



Marc's Monthly

Jan
2012

Introduction

Firstly welcome to my first double issue and my apologies for no December issue, unfortunately time did not allow.

But here we are 2011 has gone and 2012 is upon us. I don't know about you but I get very reflective and contemplative this time of year and am usually left with a list of things I wish I had done better. Still we know that God's mercies are new every day and I am excited for what He has in store for the youth work in 2012.

The Bridge

Multiplication

My maths is pretty rubbish but even I can tell you that $8 \times 2 = 16$, $16 \times 2 = 32$ and $32 \times 2 = 64$. It is this basic multiplication that forms the challenge that the young people have been given for 2012 regarding the Friday night group. To remind you the Friday night group is called 'The Bridge'. What does a bridge do? It connects. With a focus on outreach that is what we are called to do. Connect people to Jesus. So what is the multiplication challenge? If each young person invites one, just one person to The Bridge each term, then every term our numbers will double. So to start with a core group of 8 people by Easter we will have 16, by summer we will have 32 and by Christmas 2012 we will have 64.

Why the multiplication method? In the body of Christ today there exists to many passive Christians that will wait for the leaders of the church to initiate

an outreach project or initiative and then decide it's time to engage in evangelism. Although I believe it is important for congregational evangelism/outreach to exist in the community, I believe that the bible predominantly teaches us that we each have both opportunity and responsibility to reach out to others in every sphere of society. Some may refer to this as "lifestyle evangelism". Let me stress that this does not mean that we fail to proclaim the gospel. Proclaim the gospel and proclaim it boldly but let your lives produce evidence of what you are proclaiming.

This is the challenge that the young people have been given. We as adult leaders are facilitating them to reach out to, pray for and invite their friends along on Friday nights. The gospel will be proclaimed and the rest...well we will leave that up to God but we are believing Him for them to come and that God would save them.

You may recall from the last newsletter in November that we were looking at a 6 week course called 'Just People' written by Tearfund looking at poverty and injustice. Firstly a big well done to Rachel to lead all 6 sessions, which have stimulated a lot of thought and has lead us into what we will be looking at up until half term. "Brokenness" Why? Because there is so much of it around. Jesus met the broken and so should we. We are going to be looking at various ways in which brokenness exists in our locality and how we as the local church don't try and meet their needs (because we can't). Rather we meet them **in** their needs with Jesus.

“Release”

Release is the name of the work that we do with the young adults. It is called Release because that is what we want to do. Release young men and women into adult life with a grounding in the word and the desire and ability to enjoy God’s word without being spoon fed.

We have been running now since Oct 2009. In that time we have done a Freedom in Christ course, studied the book of Acts, 1 Corinthians, Revelation, Romans and now we are studying the gospel of John. Numbers have been up and down over the years with between 6 and 17. We regularly see around 8-10 people attending each week.

On the first Monday of every month we endeavour to have a social evening. This is great for fellowship but also serves as a valuable lesson teaching the young adults what Christian fellowship should look like. Not having the opportunity to meet during the week with many of the young adults it is sometime hard to recognise the fruit that is being produced. However as leaders we have been incredibly challenged and blessed over the last two years as the Holy Spirit has opened up God’s word to us.

My thanks goes out to Eddie, Paul & Liz for their continued support and effort in what I believe to be a vital work in raising a generation of godly young men and women with a passion to serve Jesus.

“ENGAGE”

Engage (used to be Distinctive) is the work that we do with the young people on Sunday mornings. Our aim with this group is to encourage them to engage with God through scripture, prayer and quiet times in order to cultivate spiritual growth in their lives.

Reflecting on last year I do not feel that the teaching was quite deep enough. So the plan this year is to go a little deeper. We are soon going to be starting Truthology, which simply means a study of truth. For more information on Truthology visit www.truthology.co.uk. Thank you to Phil & Lesley who help to lead Engage.

“GET REAL”

For those of you who came to the vision sharing evening back in October you may remember that we talked about setting up a young guys group and a young girls group. Each group existing to allow gender specific discussions to take place hence the name “Get Real”. Joanna and myself are looking at running these groups ourselves and are currently looking at when the best time would be for the groups to take place. We will keep you updated.

PRAYER

Thank you for your continued prayer support. Here is a list of prayer requests regarding the youth work.

- Please pray for continued unity between the churches working with young people in the local area.
- That God would continue to grow our faith and vision in the work that He is wanting to do in Redruth.
- That the young people would boldly take up the multiplication challenge.
- That of the 64 we are believing for in the youth group by December would come and that many of them will be saved.
- Thank you!

Video Blogging

There is only so much information that I can fit in these monthly updates, yet with a click of a button I can upload video blogs onto the RBC website. This will allow me to keep you up to date with extra information regarding what God is doing in the youth work plus anything else I feel that might be a blessing to others.

Again I will keep you updated with that.