

Full Circle Blessing



Don't you enjoy the moments when God brings unexpected blessings full circle? My joyful moment was getting the better of me on a very special day. I eagerly had waited many months to introduce a mentor and friend, Mike Cusick, to our entire Genesis ministry staff. He came to speak for a training event on healing for sexual addictions. Mike is founder of *Restoring the Soul* ministry, author of the book *Surfing for God*, and expert on this vital topic in dealing with sexual addictions. Mike was also an instructor and counselor during Cathy's and my time as we went through the biblical counseling program at Colorado Christian University years ago with Drs. Larry Crabb and Dan Allender. Moody Bible Institute-Spokane invited Mike to come for their student training, and they generously partnered with us to utilize him for combined training for both of our respective staff.

Cathy and I together had not seen Mike since we left the campus in 1994. When Mike walked through our ministry door and saw Cathy, some of his first words to her were, "*Has it really been 22 years?*" as he smiled and shook his head in mock disbelief. I think he was as excited as we both were to have him for an amazing time of training.

I told our staff during our introductions that this meeting was a serendipitous, wonderful day of blessing for Cathy and me. I shared with them how, while we were still living in Denver, Mike walked with me in those confusing, anxious months as a small group of friends birthed Genesis. Genesis was, back then, only a very early seed idea--more like a wing and a prayer than any solid ministry plan. He affirmed it would take courage, increased faith, and risk for us to start this new work.

The next day, Mike and I were at breakfast as we reviewed our lives and caught up. He enjoyed our staff, loved our ministry center, and richly affirmed our work. He told me that caring deeply for the souls of others in pain, and training leaders like those at Moody Bible to do the same work, is a vital ministry to the church and this community. Mike recounted God's faithfulness to the ministry staff and people involved with Genesis. In light of the many hurdles and ministry setbacks over the years, my time with Mike was a moment to celebrate God's goodness. I found my soul refreshed with my friend's gracious encouragement, and recognized the full circle of blessing!

Dave

Executive Director

