



July 2, 2012

A Summer of 'New'

For many years we have been asking God to raise up more laborers to work with us to reach and disciple students, and this year He has more than any other year! Over the past 25 years, Master Plan has never hired more than two new staff members in one year. **But this year, nine new staff were accepted and trained!** Each new staff has a great story of how God led them to full time ministry with college students.

Brad worked for IBM for 10 years doing ministry part time when God instilled a passion for teaching the Bible, world missions (*he went to the middle east with Austin last summer*) and seeing others experience the transforming joy of a personal relationship with Christ. He realized there was nothing else he rather do more.

Scott and Natalie met at college, got involved with Master Plan as Colorado Mesa students, and got a passion for the Great Commission. They graduated two years ago, and like Brad, worked and ministered part time. Their desire to serve full time grew and they saw the strategic opportunity of working with college students who are open to the gospel and unencumbered. Scott loves being able to share God's view of life issues with students as they pursue their goals and learn how to honor God through their lives. They are glad God has called them to help guide students in their walk with Christ during this critical time of life.

In light of the staff growth, Austin helped lead the first ever **New Staff Training** at Master Plan's Three Trails Ranch in Durango. Austin taught an intensive training on Ministry Partner Development and helped equip the new staff to be fully supported missionaries.

New Staff Training was on the heels of the annual **Crush Fear summer project** where 19 students from across the country came to be trained in evangelism and discipleship. The students shared their testimonies at local churches, shared the gospel on the streets and parks of Durango, learned how to disciple new believers, learned to graciously confront wrong cultural norms and learned much more in the context of the outdoors with activities like rappelling, rafting and camping. Tina, a Denver student who gave her life to Christ 1 ½ years ago, was on project and said, *"It taught me how to trust Him on a deeper level and the importance of sharing the gospel. And showed me He wants me to use my uniqueness for His kingdom."* **Tina and every other student left fully equipped to fulfill the Great Commission.**

Since our staff has almost doubled in size in the last year, there is a need to set up info-structure to be able to sustain the growth. Austin and I get to be part of helping Master Plan grow organizationally. Austin will be transitioning into Russ' (the President) assistant and I will help develop staff women.



Austin & Laura