

Dear Partner,

May God grace you in being **a leader that shines**. We describe such a leader in our ministry as one who excels in relationships. If you'd like to read a short article explaining that more fully, log onto our website (www.mapi-sepal.org.br) and click the links for English, articles. (We're really excited that the heart of our website is now available in English, thanks to my daughter Rachel's work over the summer. Alleluia! ☺)

One of the seven relationships that we highlight in that article is with a mentor or pastoral leader. This relationship takes on a special priority given MAPI's vision statement:

**“Every pastor with a Christlike mentor;
Every church with healthy leadership”**

Last October at the Lausanne meetings in Thailand, I met Stacy Rinehart, the director of Mentorlink International (<http://mentorlink.gospelcom.net>). God has given us a similar vision and has opened the door for MAPI to be Mentorlink's partner in Brazil. In May, Stacy and two of his team members spent three days with my executive team and MAPI missionaries in Brazil. A month later, several of us from Brazil spent five days in Colombia with Stacy and Mentorlink partners from other countries.



Dave and Stacy

Some highlights of what we're learning from Mentorlink include:

- **Movements and organizations are complementary, yet clearly distinct.** Movements focus on values and vision and underlie multiple organizations which focus on strategies and practical forms of implementing the vision. Movements are “wine” and organizations are “wineskins.” The two are complementary, yet in creative tension. If a movement turns into an organization, it ceases to be a movement. Yet, if it doesn't find leaders who will translate it in their contexts into practical organizational forms, it will be ineffective. Like the tension between faith and works, either without the other ends up dying.
- **Partnership** is the only way that either MAPI or Mentorlink can possibly accomplish our vision, since our vision is far beyond what any one set of people can do. Partners are equals, sharing the same vision and values, sitting down together at a round table that doesn't have a head or organizational leader. MAPI hopes to serve dozens and eventually hundreds of partners among different denominational networks and pastors' associations who embrace the vision stated above, but without necessarily adopting our strategies and practical forms.
- **Sharing our life stories** is a key tool in mentoring. Jesus told stories all the time; the Bible is far more full of the stories of people's lives than of principles, teaching, and doctrine. When someone needs mentoring in a specific situation, telling our story about a similar situation creates empathy and the sense of being together in the same boat. When we tell our story in a transparent way, describing moments of brokenness, God works deeply, showing His power through our weakness. Storytelling bonds us together.

Thank you for sharing so meaningfully in our life story!

Love,

Dave - for the Kornfields