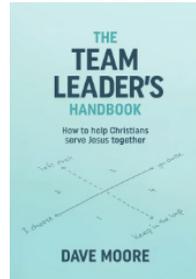
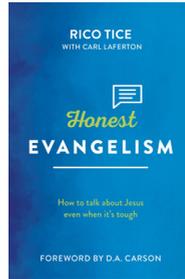
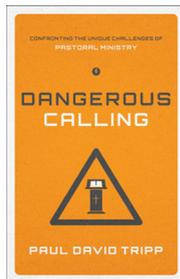
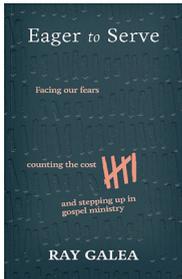
My response

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



THE WANDERING
BOOKSELLER

We've partnered with the Wandering Bookseller to provide you with a curated collection of Christian books about faith, ministry and spiritual growth. You can start with these carefully selected recommendations, helping you take your next step with Jesus after MTS Mission Minded.



Scan the QR to explore more of our curated collection!

DELEGATE PEER GROUPS

At MTS Mission Minded, we're a fellowship of believers who are all at different stages of living lives that reflect Jesus' total Lordship. Although we all sit under God's Word together in the Main Sessions, in Peer Groups, we'll also gather with others at a similar stage of thinking about life and ministry as ourselves.

A Delegate Peer Group is a small group of people who come together to work through passages from the Bible and pray, encouraging and challenging each other as they consider their future in ministry. Delegate Peer Groups are led by Bible college students, ministry workers and current MTS Apprentices.

They are organised around the Delegate's stage of ministry, thinking is categorised into one of four 'Strands':

Strand 1: 'I love serving Jesus, but I haven't really thought about doing gospel work.'

Strand 2: 'I have done some thinking about doing gospel work (maybe been to a conference/info day) but have no definite plans.'

Strand 3: 'I'm keen to pursue gospel work through an MTS apprenticeship but likely not in the next year.'

Strand 4: 'I'm planning to start an MTS apprenticeship in 2026.'

Please refer to your Strand booklet for all your Strand Session material.

We hope you will enjoy meeting other Delegates in your Peer Group and that it will help you take that next step in considering full-time ministry!

Location: Peer Groups can meet in the Foyer, Large and Small Hall. Strand 4 will be meeting upstairs in the cottage.

PASSING THE BATON PEER GROUPS

Location: Downstairs at the Cottage

An important part of the MTS Mission Minded conference is gathering the network of men and women who are engaged in ministry, recruiting and training others. Some are engaged in formal ways as an MTS Trainer or Gospel Worker, some are less formal as a Ministry Spouse in a support role, and some will be doing this in the future (current MTS Apprentices and Bible College students). The Passing the Baton Peer Groups are for everyone at MTS Mission Minded, not leading a Peer Group for Delegates. This is an opportunity to catch up with old friends, make new ones, and spur one another on in ministry, recruiting and training others.

MENTORING

Mentoring Times:

Friday: 2.00-3.30 pm and 4.00-5.30 pm

We want you to have a bigger picture of what God is doing in the world. Even more than that, we want to help you think hard about your place in that picture. Mentoring is designed to help encourage you to live your whole life for Jesus Christ. It is a time for you to meet one-on-one with a Christian currently training for or serving in vocational ministry.

This mentoring session is a chance for you to reflect on what you have been learning about gospel ministry, think about how you're living now and ask all your questions. It will allow you to consider together what your next step in serving Jesus could involve. Before you get there, you might like to pray that God will use this time to grow you as a disciple of Jesus for his glory.

Remember to complete your pre-mentoring questionnaire via your online Conference Page so your Mentor can know how to best use your time together.

If you didn't get the chance to fill in the pre-mentoring questionnaire, it would be good to spend some time thinking about these questions before you meet your Mentor:

- How many MTS Recruiting conferences have you attended (including this one)?
- How did you become a Christian?
- Why did you decide to join MTS Mission Minded this year?
- How have you seen God grow you at church or university ministry this year?
- What opportunities do you currently have in serving in gospel ministry?
- What opportunities, if any, are you hoping to have in gospel ministry in the future?
- What excites you about gospel ministry?
- Have you thought about a ministry apprenticeship?
- Have you thought about doing cross-cultural mission?
- Who is training you or talking to you about ministry?
- Are there any additional comments/questions you would like to share with your MTS Mission Minded mentor?

