

Northwest FOCUS

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

JULY 2021

As Iron Sharpens Iron

Throughout its 63 years, the leaders of NICE have discovered great fulfillment and joy in training and mentoring men and women in the planting and establishing of churches. Many of those mentored have developed their ministry skills and become leaders for God's glory.

Such was true for Doug Nichols, the founder and Director of Action International Ministries. He recalled that *"Henry Boyd, the first Director of NICE, provided training and experience for me in preaching, visitation, VBS, prison camps, and other ministry. He worked with me in so many ways that prepared me for future service around the world. May our Lord be praised!"*

That same in-depth training now continues through the Young Pastors Forum, a twice-a-month discussion Zoom meeting. NICE Director Bob Rodgers developed this in-depth Forum for the purpose of discussion, video teaching, dialogue and in-person presentation of Scriptural principles. All of these principles relate to the pastor and the local church – vital topics such as Preaching, Shepherding, Biblical Counseling, and Leadership Training. Bob stated, *"This time has provided an open forum for learning, prayer, networking, interacting with one another, and bringing growth for these young pastors. We now have 14 men as a regular part of our Forum."*

Several of these Young Pastors recently commented on the value of the Forum: • **Mark Organ**, Nehalem Valley Bible Church said, *"This has been a*

tremendous encouragement to me, to interact with other young men who are passionate about doing ministry well."

• **Robert Zink**, Coal Creek Church, noted, *"The strenuous task of a pastor isn't often understood, and the community offered in the Forum is so helpful in bearing one another's burdens, and living out the premise that iron sharpens iron; this has provided a way to encourage and be encouraged."*

• **Matt Daniells**, Keyport Bible Church, said, *"Great topics and ensuing discussions that I've found to be very helpful."*

• **Caleb Small**, Wishkah Valley Community Church, stated, *"I look forward to this time to get to know other young pastors, study God's Word and discuss it, and to pray together. This time is an encouragement!"*

• **Ben McCardell**, Sunset Bible Church, expressed, *"I absolutely look forward to our Forum. I find immense value in connecting with the other guys who are in similar seasons and walks of life. The neatest part is that we all come from a variety of backgrounds and concerns, and each brings something valuable to the table. It's been an asset to both my personal and private life. I really thank our fearless leader, Bob, who does such a great job of preparing and leading."*

• **Keith Singer**, Loomis Community Church, commented, *"The Forum provides a means to wrestle with common ministry issues; many being things we haven't faced before. Us 'young bucks' benefit greatly from the wisdom of those who have trekked the path of ministry before us!"*

Indeed, *"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."* (Proverbs 27:17 NASB) Your prayers are the life-line for all the work of NICE, including the Young Pastors Forum. THANK YOU for partnering with us!



Mark & Rachael ORGAN
Robert & Bethany ZINK
Matt & Annette DANIELLS
Caleb & Kassie SMALL
Ben & Jori McCARDELL
Keith & Claudia SINGER

So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. I Corinthians 3:7