



Coaching a Coach

by Bill Wennersten,
Church Planting Strategist, North Region



Jason Walker



Scott Hesler

Hesler, senior pastor of Potomac Baptist Church in Sterling, was approached to see if Potomac would consider sponsoring Jason's plant. After several meetings, the leadership and congregation agreed to sponsor the plant. One stipulation was that Jason and Karah would become part of Potomac Baptist and its effort to plant churches in the region. Potomac wanted to be more than just a name on paper and a means of support; the church wanted to be part of the mission. This would mean Jason would be treated as a staff member and would be mentored and coached by Pastor Scott.

While Jason has been developing his church planting team and vision, he has also been involved in the ministry of Potomac Baptist. With constructive input from Pastor Scott and the leadership of the church, Jason has started a Bible study and fellowship for young couples, takes part in weekly staff

There is an old coaches' saying that "practice makes perfect," but if you practice poorly or with bad technique, you will only develop poor performance. This is not only true in athletics but in most everything in life, including ministry. Good coaches and mentors are valuable sources of information and wisdom. They teach the fundamentals and critique performance along the way, seeking the best for those with whom they work. When those types of relationships are formed in ministry, good things happen.

After he graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Jason Walker and his wife Karah returned to Virginia to plant a church in the Ashburn area of Loudoun County as a bi-vocational church planter. Scott

meetings, preaches, and learns how the systems of the church work.

The results of this coaching/mentoring relationship have affected both Potomac and the new church plant. Potomac Baptist has been blessed by Jason's ministry there, and Jason is now a more seasoned church planter, strengthened to lead and coach others.

RESOURCE

■ **Websites:**
www.potomacbaptist.org
www.brambletonbible.com

■ **SBCV Contact:**
Call 888-234-7716 for details from your region's missionary.

■ **Recommended read:**
Transformational Coaching: Empowering Leaders in a Changing Ministry World, by Steve Ogne and Tim Roehl

