

September 23, 2014

Bob Shank
The Master's Program
4500 Campus Drive #550
Newport Beach, California

Re: A Letter of Gratitude

Dear Bob,

The last three years in The Master's Program has been an incredible experience. I was invited by my good friend Tom Boardman who I greatly respect and admire as a wise man of God. I have always had a good spiritual life, having a deep love for God and his son Jesus which pre-existed this program. But this program did shake-up and transform my personal life by making me think more intentionally about more actively applying my faith to everyday life. It made me restless, re-examining everything, from margin in my life, to relationships, to the way I want spend the rest of my days. I truly want to go from success to significance, from career to calling. You taught me not to waste years in retirement, but to use and extend our current position of influence for the Kingdom. You have inspired me to do that and I love you and The Master's Program for it. I believe so strongly in The Master's Program I have funded an associate in my firm to attend as a management training and life development program. I am witnessing changes in him.

As a result of this introspection, it re-kindled a passion that was waning simply from the crush of work, home and church life. I have served my church and others in many ways and loved youth ministry my whole life, but we had matriculated into hosting adult small groups at our home. We loved our small group, of people our age, because we could share our lives with them tackling similar issues with kids, jobs, elderly parents, etc. We were comfortable and comforting. It was an important season in our lives. But something was missing.

I was inspired by The Master's Program to go back to my passion leading others younger than I. And I have an amazing ministry partner in my wife Karen who is a kindred spirit and so supportive of me. My wife and I have re-dedicated our lives to Christ and now are holding a new small group. We are now doing a "Story of God" Bible study in our home for over 25 young adults between the ages of 22 and 31, some single, others married, and still others with kids. We are on our second nine week session. We provide food and hospitality—thanks again to my amazing wife Karen—as well as teaching, discussions, mentorship, fellowship and, for those who need it, paid babysitters. It's based upon a sermon series, and now a book, authored by my church Pastor Henry Williams of Five Oaks Community Church in Woodbury, Minnesota. It provides an overview of the Bible, a framework, if you will of the overarching story of God and how his love and rescue plan for us that began in Genesis and continues through Revelation and in our lives. We are part of that story. These young adults crave to know that. They want to know there is something more than this earthly existence. They come prepared each week

and the discussion times with them have been nothing short of spectacular, certainly moving and inspiring. We love them all like they are our own, which leads me to my last point.

What's most significant of all is that among the participants are my son Andrew, my daughter Abbey and her husband Justin (and their two kids), my stepson Michael and my stepdaughter Lindsay and her very serious boyfriend Matt. My fourteen year old stepdaughter Breanna babysits the kids in the basement with two of her friends. It's a family affair. You must know how great it feels to have your kids as part of a Bible study of their friends, especially when you are divorced and remarried. God has brought about healing, restoration and injected a newer, deeper and abiding joy into our lives. It has really solidified our marriage, now over eight years strong.

Bob, you have left one heck of a legacy of which I am a small part, but that part is very big to me and Karen. God bless you and your ministry.

In HIS love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark E. DuVal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark DuVal
President