

Gateway CHURCH



November 2010

E: office@gatewaychurch.co.uk

www.gatewaychurch.co.uk
Gateway Church, The Gateway Centre, Front Street, York, YO24 3BZ

T: 01904 781983

MAKE IT DAILY

Anyone feel they've been getting too much encouragement lately? Do I hear you say "I wish"? Maybe that's why the writer of Hebrews tells us to **"encourage one another daily"** (Hebrews 3:13). Encouragement is powerful. It's so much more than a compliment or a pat on the back. The word used in the bible means *"to inspire with courage, to spur on, to stir up, to provoke, to incite someone in a given direction, or to keep pressing on despite obstacles and fatigue."* The same word was used to describe military reinforcement during a battle.

Biblical encouragement recognises that Christians live under intense pressure—not just the normal pressures of everyday life in a broken world, but also the pressures of living for Christ in a spiritually hostile environment—and therefore need to be spiritually strengthened on a regular basis. Make it daily.

It should come as no surprise to you to learn that God is the ultimate Encourager! And he wants to communicate his encouragement through his people. This is one of the most powerful ways we can love one another. Encouragement is something we can all get better at. But remember that it's not simply a technique to be learned; it's about a growing awareness of people and of God, expressed through an intentional commitment in everyday life to promote other people's

welfare. In other words, it's what happens when we get out of that little world called "me"...

Since we've probably had an encouragement deficit for a while, what about making November **"a month of encouragement"** in order to get the tap flowing? As you think about people and pray for them, ask God to show you the kind of encouragement they need. Then follow through! Bake a cake, send a text, make a call, send an e mail (better still, write a note!). You'll be amazed how often this was exactly what they needed!

Author Larry Crab says *"Authenticity, freedom, and greater love for God and others are the fruit of encouragement, and evidence of the tremendous power that God invests in individuals and churches who practise it"*. Amen! Let's do it!

John

PS It's not too late to take up the BOB challenge
At the end of our week of prayer on 31st October, over 50 people accepted the challenge to pray for the same thing every day for 6 months. If you were away or in hibernation during the week of prayer we wouldn't want you to miss out on this opportunity. You can find more details at the information desk or email the office. If you're up for it, let the office know so we can add you to the Bob Challenge email list, and send you regular encouragements to keep praying!

Baptism



We will be having a baptism service Sunday morning 21st November. There will be a shared lunch afterwards so please bring food to share! If you would like more information on baptism, please contact the office.

CHURCH WEEKEND AWAY

FRIDAY 1 APRIL - SUNDAY 3 APRIL 2011,
The Craiglands Hotel, Ilkley, West Yorkshire. Prices for the weekend are as follows:



- ADULTS - £95
- STUDENTS - £60
- 12-16 - £55
- 4-11 - £35
- 0-3 - FREE

You can book on to the Weekend Away by returning a booking form found in the bulletin to the information desk, with a deposit of £10 per person. You can then pay the rest in either a lump sum, or a monthly standing order. Cheques are payable to "Gateway Church". Chris Frost is our speaker.



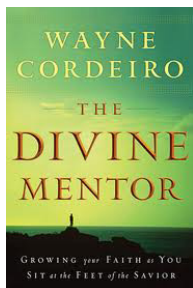
CAP is an award winning church-based charity that aims to help people break free from debt. Gateway has had a CAP centre for several years and countless members of our community have accessed our services. Many people have been set free from debt and several have given their lives to Jesus along the way. 28th November is CAP Sunday in which we'll highlight the work of CAP and hear a few testimonies and find out how to better support this work. We will also highlight the CAP Christmas Hampers, an easy way to help someone who is need have a better Christmas by donating items of food and drink.

ALPHA

Please pray for the course and its participants and team. The Holy Spirit Day will be on 13th November and will be held here at Gateway. We will be joined by a group from Hope Church Harrogate. We would love people to be praying for words of knowledge to bring to the day, Please speak to Jackie if you are able to help in this way.

Bookshop

The Gateway Bookshop has lots of cards, calendars etc suitable for presents as well as personal use. Sarah Witherick recently purchased "The Divine Mentor" by Wayne Cordeiro, and wanted to share how it personally impacted her:



I have found that this book has really enabled me to get a lot more from reading the Bible. Through reading it and putting into practice some of Wayne's ideas, I have found that I am better able to hear and take on board God's promises and commands in a way that fits well with me and my lifestyle. It has helped me to listen for and hear

God's voice in a way that really works for me, and as a result be better prepared for what God brings each day. It's a really practical and insightful book, easy to read and with loads of encouraging examples from life. We've been encouraged to be like Mary and sit at Jesus' feet and hear God's voice for ourselves - this book gives really good ideas and support in how to do that.



On 4th December we are having a Dinner Dance as a fundraiser for CAP. This is open to anyone but will be limited to a maximum of 40 people. Come and enjoy a fun atmosphere with a good meal and Ballroom & Latin dancing. 7pm for 7.30 till 10pm. Tickets now available.

GIVING TO GATEWAY:

The work of Gateway Church is supported entirely by the generous giving of its members. Committed, regular giving enables us to plan ahead and budget more efficiently. If you would like to give regularly to the Church, you can do so by completing one of our standing order forms, together with a Gift Aid declaration if you are a UK taxpayer. Both forms are available at the information desk.

There will be a Women's Social Event on Saturday 11th December. More details to follow.



The address book has been recently updated and copies of it are available at the information table. A donation of 50p per copy would be appreciated.