



# UPDATE

15th & 22nd  
May

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## WELCOME TO CHURCH

### TODAY

10.30a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church; Communion.

Freedom In Christ, Session 8  
'Handling Emotions Well'



**Be there!**

### REGULAR PROGRAMME

Tues.	10.15-11.45a.m.	Prayer L.I.F.E. Focus Group
Wed.	7.30p.m.	L.I.F.E. Focus Group
Thurs.	10-11.45a.m.	Tots & Co.
	7.30p.m.	L.I.F.E. Focus Group
Fri.	6-7.45p.m.	Explorers (5 yrs +)
Sunday	10.30a.m.	Morning Worship & Junior Church; Communion.

### FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat. 21st	10a.m.-4p.m.	Steps To Freedom In Christ
Sun. 29th	10.30a.m.	All-Age Celebration
Sat. 11th June		Practical Work Day
Sun. 19th	10.30a.m.	Father's Day All-Age Celebration & Dedication of Evangeline Oppong

Please pray for Pastor Brian, who will be away at a leader's Breakthrough Conference, in Newquay, Cornwall, from Tuesday to Friday.

Contact your Care Group leaders or the Elders if you need assistance during this time.

**Next Sunday we will be sharing an update about the building project and other plans.**

### STEPS TO FREEDOM IN CHRIST, Saturday 21st, 10a.m - 4p.m.

'The Steps' is a kind and gentle way to resolve personal and spiritual conflicts, which will help participants connect with the truth that has been taught... The process is straightforward: the participants ask the Holy Spirit to show them areas in their lives where they need to repent, and then choose to do so.'

The 'Steps To Freedom In Christ' handbook is available today (£3). We will use this as our guide to focus on the various areas of life that we need to open up to the truth we have been studying. We will also look at Session 9 of the course, Forgiving From The Heart.

Please bring a packed-lunch.

Jesus said: "I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built." (Luke 6:47-48, see also verse 49)



In May 2011 it will be two years since street pastors from 35 different churches in Southampton began patrolling the city centre on Friday and Saturday nights.

We firmly believe that the success of the street pastor work is due to the unity of the churches across the city expressed in doing this work together, providing the volunteers, praying the prayers, and giving generously.

### **As we begin our third year of operation...**

- We are training our 3rd generation of street pastors, to fill in the gaps of those who have retired or moved out of the area.
- We are also branching out by working with two secondary schools in the city to pilot School Pastors. This will provide trained uniformed volunteers to patrol the school neighbourhood at the start or end of the school day.
- We have taken on a part-time administrator in order to get all the office work done.

Each month we need close to £4,000 to run street pastors and school pastors. We have a shortfall equivalent to about £3,000 per month over the next year.

We are asking all of our supporting churches to mark the two-year anniversary with prayers of thanksgiving and also to commit the next year to the Lord and ask for his continued guidance and provision for the work.

We give praise and glory to our Lord Jesus Christ for His wonderful work through His people.

### **Highlights Of The First 2 Years**

#### **Street pastors are part of a night out in the city centre...**

- A warm welcome from the public - we have made many friends and had many happy conversations with all kinds of people.
- A wonderful working relationship between ourselves and CCTV, door staff, ICE bus, paramedics, police, taxi marshals.
- time we are out, at least one direct call for help via the CCTV control room. In every monthly report the police have noted situations where the street pastors have prevented serious crimes by protecting the vulnerable and calming aggression.
- Recognition for the work from the night clubs. Several have led the way by committing to regular donations to help support us.
- An improvement in the atmosphere and a measurable reduction in violent crime in the night times when we are on duty.

#### **It is a team effort**

- Volunteers come from over 35 churches in Southampton
- Donations from the churches over the first 2 years has totalled £22,074
- 3 churches and 10 individuals are supporting us with regular donations

#### **Caring, Listening, Helping**

- 240 patrols - 5760 hours given by street pastors backed up by over 1500 hours of prayer for the city!
- Over 8000 bottles/glasses cleared off the pavements. Broken glass swept up 830 times.
- 1,800 pairs of flip flops given out to women in bare feet.
- 600 drunk people given some kind of care; 250 aggressive situations calmed. 290 lone individuals seen home safely.
- Many, many prayers of blessing or hope in difficult times; 260 distressed and upset people comforted.
- 7 "Thank You" letters or emails from people we have helped, or their families.

**Next Sunday we will be taking an offering to support Southampton Street Pastors & praying for the ministry.**