



CRM MINISTRY: **usMINISTRIES** | TITLE: **PLANTING IN RICH SOIL** | STORY OF: **CRAIG CHONG**

## IN MY SHOES: PLANTING IN RICH SOIL

In the midst of working with Christian leaders helping them to discover their calling and contribution to the kingdom of God, I rarely get the chance to interact with non-Christians or new believers. I have to confess it's been a long time since I have led anyone to Christ. So what happened a few months ago was pretty special...

His name is Kendric. Sandy invited him to the Sunday evening service at church, but none of us knew that God had a special appointment planned for Kendric. That evening, he touched Kendric's heart in a special way as Amazing Grace was sung. He had to go outside because he was overcome with emotion.

After church, Kendric invited Sandy and I to dinner. There I shared my story of how I gave my life to Jesus at age 13. Kendric shared his story of success of gaining all the riches and pleasures of the world, yet his marriage was falling apart. Simply, he described that he had hit rock bottom. Everything he had accomplished at age 38 seemed worthless.

Little did we know that God had been at work on Kendric's heart long before he came to church that night. Many, many people had witnessed to him throughout his lifetime. Now he was in the middle of a marital crisis and God had brought even more people into his life to care for him. That night our dinner conversation ended with Kendric surrendering his life to Christ! He prayed without any prompting from us. It was genuine and beautiful.

As a result of this divine appointment, I have been meeting with Kendric everyday for two months to pray, read the Bible, and discuss questions and insights. Time with Kendric in the mornings has been an incredible experience of renewing my faith with a new believer who is non-religious and has a very teachable heart. He is like the "rich soil" that produces a 100-fold crop found in Matthew 13.

Kendric is so excited about his new faith that he wants me to start a Bible study for him and his friends. I have already nicknamed him "Matthew" after "Mathew-Levi" the tax collector that threw a party for Jesus with sinners and tax collectors. Would you continue to pray for Kendric and his marriage and his friends that he wants to introduce to Jesus?