

B.C.C. YOUTH WORK END OF YEAR REPORT 2007/2008

Introduction

Last year I felt God speak to me through 1 Corinthians 16:8-9 (NLT),

“In the meantime, I will be staying here at Ephesus until the Festival of Pentecost, for there is a wide-open door for a great work here, and many people are responding. But there are many who oppose me.”

On reflection, this word has proved to be extremely applicable to our situation as we have had a year of exciting fruit coupled with considerable spiritual opposition – they always go together! There have been some real highlights; young people being saved and baptised, a superb weekend away in March, an outstanding teaching series bringing some definitive Spirit-led insights into sex and sexuality, a new website with excellent pages on ENERGY and our related activities (over 1300 hits since January 2008), seeing young people persevere through hard times and come out stronger in their faith at the end, a new passion and power in our times of corporate worship and a stirring up of the Holy Spirit gifts already in us (especially tongues/interpretation and prophecy). What a year!

After more than a decade of leading this ministry, I keep my spirit open to the possibility that God may want to move me on to other things. However, in recent months my love for and commitment to this ministry has gone from strength to strength and the life of Christ continues to expand in me and pour out through me. Ably supported by a superb team of co-workers, I believe God is using us to produce lasting fruit in the lives of these fantastic young people. I have no plans to go anywhere!

Next Year

Next year will be one of great challenge and change for ENERGY – but we wouldn't want it any other way! We have seen about 12 people move on from ENERGY in the last year. Personally, I will greatly miss our older teens who have 'run the race' and been with ENERGY for many years. Now God is moving them onto the next stage of their faith adventures with Him. We have also said goodbye to two of the long-standing team members: Linda (who left in January) and Neil.

Thank you to all of them for being a part of this ministry and contributing so much to what we do. We will miss you!

As a result of this, ENERGY will be numerically smaller and younger. However, I view this as a positive thing. I believe God will birth within all of us a new heart for evangelism and a revelation that ALL of us can see people become Christians. Too many young people (and adults?) think that God wants to use somebody else to reach the lost. *In 2008/2009 our aim is for all of the young people to see at least one of their friends become a Christian.* God does it "**ONEBYONE**". What underpins this is an evangelistic heart which comes from disciples living a truly authentic Kingdom life; something that is central to the vision of BCC. It is not about just putting on more meetings or events.

Despite a focus on Reaching the Lost we not sit back, relax and 'take it easy'. A recent prophetic word from one of the young people beautifully encapsulated the challenge facing us as a Group: now the older ones have left us we must step up and press forward, making the most of all the fresh opportunities that God will give us through the departures of those who naturally took the lead in the past.

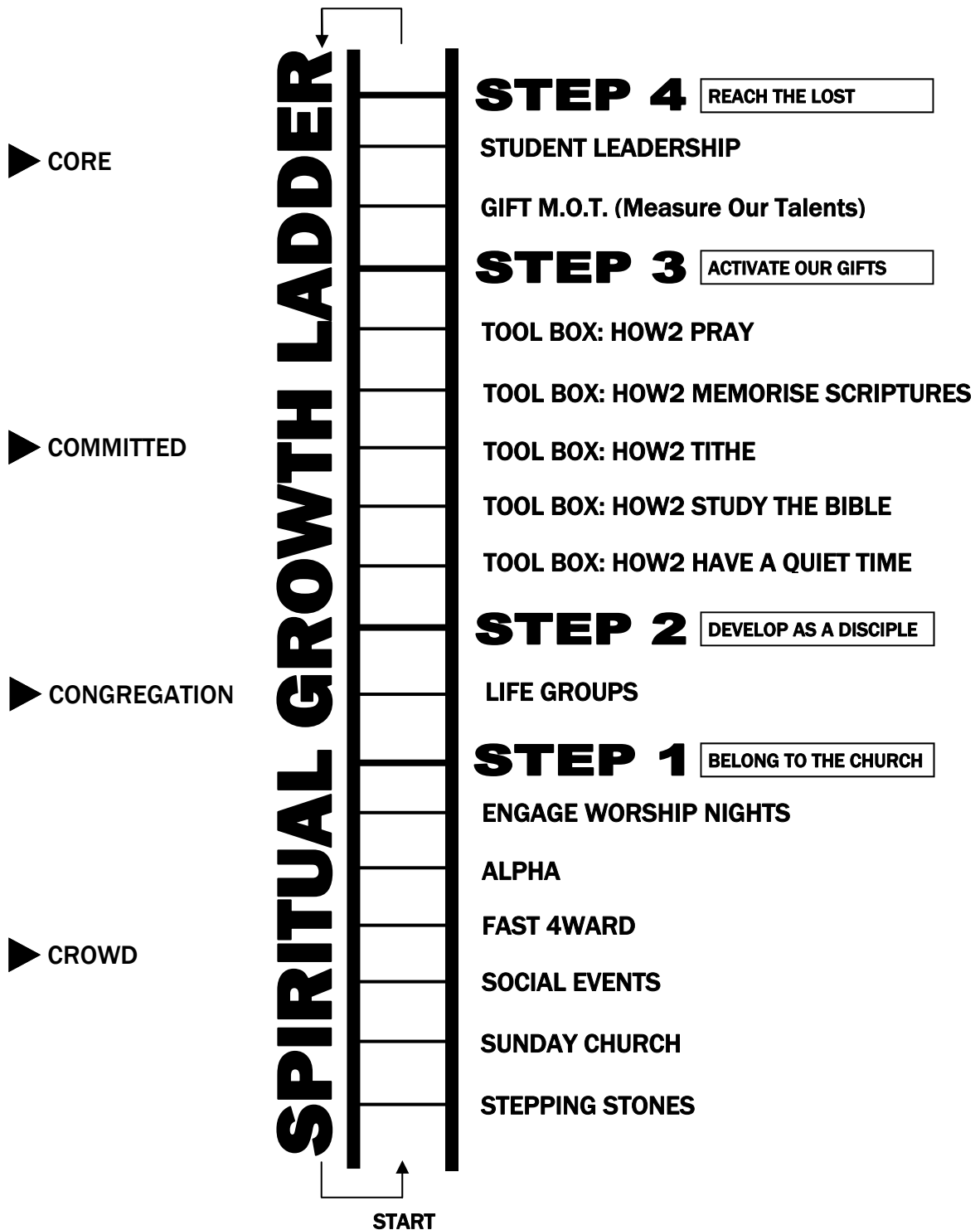
Paul the Apostle sums it up in Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV),

