



God's Love Renews

March 2014

## The CONNtext | eNews from Jim and Sallee Conn

### ESSENTIALS FOR FINISHING WELL

Last week, twenty-four missionaries and pastors gathered in our Kirkland, WA office to investigate *Essentials for Finishing Well*. The Ministry Resources International (MRI) team led the participants through a three-day process of investigating factors that facilitate finishing well. These factors also counteract barriers to finishing well.



- The seminar centered on the four major themes of Philippians: Developing healthy relationships, clarifying realistic expectations, resolving background issues, and developing productive life skills.
- Skills presented included: Effective communication, stress management, responding to temptation victoriously, grieving healthily, forgiveness, and more.

### MENDING BROKEN LIVES

What We Offer

The photos to the right illustrate the Japanese technique of *kintsugi*, which means "golden joinery" in Japanese. *Kintsugi* refers to the art of fixing broken ceramics with a lacquer resin made to look like solid gold. A vessel fixed by *kintsugi* will often look more gorgeous, and more precious, than before it was fractured. *Kintsugi* adds a whole new level of aesthetic complexity to the vessels that it mends.



Just as *kintsugi* repairs and increases the value of a ceramic bowl, God's love puts our lives back together again and makes us useful. At MRI, we facilitate the process of spiritual *kintsugi* in the lives of our guests, who often arrive broken and discouraged.

Recently we wrote the following to a friend.

Just as *kintsugi* was done on a "dear" (British English for expensive) bowl, God's repair work is done in our lives because we are dear (important AND expensive--We were bought with the price Christ paid). *Kintsugi* confirms our value, even when we think we're "damaged goods" and worthless.



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Your Partnership is Needed

In order to continue to minister to missionaries effectively, we need your help to get "over the top" of the remaining 21% of our ministry budget goal.

- [Commitments](#) of financial partnership may be made online.
- [Donations](#) may also be made online.
- Or download our [Partnership Brochure](#) and find other methods to contribute financially to our ministry.
- Or **call us** (206.295.3929) or [email us](#) to discuss how you can partner with us.



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