

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' SUPPORT

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

Matthew 13:33 says "Another parable He spoke to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."

I love the imagery of this very short parable in my head..... the leaven got into the whole batch, the leaven caused transformation.

For me it speaks so clearly of our lives, how we are the salt and the light to the people around us, how we carry His presence and power to affect the people and community around us and cause it to look more and more like HIS KINGDOM. That is phenomenal.

Yet, it is a process, it takes time, it takes dedication. I was talking to someone the other day and they said sometimes it feels like one step forward and two steps back. Often that is the case (of how we feel), yet as we keep on representing the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords as we conduct our day to day lives, the right behaviours, the right attitudes, a soft reply, a welcoming smile, a practical hand all the little things that make up our day, we are making a difference! You are making a difference.

Sometimes I can look at the state of our society and feel a little overwhelmed by the task at hand but then I call to mind those things which God has done and remember that it isn't my strength but often just my willingness to be available to Him.

I heard a wonderful story the other day. A lady was raising funds at the door of one of the local supermarkets. A Christian lady saw that she looked a little downcast and decided to say hello. She explained that she already supported so many things through her church and couldn't support another but she heard the ladies anguish and desire to get people signed up for a direct debit so said she'd pray for her! The lady accepted.

As our Christian lady sat in the car she observed within the next few moments three people approach the lady and sign up for direct debits.

How wonderful to bring God into people's lives, bringing hope.....

Many people will need not just one but various encounters like this before they even consider God but every seed sown counts.

Where do you start?

Today I was reading Joshua 1 and Psalm 1, both encourage us to read and meditate on God's word. For me the best way to start is being aware of God from the start of my day until the end of it. During lockdown I recorded nearly 100 devotions using 10 simple questions (they're on the Gateway YouTube page). Even if you spent a little time at the start of your day (or before you go to bed if you are an evening person, but you could remind yourself in the morning) and attempt to answer the first two questions and implemented them or anticipated God's help in putting into practice His word, life would take on a different dynamic!

Have a go!

And remember to enjoy walking with God!

DEVOTIONAL QUESTIONS

1. What do I feel God is saying to me through these verses?
2. How can I apply what God is saying in a practical way, for today? (see rest of questions on Gateway YouTube)%

Much love

Pastor Marty & Rebecca