

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care is a vital part of Gateway family life and we want to be there for you. Your first point of contact will always be your Life Group Leaders.

Life Groups are held in our homes where we come together as a church family to learn, to grow, to fellowship and to share.



If you are not part of a Life Group and would like to know more, please contact the church office for more details.



Carers

If you have any issues you would like to discuss, need help, advice, assistance with completion of Benefit forms and Appeals or support at Tribunals please contact David and Denise through the Church Office (01454 322616 option 0) and we will do our best to help you.

We are also available to pray with you and "just to listen" and will respect your privacy.

David and Denise



Prime Time

...an opportunity for all over 50s to spend quality time together

Every other Tuesday at 2:00pm
Speak to Don or Doreen for more details



Little Blessings

Parents & Tots

Tuesdays 10:00am - 11:30am



Exciting things are happening with the Children's work

There will be:

- 1st Sunday: Connection
- 2nd Sunday: Ignition
- 3rd Sunday: Connection
- Last Sunday: Family Sunday

Please Contact the church if interested.



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To the Gateway family

As a child I can remember not being able to sleep on Christmas Eve. The excitement, the anticipation of what pressies awaited under the tree, surprises in abundance, only hours away! Generally we would all pile into mum and dad's bedroom, jumping gleefully onto the bed at some obscenely early hour to wake them up!

There was no fear of disappointment, there was no anxiety, there was just joy, excitement..... anticipation of the certainty of that which was to come.

Luke 3:15 says, "And as **the people were in expectation**, and all men mused in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ, or not;" (emphasis mine).

Our expectation, our anticipation affects the atmosphere around us. We see how the converse is true in both the gospels of Matthew and Mark (Matt 13:53-58, Mark 6:1-6) where Jesus returns to His home town of Nazareth but the peoples' unbelief and offence at Him affected the atmosphere to such an extent that Jesus could only do a few miracles in that place.

EXPECT – ANTICIPATE – RECEIVE

In Gateway we have been so blessed, God is moving in our midst. That doesn't negate the fact that we often face difficulties, disappointments, and challenges.

I would encourage you not to let these circumstances stop you from believing that God is awesome, that He loves you, that He has a purpose for you, that His desire is to give you the Kingdom of Heaven.

As David Peters said, don't let your theology be written by your circumstances, let your theology be based on the truth of the word of God!

I would encourage you to be like King David and encourage yourself in the Lord, encourage yourself in His Word.

Allow expectation and anticipation to build in your heart, allow belief and hope to arise. The other day someone said to me, "imagine the size of the grapes in the promised land, it took two men to carry a bunch, imagine how much God wants to bless and restore the land; realise the abundance of God".

May God bless you

May God keep you

May God restore your vision of what He wants to do in, through and for you!

Much love

Pastors Marty & Rebeca