"But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus."

Please continue to pray for us, the young people and the awesome work He is doing in and through us. Watch out world – here we come!

James

James Hennah / August 2008



THE BCC YOUTH WILL:

- B** - BELONG to the Church (*FELLOWSHIP: Ephesians 2:19*)
- R** - REACH the Lost (*EVANGELISM: Matthew 28:18-20*)
- E** - ENGAGE with God (*WORSHIP: Matthew 22:37, Romans 12:1*)
- A** - ACTIVATE our Gifts (*MINISTRY: Romans 12:4-8, James 1:17*)
- D** - DEVELOP as Disciples (*DISCIPLESHIP: 1 Corinthians 9:24-25*)

MISSION: '500 young people in 5 years'

	VISION	2007/2008	2008/2009	COMMENTS
BELONG TO CHURCH (FELLOWSHIP)	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 y/p completed STEP1 in Sept07. 4 LIFE groups have run for 17 sessions, led by 6 leaders, with 30 committed y/p (ie have done STEP1) Content: 5-Part 'Respect' Series on Submission and Authority plus free-form sessions + general matters 4 y/p baptised (Feb08) and The Big Finish: (July08) a 'farewell service' for those leaving ENERGY (5Y/P) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give opportunities for each of the LIFE Groups to be involved in running their own sessions. We will continue to link key teaching/prophetic themes in the Church with LIFE Group content. Equipping/Training in evangelism. 	<i>Despite some departures both from the Team and amongst the youth, LIFE Groups prove to be an extremely affective way of belonging to the Church and developing relationships with one another and with God.</i>
REACH THE LOST (EVANGELISM)	R	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laserfusion (Oct07): 26Y/P (8 Guests) Youth Service (Nov07): c25Y/P involved, 2 saved Christmas Quiz (Dec07): 32Y/P (11 Guests) New Year's Eve Party: 7Y/P Orienteering Night (May08): 12Y/P (2 Guests) Safari Supper (July08): 21Y/P (4 Guests + 8 team) STEPUP (Sept07): Brand New STEP4 (19 Y/P) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We want to provide a fresh focus on evangelism next year through our 'ONEBYONE' strategy. We will continue to run fun, outreach-based events. Young people will run two evangelistic events of their own; one aimed at boys, one at girls. 	<i>This year we have offered some high quality evangelistic events and seen 5 young people saved. Some Guests have visited our Sunday morning meetings too. Many more have been touched & enjoyed spending time with us.</i>
ENGAGE WITH GOD (WORSHIP)	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 ENGAGE Worship Nights (averaging c. 20 Y/P) High levels of attendance and participation in worship from the young people on Sunday mornings More y/p involved in playing in adult worship team, attending practices and ministering on Sundays. Increase in worship life of group especially in the area of speaking in tongues, prophecy and interpretation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide opportunities for members of ENERGY to exercise their gifts and get involved with B.C.C. ministries. Continue to develop this 'contribution culture.' Youth Band will continue. 	<i>God has been doing a new thing in our corporate times of worship. We have had some exceptionally powerful encounters with Him. More of the young people have been stirring up the gifts of the Holy Spirit during these times.</i>
ACTIVATE OUR GIFTS (MINISTRY)	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct Acting performed at bCyr (Nov07) Street Dance has completed 2 new dances this year and performed at bCyr, Youth Service (Nov07), BCC Sunday mornings and Yeovil Community Church. Youth Band led worship at BCC/ENGAGE Sundays. STEP UP (Sept07): Brand New STEP3 (30Y/P + 17 adults in 'Ministry Zone'). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct Acting will be taking a break in 2008/2009. Street Dance will continue to run and be a resource for the Church and other groups. Follow up all Y/P who have signed-up to be involved with Church Ministries. 	<i>Street Dance has gone from strength to strength. Our brand new STEP3 Course was a real highlight as the young people had an opportunity to activate their gifts and get involved with the various ministries in B.C.C.</i>
DEVELOP AS DISCIPLES	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STEP UP (Sept07): STEP2 (7Y/P) 4 'SEXFACOR' Sessions (March-April): c30 Y/P session for comprehensive teaching on sex/sexuality. Great Wood (March 08): 28 Y/P (3 Guests, 2 Saved) + DVD Evening (July 2008): 27Y/P (incl. 2 Guests + 2 Year 5/6s) + 13 Adults (+5 Leaders). Two Saturday morning Youth Team training sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return to the HOW2 Packs and use them in a structured way. Run another Baptism Service Encourage the Y/P to run sessions Trip to St. George's House, Croyde in April 2009. Continue Team development 	<i>Our 4 part series, "The Sex Factor", was the most comprehensive programme we have ever done covering this area. It will be an extremely valuable future resource. We have had 164 hits on the Sex Factor webpage.</i>