

Hear the Heart Night Hornby - Wednesday 13 September 2023

Dave Diggs:

One year ago, came to a forum and asked about outreach, was told there was no budget for a pastor to do outreach. We need to commit some money to this. We seem to have a small appetite for testimonies, but we need testimonies to reach people. Need \$100,000 so that when people ask for money, we have it to give them.

Graham Gaiger:

Church has not done many Alpha courses recently, have not seen much evangelism at this church. If we are going to do Alpha/evangelism we need a team to do it, both people who want to talk to people and people who just want to supply food etc. There are things you can do to evangelise that doesn't involve "being on the coalface". Alpha courses should not be 3-4 people, they should be 40 people. When we start to run Alpha courses, we will see changes in the community and more young people in the church. We need to show people there is more to Christian people than judging.

Brian Johnstone:

Letter from Maewyn – disappointment on students faces when told Easy English was finishing. They come because of the fellowship. Can we have a "friendship club" in the café where people can talk to the overseas students in English.

Al Fone:

Introverts feel pressure to get involved in evangelism, they're not comfortable and that's ok. Don't push people out there who feel uncomfortable, we need their help in the background to support the people who are comfortable. My mission does not have a budget, we just pray. Money never stopped God from working.

Peter Hay:

Mostly old people at the midweek service and when you speak about evangelism they freak out. There is a difference between evangelists and witnesses. "Love the Lord your God...and love others...." in an important scripture. And Acts 1:8 is more important to me than any other scripture. We need to grow in that area and live it out more seriously. Being a witness to my neighbours in character and deed. We need to spend more time with God and then when we spend time with our neighbours they will see the love of God in our lives – that is being a witness. For most of us, let's be a witness.

Al Fone:

It is the love that matters. People cannot resist the love. We need to learn to love the intimidating and difficult people.

Ben Lowe:

An image at prayer last week of a woman holding a large gold leaf, she ate the leaf and was healed. She began telling people about the golden leaf and the healing. God wants us to experience the healing first and then we can tell others.

Polly Woodward:

The word “woke” on my heart. Bible says I am not woke, I am awake. When wondering what is happening in this world, keep coming back to God is awake.

Chris Wildey:

He loved me so I need to love others. Jesus is with us. God will give us the grace and empowers us to love.

Lorraine Scarlett:

I believe the Lord has given us all a story to tell. The story is important because that is the story that he wants us to share with others. Met a neighbour who had no friends, invited her along for coffee. Went on the bus to coffee and shared her life story of being a refugee. Didn't go out to evangelise but got to anyway. A lot of the people in church feel invisible, we need to realise that everyone has a story that the Lord is working through. Went to a not very flash church in Britain but there were 7000-9000 people who had been reached by that church. If they can do it, so can we. You don't have to say much, but when the time comes people know where you stand and that you stand with God. Let's tell our story and we will need to pull out the walls of the church.

Hugh Donald:

Noted that the last 6 people shared a testimony.

Chris Wildey:

No one can take away your testimony.

Sue Gaiger:

The thing I noticed in the passage was “and he led me”. How can we have a testimony if he is not leading us?

Matt Hartstonge:

What does evangelism actually mean? New term might be influence. How can you as a person, with your skills, in your place, do what you do while having a heart for God? How can we take our big

goals and go back to what we have right now? Find the little simple things, not much expense, and do it (like mowing lawns). Take opportunities to speak into the lives of the people around us. The current state of our world, what is our voice as Christians? How do we as a church go into our neighbourhoods and be salt and light, in a way that is non-confrontational. Jesus brought people along on the journey with him.

Stephen Marnewick:

When does accepting someone become condoning what they are doing?

Isobel Snyder:

Been thinking about the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Should we disciple people again? Watchmen watch for trouble coming and warn people when it is coming. We need to incorporate this – address things that are going on in the world.

Chris Finlay:

We have growth groups which is discipling. They are about growth and making disciples. A lot of groups cannot take more members now because what they are going through, others can't grow because of space, other can't grow because they are too big. If we are going to evangelise, we need more leaders willing to walk with God and with others. If we don't have the resources to disciple people, then why are we even evangelising? Two sides to growth, one side is worship and connecting to God. The other side is mission and reaching out. Mission needs to be in the DNA of every member of the church. Pray to God and be available to be used. Looking for growth group leaders, please pray for that.

Doug Bacon:

Book "A church on its knees" by Jeremy Jennings. Gives an account of the prayer gone into the church where Alpha was birthed. Want to see people with a love for prayer and prayer meetings increasing. Alpha came out of prayer.

Graham Gaiger:

Visualised in the passage, it talks of a river flowing towards the dead sea. The water is us, we are the water, we can either form a lake and sit stagnant or be a river. A river flows out and pushes away the unsavoury water and there will be life and that life will remain. We are that water, and we must keep moving. Love is part of that journey. We must be out there and show that love to others. We are the water.

Allan Scarlett:

Church numbers are falling away, bad stuff is happening, but I believe that people are looking for answers and looking for the truth. Scripture says it is by my spirit. Excited to see hearts moved in a revival.

Jim McClintock:

There is a need to get on our knees before God. We all have different gifts, and we need to be aware of the gifts that God has given us. Minister into the areas God has put you. Ask "God what can I do." Leave the Holy Spirit to look after you, we need to be available to sow the words. I believe we are going to see a move of God, a revival. People are hungry, if people show concern for them, they will open up. God will put the words in your mouth. The Holy Spirit dwells in each one of us now and goes with us, he is not only in church.

Al Fone:

Church isn't only here; church is out there. If we sit with and hold the broken out there, we will see change. Bringing them raw into church might work or it might scare them. Bring church out to people. We need a pool of people within the church who can be called on to meet with people where they are at.

Anne Evans:

Heard Hamish speak about experience as moderator. He mentioned getting the generations together.

Faye Aramoana:

All things work together for good for those who love the Lord. David Tua told her "Do you know that Jesus loves you." He cried when he was told she had given her life to God. God is impressing on my heart of how hallowed his heart is. We make fuss of earthly kings and queens, but there is power in the name of Jesus.

Marty Redhead:

Heart that everyone grows with Jesus. If they are tired and weary that the Holy Spirit would breathe life into them. People would come to know Jesus and be transformed. People would come and be healed. People can come and be fed, prayed for, blessed. Prayer meetings would not be contained. This is a place where people can come and have their lives changes for eternity.