

## Facilitator Bios

Mark and Vicki spent five years living in Afghanistan from early 2001 and set up the humanitarian organisation HOPE *worldwide* Afghanistan during the tenure of the Taliban regime when many were leaving the country. Whilst establishing and managing humanitarian programs in Afghanistan and Pakistan they developed a love for the people and a deeper understanding of culture and relationship conflict. In 2004, Mark was awarded an MBE by the Queen for services to health care and education in Afghanistan.

Mark and Vicki moved to Melbourne, Australia in 2005 where Mark worked as a medical doctor and Vicki focused on raising a young family and took up home schooling. Mark worked as a GP in the prison system for a few years before working in Refugee Health, focusing on improving the health of Asylum Seekers and Refugees. In June 2013 Mark was appointed as a Refugee Health Fellow, responsible for Refugee Health in Victoria. Mark also works part time as the Country Director for HOPE *worldwide* Australia overseeing humanitarian programs nationally and internationally.

Mark and Vicki serve as deacons in the Melbourne Church of Christ with a role of nurturing marriages and parenting with a goal of building healthy families and healthy communities. In 2012 Mark and Vicki were trained as facilitators of the marriage and parenting programs (I Choose Us and Good Enough Parenting).

They have had speaking engagements at numerous conferences and relationship workshops both nationally and internationally. These include Australia, England, Northern Ireland, Czech Republic, USA, Singapore, Dubai, South Africa and India. They have 3 children: Aisha (11), Joel (9) and Caelan (7).