



Caribbean Waves

March 2021



Disciples Make Disciples!

I have been imagining lately what it might have been like for the disciples the day Jesus told them to “make disciples of all nations, teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you.” How would the disciples have felt, having just met the Lord as young men, inexperienced and unsure of themselves, and now He was asking these disciples to make disciples themselves? The Lord had taught them the Scriptures, shown them how to pray, and encouraged them to put their beliefs into action. The Lord was modeling His plan for bringing people to Himself- disciples making disciples who make disciples.

“Disciples are followers of Jesus. They have turned from their sin and trusted in Him as their Saviour. They have died to themselves and surrendered their lives to Him as Lord.”

All of us need to have the attitude of learning from the Lord and being obedient to all He commands, but He does not leave us to do this on our own! He promises to be with us “to the end of the age” and to empower us to succeed with His Holy Spirit. This is indeed our calling in the Caribbean and beyond, to make disciples who will make disciples among the nations. Let’s prepare believers to be ready to fulfill God’s Great Commission as we go throughout the world to study, work and live.

In this newsletter you will see some of the ways OM is equipping disciples to make disciples.

Let’s do it together!

Paul Wheatley
Field Leader for OM Caribbean

Caribbean Happenings!

Pray with us:

www.om.org/caribbean/en/content/pray-caribbean

- **The La Soufrière volcano in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is active- Alert level orange. Pray for the scientists monitoring the volcano, the government as they prepare evacuation plans, and for people living in the Red and Orange Zones.**
- Across the Caribbean, COVID vaccines are being acquired and distributed. Pray for the smooth roll out of the vaccine and for people’s hesitancy and the distrust about taking the vaccines.
- **Pray for unity, collaboration, flexibility and succession planning for churches as they address the needs of the current times whilst steadfastly being light bearers for Jesus.**
- Students across the Caribbean are getting ready to sit regional examinations like CSEC and CAPE and doing SBAs for these exams. Pray for these students as many countries are now allowing these exam grades to resume face-to face schooling.
- **OM Caribbean teams have pivoted to virtual meetings to encourage potential volunteers and mission candidates. Pray that teams will effectively use this technology as they mobilise.**

Praises and Team Movements:

- The MANDATE (Missions: Anchoring New Disciples and Teaching Everyone) course began in February with over 100 participants across the Caribbean joining online! The course continues until April 12th and includes small group follow-up per country.
- **Caribbean teens participated in a virtual weekend conference for Teens across the Americas-TeenStreet Americas! Thank Jesus for a good conference and pray for our ongoing strategies to keep discipling and exposing these teens to missions.**
- Our most successful GMO conference (for those in the region who submitted applications to be missionaries with OM) was held virtually in May 2020. There were 15 new applicants. Half are already serving in their new fields/countries (South East Asia, Logos Hope, and the Caribbean) and half are still building their support team. Please continue to pray for them.
- **Thank Jesus for the many successful workshops, connect meetings, and social media live sessions. Please pray that the seeds planted in these hearts will mature into a burden for souls and people committed to actively Pray, Give and Go globally. Contact your local team to participate.**

OM believes that missions and mobilisation are interrelated, so we have many global Mission Discipleship Training (MDT) programmes around the world! MDT is a 5-12 month missions experience filled with training, mentoring, cross-cultural community life and ministry experience. Join together with people from other nations and backgrounds in a diverse cross-cultural team at one of the many different MDTs that we offer around the world. While each training programme has its own unique flavour, style and focus, all are unmistakably grounded in essential biblical values.

The need for well-equipped, highly motivated and spiritual people from this generation to be part of God's mission has never been greater.

A photograph of two men sitting outdoors, reading Bibles. The man on the left is wearing a dark baseball cap, a blue t-shirt, and a grey cardigan. The man on the right is wearing a green t-shirt. They are both looking down at their open Bibles. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with wooden chairs.

MDT covers 4 main areas of training:

- A Biblical foundation for ministry
- Living cross culturally
- Developing as a person
- Practical application and exposure

Find out more about upcoming MDT trips on page 4!

As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" - Romans 10:15

Life on the MDT Caravan



Antalya, Turkey

Photo and story by Scott Holland
(Edited for length and clarity)

“We are not a ‘gap year programme’; it’s more of a preparation,” MDT Director Bill* said. “We look at different areas of our personal and inner transformation, working on cross-cultural teams, equipping people with skills and knowledge to work and serve amongst Muslims peoples.”

MDT Caravan Plus follows the initial five months of training. “Now we are giving those people a chance to start applying some of those things and give them more of an idea of what it’s like to ‘live on the field,’” Bill described. “There’s less supervision, more initiative taking and developing [their] own relationships.”