If you have not been contacted by your Mentor to arrange a time to meet before the start of the Conference, please contact them directly using the information on your online Conference Page or see the team at the info desk.

SEMINARS

Seminar Times:

Friday: 2.00-3.30 pm and 4.00-5.30 pm

Seminars are a chance for you to have your most pressing questions about vocational ministry answered by those who have had to answer them themselves. Each of these topics is sure to produce some stimulating discussions and hopefully give some clarity as you consider your next step in serving Jesus.

Seminar:

ROADBLOCKS TO MINISTRY: WORK, MONEY AND FAMILY

Location: Large Hall

The path towards vocational ministry isn't always straightforward for everyone. This elective explores how family, finances and work shape our decisions. Both paid gospel work and secular work are done for the Lord, but how should we choose between them? Are we better or worse for doing one over the other? Together, we'll turn to Scripture for clarity and wisdom and help you make sense of your life and decisions.

Seminar:

MEN AND WOMEN WORKING WELL IN MINISTRY

Location: Auditorium

God has made us male and female in his image, to serve him together with joy. When ministry teams value and embrace the unique gifts that both men and women bring, they will be stronger, more effective and more faithful to our good Creator. This elective seeks to broaden our vision for men and women partnering well in gospel ministry.

FINANCIAL APPEAL

Multiplying Apprenticeship Recruiting Conferences



The vision of MTS is to prayerfully “win the world for Christ by multiplying Gospel workers through ministry apprenticeships.”

One of the key ways we pursue this vision is by running ministry apprenticeship recruiting conferences, both in Australia and overseas. These conferences—such as MTS Mission Minded Newcastle—help raise up the next generation of Gospel workers.

Currently, MTS supports eight conferences across Australia and two internationally. We partner with “tables of fellowship”—networks of like-minded pastors—equipping them to confidently run their own conferences.

To do this, MTS provides resources such as:

- Draft timetables
- Access to experienced recruiting conference speakers
- A web-based conference management tool (MTS All for the Kingdom),
- which includes:
 - Online registration
 - A personalised conference page for each attendee
 - A pre-mentoring survey
 - Inspiring video testimonies

- Peer Group Strand materials and workshop briefs
- Training for ministry workers to lead:
 - Mentoring discussions
 - Peer Groups
- And much more

Our prayerful expectation is that within the next five years, the number of conferences we support worldwide will double.

Will you partner with us to multiply apprentice recruiting conferences globally?

Our Target = \$4,500.

All gifts are tax deductible, so if you're a Teacher, Engineer or Nurse it will only cost you \$70 to give MTS \$100



**Give now to help multiply
apprentice recruiting
conferences!**

Scan the QR to Give



GOSPEL EXPO

The Gospel Expo shares the stories of diverse individuals from across the globe, each with a story of how God diverted their plans to be on Jesus' mission full-time. As they share God's story in their lives, we pray you will be inspired and challenged to consider how God might use your life for Jesus' Kingdom.



You can access our Gospel Expo via your online Conference Page.

MTS MISSION MINDED PARTNERS

MTS Mission Minded has partnered with other Ministry Organisations, each of them sharing the same commitment to raise up the next generation of Gospel Workers. We are so thankful to our MTS Mission Minded Partners and the work they are doing under God, and hope that as you explore their ministries, you gain a clearer understanding of the endless ways you can use your life for Jesus' Kingdom.





MTS MISSION MINDED Newcastle

2026

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday 17th September - Saturday 19th
September 2026

NOTES

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.

Thursday

7:30	Breakfast with Hosts
8:30	Coffee at Conference
9:00	Session #2
10:30	Morning Tea
11:00	Peer Groups #1
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Seminars & Mentoring
15:30	Afternoon Tea
16:00	Seminars & Mentoring
17:00	Meet Hosts
18:00	Rego
18:30	Session #1
20:30	Dessert
21:00	Home to Hosts

Friday

7:30	Breakfast with Hosts
8:30	Coffee at Conference
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17:30	Dinner
18:30	Session #3 with Q+A
20:30	Dessert
21:00	Home to Hosts

Saturday

7:30	Breakfast with Hosts
8:30	Coffee at Conference
9:00	Session #4
11:00	Morning Tea
11:30	Peer Groups #2
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Session #5 with Q+A
16:00	Home Time