

CITY SCAPE



A TEST OF FAITH ●

BY GUY MILLER

No story in the Old Testament causes me to scratch my head more than Abraham being asked to sacrifice his son – (talk about difficult father son relationships.) Genesis 22 tells us that Abraham was tested. There are two kinds of testing of the believers faith :

- One that comes from our fallen nature
- One that comes from God.

Abraham's trial was both emotional and spiritual. Emotional in the love of a father for his son but spiritual in the sense of a life spent believing for a son to number his offspring with the stars, and now being asked to sacrifice him.

In the year of the Big Ask, let us be reminded that faith is purified through suffering (Heb 2:10). God will ask us to do things that make no sense at the time but will always produce a harvest of righteousness in God's time. A willingness to abandon everything for God is the mark of a disciple who has lost his life in order to find God's life.

Let's ask the impossible and trust even when our most precious loves are on the line.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EQUIP

This month we launch Equip: Flexible and interactive seminar style training evenings tackling everyday subjects that affect us all.

Visit www.citygatechurch.net/equip for full details, but in brief:

1. Choose your course (see below)
2. Turn up at St Swithun's for session 1 (Weds 2nd or Thurs 3rd)
3. Come back to St Swithun's for session 2 (Weds 9th or Thurs 10th)

Cells do not meet these weeks to release everyone to attend.

Courses:

- The Pursuit of Happiness
- Budget coaching. Breaking the debt cycle
- Building Strong Families Note: this track will be looking specifically at the early (0-5 years) years of parenting.

EASTER @ CITYGATE

● **Week of Prayer** // Mon 18, Tue 19, Wed 20 // 7.30-9.00 at St Swithun's.

● **Good Friday Celebration** // The whole church gathering to worship and consider the cross // 11.00-12.30 at St Swithun's // Followed by picnic style bring and share lunch.

● **Easter Sunday** // 9.30 and 11.30 at St Swithun's // Evangelistic Sunday Meetings

**Look out for
more details next
month.**

WESTPOINT

New website now up! Visit www.togetheratwestpoint.org.uk for full event details. When: 18th – 22nd August 2011

**Bookings to go
live Tues 1st
March.**

Westpoint is a fantastic missional bible camp where we come together with other Newfrontiers churches to pause, meet with God and so get caught up into what He's calling us to be and do.



TOGETHER AT
WESTPOINT
LEARN • LOVE • GO

INTERVIEW WITH SIMON GOLLINGS OF REFRESHMENTS



Refreshment area, A brief chat with those we are serving, or working with, is the reward of being on Refreshments. We get to meet many 'Sir and Madam's' from all walks of life.

1 First, on behalf of everyone in Citygate, can I say a massive thank you for serving us tea and coffee every week?! What made you want to take on leading this team?

It's the ideal area of church life to serve, coming from a hospitality background in Catering, including 15 years with P&O Cruise Line serving 'Sir & Madam'. But now with a dedicated and hard working team of friends and volunteers, we give hospitality to the whole family at Citygate, plus of course the many guests that attend each week - it's a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet others.

2 What drives you guys, is it just about making drinks?

Chatting over a nice hot drink is a fun way of getting to know someone, the kitchen at home is usually the place, so I guess in our church it's the

3 It always seems to be a hive of activity behind that counter, how many people does it normally take to run a Sunday?

Ideally, four in the team on first service, with six on the second service, at it tends to be busier. There is preparation beforehand to ensure the coffee is percolating, milks, sugars, biscuits, cups, pots are all in place, but most important are the team members who volunteer behind the scenes in the kitchen, tidying, washing up hundreds of cups - these are the real unsung heroes on the teams.

4 And do you have everyone you need? Can others get involved?

We always welcome more help, especially on the first service teams, 8.30am or as reserves, to call on at short notice, in case someone is away. Contact Andi Northrop in the Citygate office (anorthrop@citygatechurch.net) or me directly on a Sunday, thank you.



MON

People serving overseas

- Steve & Beth Devaraj (India)
- Jimmy (Sudan)

TUE

The Church

- Cell groups
- Building project

WED

Prayer for healing

- Rip & Dot ■ Jane Lovell
- Susi Burdell

THUR

Newfrontiers

- Together at Westpoint
- Guy's apostolic responsibilities

FRI

Outreach teams

- Little Acorns
- Emerge ■ Momentum

SAT

Teams

- PAWords ■ Refreshments
- Team leaders ■ Elders

SUN

Sundays

- Baptisms ■ Folk on Why Jesus/ Why Citygate

MAR

- Wed/Thu 2/3 Equip I
- Tue 8 Leadership Summit
- Wed/Thu 9/10 Equip II
- Wed 16 Engine Room
- Sun 20 Why Citygate I
- Sat 26 Everything Conference
- Sun 27 Why Citygate II

APR

- Sun 10 Baptisms
- Tue 12 Leadership Summit
- Wed 20 Engine Room
- Fri 22 Good Friday
- Sun 24 Easter Sunday
- Sat 30 Evangelism Explosion

LOOKING AHEAD:

MAY

- Wed 4 Conurbation Prayer
- Mon 30 Citygate Social

REGULAR EVENTS:

Revival Prayer Meeting is for everyone.

Happens every **Friday lunchtime**: 12.30-1.30 in the Citygate Office.
Everyone is welcome to and come and pray for as long as they're able.

Momentum is for ages 14-18.

Happens every **Friday night**.
Contact: Martin and Rebecca Flood (mflood@citygatechurch.net)

Emerge is for sch yrs 7-9.

Happens every other term-time **Friday night**.
Contact Chris and Helen Vessey (emerge@citygatechurch.net)

Little Acorns is our parents-and-toddler group.

Happens every **Wednesday morning** during term-time.
Contact Jenny Cornish (ja@citygatechurch.net)

Oasis is our coffee mornings for over 60s.

Happens every **Thursday morning**.
Contact Fiona Chadd (oasis@citygatechurch.net)

Citygate Students and Twenties group is exactly that.

Contact Paul and Hazel Flood (students@citygatechurch.net)

Church office: 37 Palmerston Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth BH1 4HN

Office hours: 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday

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