Since MDT Caravan is communal, Bill has had ample opportunity to interact with David, a MDT participant, during his nine months in Turkey. “We do life together,” Bill shared. “I have seen David as he has embraced more challenges and his desire for the Lord has increased through time. There was a high point and a low point, and he pushed through that and hung onto Jesus, and his walk with the Lord has been inspiring to me.”

*Name changed

2021 MDTs Around the World



South Asia

In this fairly remote country in the Himalayas, many people have never heard of God's love. Millions of people are untouched by the transformative impact of the gospel. This is simply because no one has been there yet! When you join Summit, a significant part of your time is spent in the mountains. While travelling in pairs through the villages, you will hand out books, share the gospel and sleep at local homes! Time spent on treks will help you see, and be a part of, what God is doing to expand His Kingdom to the least reached peoples of the Himalayas.



Love Europe (Germany)

Are you eager for more of God and desire to grow and experience His working in and through you? MDT Love Europe is a foundational Discipleship course to help you grow as a believer. It prepares you for a lifetime journey of following Christ and equips you to be His Ambassador to the nations. We live in a vibrant cross cultural community of many nations from around the world, learning how to understand and grow together.



South Africa

Do you have a passion to serve children in full time missions? Would you like to go to an area where people have not heard the gospel yet, but do you feel unprepared and unequipped? Then this opportunity is for you. You will first take part in a five-month MDT in South Africa and afterwards join the children's ministry team for Africa Area. There you will be trained and mentored to your specific needs that will prepare you for ministry.

Ongoing MDT with one of our Caribbean missionaries!



Zambia

Donald and Andrea Stewart from Jamaica are currently serving in Kabwe, Zambia. In addition to the other ministries they are involved in, Donald leads an MDT program for 46 students from around the world, teaching them on various subjects such as evangelism, the work of the Holy Spirit, walking in the Spirit, and spiritual warfare. After becoming immersed in Biblical teaching, several students even re-committed their lives to serving Christ fully and were baptized! Involvement in MDT has been a rich and rewarding experience for both the Stewarts and their students.

Find more MDT opportunities at <https://www.om.org/caribbean/content/mdt!>



“When asked very simply about MDT, I think of two major words that describe my entire experience: DISCIPLESHIP and EXPOSURE.

I had been a Christian for 9 years before MDT but it was only in that MDT community that prayer, worship, Bible study, mentorship, accountability and small groups became a reality for me. My walk with God in community was so limited and individualistic before. I got exposed to the greatest example of ministry I’ve ever experienced.

I would encourage MDT to anyone who wants to be engaged in missions, full time ministry or just want to dive into their walk with God more further.”

-Cadell Algreen (Bahamas), MDT South Africa

“The Bible text selected for our MDT was Leviticus 20 :26- ‘You shall be holy to me, for I the LORD am holy and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be mine.’

When we started in February 2020, none of us knew how separated unto God we would have actually been. Covid-19 full lock down in South Africa started March 26th and from then until early June we were isolated on the base.

It was a time of great spiritual growth for me and like a caterpillar in a cocoon we were broken, molded and reshaped for a deeper relationship with God.

MDT is a great learning experience where you are able to meet some great persons from all around the world, learn more about God and strengthened your relationship with Him for service in His kingdom.”

