



Glasgow Street Pastors

Bulletin - 8 May 2020

From Linda:

Questions and answers....

You may have heard questions about where God is now - we may be thinking and talking about this with friends and family. And for us as SPs this is a good time to think about our response and how we would respond to others asking questions...

There is a very readable little book which may be of interest to you: "Where is God in a Coronavirus World" - John Lennox.



Praying and thinking....

We are listening to questions about what our streets may be like, what our schools may be like - what we may be like. This is for prayer, for listening and for sharing thoughts. Our immediate world will be different - we will find a new normal - and for now, we are not sure when that will be

These uncertainties are also part of us as GSP too. We will emerge and engage with people in the city centre taking what we know with us

Listening and talking....

During these times, people are keen to help and benefit society; maybe this is time for conversations with people in our churches who may become part of our teams and to serve with us in the city centre ...

Please have these conversations about what it means to be a SP and pray for those who may be ready to join us.

God bless you at home, at work, as part of your church family.....

May we all know our hope in Jesus as we journey on.....



And from Stuart:

- Simon Community are continuing to look after guests in 2 city centre hotels.
- Scotland's Homeless Project are also distributing food and assistance to vulnerable people in lockdown....'our team received a call to reach out to a gentleman who was struggling with no food and about to run out of gas and electricity. We reached out and delivered food and assisted with utility issues'.
- GCM staff continue to run quizzes, competitions to lift the spirits of guests on Facebook Live at 7.30pm. Staff are also sharing 'favourite verses' as a means of encouragement. Listen to Clare on Twitter at <https://t.co/BVV15dig2l>
- Marion Carson, the chaplain at GCM has a helpful 'blog' on the website. Her latest reflection can be found at www.glasgowcitymission.com/news-events/blog/post.php?s=2020-05-07-still-on-the-watch-tower
- Management Team met on Tuesday 5 May.
- The next team leaders meeting will be on Thursday 14 May



Thank you to Clyde Valley Community Church for their donation of £1000 to GSP. This very generous gift will support us as we consider our next steps. Thank you to Anne Madill who made this funding application to her church.

And thank you all who continue to give financial support at this time.

PRAY

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6: 18
Please pray for Lorna and Stuart as they continue to work from home.
See the prayer points from Willie

And finally,

Please be in touch if GSP can be of support to you: please do not be stuck. As a family, we are here for one another.

Blessings,
Linda

Linda Burke
Chair - Glasgow Street Pastors
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Context for prayer

- The depth of the Coronavirus Crisis, with the social problems arising from lockdown, the uncertainty regarding the future and the tragic loss of more than 30,000 lives in this country alone, has provoked many people to ask questions about what is really important in life and where, if anywhere, is God in this situation. Figures have shown that many more people are tuning in to online church services than would normally attend church. Street Pastors, Safe Zone Pastors and Prayer Pastors, with their training and experience, are ideally placed to offer spiritual comfort and hope to others who are asking questions. John Lennox has written a short book entitled *Where is God in a Coronavirus World?* which is ideal to enable us to offer help and encouragement to people at this time.
- One of the ways in which the Lord has been at work during the crisis has been in encouraging people to help one another, to be kind and co-operative rather than wanting to look out only for themselves. People have gone out of their way to help vulnerable neighbours and relatives, sometimes at risk to themselves. Since we are getting used to helping and, for some people at least, realising the fulfilment that comes from looking after those less fortunate than ourselves, perhaps many of our church members would be interested in continuing with this type of work, by becoming Street Pastors.
- Several of our Street Pastors are still operating in the NHS at the front line at considerable risk to themselves, offering comfort and support to those who are seriously ill or even dying, without the comfort of loved ones at their bedsides. This is an extremely stressful and traumatic situation for doctors, nurses and other hospital and care home workers.

Please pray:

- For all Pastors, that we will be able to take opportunities to show people that the Lord is with us in our crises, that He has not abandoned us and that if we reach out to Him, He will bring us His comfort and lead us through.
- For Street Pastors operating in their own churches, that they may be able to encourage their friends to step up to join us as the crisis winds down. Pray that the Lord will work in the hearts of His people to prompt them to consider joining the team.
- That Street Pastors and others working in the NHS may be aware of the Lord's presence and protection and that they will be given the strength and sensitivity to offer spiritual comfort to the ill and dying. Give thanks that one Street Pastor working for the NHS was able to visit a Street Pastor hospital patient and bring him comfort and support. He is now convalescing at home.