



Stories of Renewal

Volume 5

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Hurting and Wounded People

MRI/MRAP was a powerful team in the hands of God to help guide, counsel and love my wife and me back into health as we faced some uphill struggles in our lives and pastoral ministry. How thankful we are for such an organization filled with godly role-models and equipped with Scriptural wisdom for counseling.

Before sensing the need to come to MRI/MRAP my wife had faced some major physical struggles that kept us and doctors guessing at what might be her issue. We walked through this mystery including numerous trips to ER and a variety of medical reports.

On top of pastoring I was assuming dozens of additional responsibilities, making numerous significant decisions daily, while seeking to care for my wife as well. We finally decided something has to change. We knew we weren't healthy emotionally, mentally and that our spiritual health was being strained.

Continued on back...

Healing and Hope in Christ

I wanted to take a few minutes to not only thank you again but to update you on our progress and give a praise report to all God has been doing since we came to MRI.

My husband and I are both so thankful that God sent us to your facility 2 years ago. He has been walking in his recovery and freedom ever since. The tools he was given and the ministry he

received there has changed his life dramatically and he is ever so grateful to God & our pastoral staff for sending us to MRI.

There IS healing & restoration and hope through Jesus Christ.

Thank you for being a major part of our healing journey! I am so thankful and you all still remain very dear to our hearts.

Missionary Blessed

I want to let all of you know how much I have appreciated MRAP and know that my time at MRAP came at the perfect, God-directed time. I have appreciated all of your stance of agapē love towards me, whether that has been played out in a smile while passing one another or as you have patiently listened as I poured my heart, thoughts, and questions out "onto the table." Thank you for the impact that each of you had on my life. I am grateful to MRAP and although my steps still have a fair amount of trepidation in them, I am in the process of stepping out and walking out the new principles and tools that have been given to me here at MRAP. Thank you. It has been a blessing to know each and all of you here.

Please know what a blessing you have been to my brother. I am your witness to a true healing of a very wounded man. You are serving a true and real purpose in the harvest!

*Brother of a Missionary
In Asia*

Grateful Beyond Words

There came a point in my life when I faced a difficult ministry transition, issues in my marriage, personal loss, and depression. I felt as if I had no place to turn for help. After all, my husband and I were the pastors who ministered to *other* people through *their* difficult times. At the darkest time in my life the counselors at MRI provided a place of healing for me and my husband. They gave me the guidance, support, and counsel I needed to become whole again. They surrounded me with prayer when I didn't have the strength to pray. They gave me hope when I felt like all hope was gone. They pointed me to Jesus when I felt he had abandoned me. My life has been transformed beyond what I could have ever imagined! Today, my husband and I enjoy a wonderful marriage and are following the dreams God has placed in our hearts. The care I received at MRI has made all the difference and I am grateful beyond words for their ministry.

Wounded People—Continued from front

MRI/MRAP opened the door for us to *agapē* expressed with sincerity and confidentiality. The group times together allowed us to realize we were not alone in our struggles. The couple counseling enabled us to feel one another's pain and offer support and encouragement to our spouse. The private sessions gave us each an opportunity to think deeply and Scripturally about our life decisions, analyze our current struggles, and learn some effective life skills equipped with proven decision making models. The resources provided in carefully selected reading materials could not have been more timely or better selected to specifically address the challenges we were facing and offer encouragement and insight as we began to make steps forward toward our healing.

While our struggles are not completely over, we have found new friends, effective skills, bountiful resources and above all the *agapē* of God to lift our spirits and inspire us to new heights. We are both healing emotionally. We have drawn closer together in our marriage. We are continuing to read, learn, and grow together spiritually. And we have implemented life changes that have set us on a better course that I'm confident is leading us to health, stability and spiritual prosperity.

Thank you to the MRI/MRAP team of gifted spiritual counselors who loved us, saw what God sees in us, and helped us to walk into health. We are so blessed to count you as friends and co-laborers in the work of God's kingdom!

My Life Was Changed!

I just wanted to say thank you to each and every one of you for investing in my life. It is difficult to find the right words to express my deep gratitude for the ministry that you do. This has truly been a life-changing experience for me and I have felt so blessed to have been able to attend MRI. Thank you all for your kindness, love and encouragement, wisdom and guidance. It was wonderful getting to know all of you.

Missionary to Children in Alaska

Check out all the resources on our new web site:

www.ministryri.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of Ministry Resources International is to enhance the life quality, effectiveness and longevity of vocational ministry personnel.

Lasting Effect on Who We Are

The work that we have done at MRAP will have a lasting effect on who we are for the rest of our lives! My ministry, marriage, parenting, outlook on life, understanding of my calling and walk with the Lord have all been strengthened as a result of our time at MRAP.

Missionary to the Philippines

Dear Friends at MRI,

Thank you so much for investing in our family last year. One year down the road, we are at a better place but still wanting to see so much more progress with God's help. God bless you as you serve so many.

Missionary in Eurasia