-Heather Dillon (Jamaica), MDT South Africa

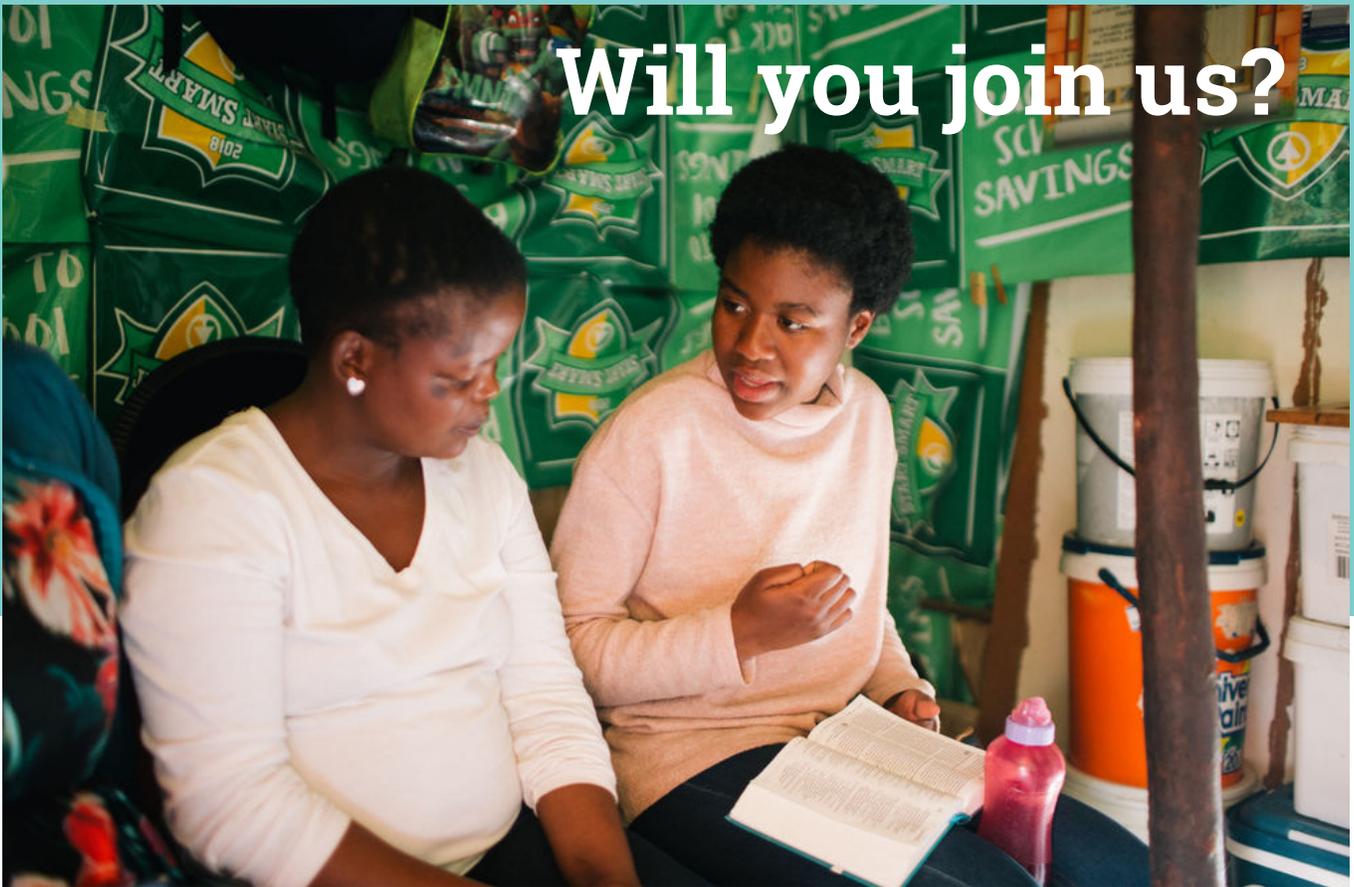
“I lived in a team environment and shared my room with the other women in the program. The team environment fostered intimacy, but it was hard for me to deal with the loss of privacy. I am grateful for the relationships built with my team. I still connect with my cohort now 4 years later! The program involved three different short term missions. The travel allowed me to see various parts of Germany (suburban, urban, multicultural, homogenous, etc).

I am grateful that I did my MDT year when I did it. I discovered my limits and passions through an intense learning experience!”

-Justine Stewart (Jamaica), MDT Germany

MDT Testimonies

Will you join us?



By Natalie Down, OM Caribbean Communication Officer

In the Bible, Jesus told his followers multiple times to “make disciples.” However, in order to learn how to **make** disciples of Jesus, we first must learn how to **be** disciples of Jesus. The basic definition of a disciple is one who follows after a leader, believing and adhering to his teachings and seeking to share and spread those beliefs with others. In order for us to disciple other people, whether at home or around the world, we first must be true disciples of Jesus ourselves, striving to become more like Him everyday. MDT provides an opportunity for us first to not only grow in our faith in Jesus, knowing why we believe what we believe, but also how to effectively share the gospel, make converts, strengthen believers’ faiths, and teach them how to follow Christ so that those new disciples, in turn, can do the same. True discipleship requires sacrifice and a totally committed life.

Paul wrote in Romans 10:14-15, “How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!’” Will you, as a disciple of Jesus, help make disciples of those who have never heard?

**We have all been called to evangelism and discipleship.
How will you answer that call?**

For more information about MDT, the 2021 MDT trips, or how to register, visit www.om.org/caribbean/content/mdt or email us at info.carib@om.org!



Where are you? We'd love to hear from you!

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We want to see vibrant communities of Jesus followers among the least reached!

