

Girl Talk.....

Wendy Henry chats with Robyn Bain about M2W – a new course for women at QTC.

Wendy: Welcome Robyn! Can you start by telling us exactly what M2W is and how did it come about?

Robyn: M2W is designed to encourage women to be comforted and convicted and transformed by God's grace in His gospel. And, of course, to help those women encourage other women to be transformed by the gospel too! Similar courses have been run elsewhere around Australia but Gary and Fiona Millar wanted to design something specifically for the Queensland context.

W: What has your role been in all this and who else is involved?

R: I've been helping Gary and Fiona to design and run the course. We've also had some wonderful input from QTC lecturers and some wise and godly women from around Brisbane.

W: How many women enrolled for this first course?

R: About 60 – far beyond our expectations! It's lovely to see so many women keen to serve.

W: Can you tell us a little about what they've been doing? What does a morning at M2W look like?

R: We have spent the first seven weeks mainly learning to read and understand the Bible well. Over the next five weeks we are building on those foundations and thinking about identity, relationships, practical Word ministry and evangelism. Each session runs for 3 hours with morning tea in the middle. We spend our time interacting with the Bible in lots of different ways – listening to talks, searching the Bible in groups, talking through practical situations and praying. Each week there is a bit of pre-session prep to stimulate thinking and reflection. We've certainly tried to make the sessions challenging but helpful for women at any level of biblical knowledge!

W: Robyn, what outcomes are you personally hoping for, from a course like this?

R: We really do want to see women deeply comforted and transformed by the gospel. Women who love Jesus and love reading God's Word can make an enormous impact on those around them. There may be some women who find M2W gives them the confidence to go on to further training at QTC. But we are hoping there will be many who simply feel more confident to encourage others.

W: What about the future....is it likely that M2W will be repeated or perhaps expanded in some way?

R: We are hoping to develop M2W and run it as long as it serves and helps women!

W: Has there been a highlight for you?

R: I've loved plumbing the depths of the gospel in such good company!

W: Thanks, Robyn, for introducing us to M2W. We pray that God will be gracious in renewing a passion for sharing the gospel in all those who have been involved.

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Comments from some of the M2W women on what they learnt, how they changed, highlights of the course etc.....

Christine: -That we have messy lives (still) and that God is always working to make us more Christ-like. And still He wishes to work through us!

-That the gospel message can be found throughout the Bible and it is exciting to look for it.

-That our personal walk with God is vitally important. Our heart attitude is what God sees and he is chipping away at it to make us more like Christ - renewing us over and over - a work in progress.

Mardi: *For me, M2W has been a journey of discovery..... we are now three quarters of the way through the course. I feel as though I know my sinful self much better, know Jesus better and I want to know Him even more. I am a woman in need of change, who is looking forward to helping other women in need of change, clinging to the cross all the while.*

Cathy: *I'm really enjoying the M2W training. The course has strengthened my faith and deepened my understanding of God. The presenters are outstanding. The lecturers from QTC, who presented the more complex theology and doctrine topics, made the content easy to understand. I highly recommend the course to other women.*

Sue: *To be able to spend a block of three hours a week focussed on the Word of God, leaving the distractions of life at the seminar room door, has been amazing, encouraging and rejuvenating.*

Colleen: *Loved M2W and would recommend it to other women! It has confirmed to me what I already believed. I loved the discussions and personal challenges and loved being with a group of women who love God. The leaders were transparent with their own walk with God, which encouraged me and taught me how they apply God's grace to their own lives. The Bible teaching was great (wish I knew Greek!). I need to work hard at applying God's Word to my life and do what it says! Praise God for M2W!*