

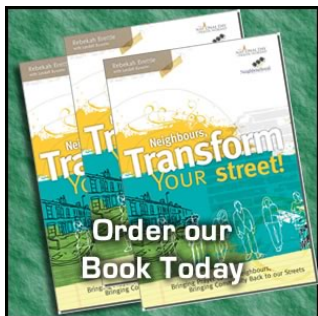
Newsletter Update

Friday 11th October 2013

Stats

1,841 Streets being prayed for [See Map](#)
185,941 Houses on those streets (101 per street)
441,840 People living there (240 per street)

****[Click here to see our research sources.](#)**



Dear Carl,

I am looking forward to attending, 'Saints in the Stadium' tomorrow and hope to see many of you there!

October 12th 2013 11-4pm Saints in the Stadium, Lagtree Park, Mcmanus Drive, St Helens, WA9 3AL

Book: 01744 455052

www.saintsuperstore.com/matchtickets.html



Street Alpha

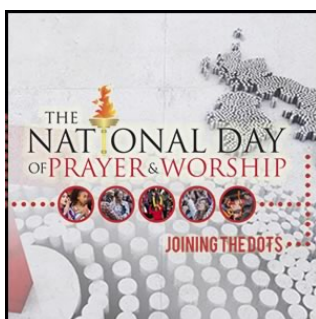
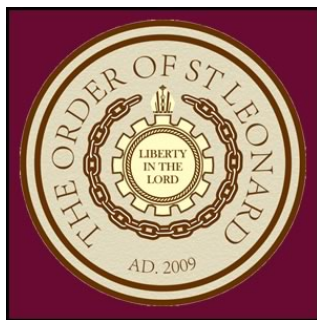
This week we are pleased to be able to share a great testimony about how three women have come closer to God on a " Street Alpha" course in Scotland. This testimony has personally challenged me. I have organised and been part of many Alpha courses, but I am challenged to consider whether I would feel comfortable running one on my own street.



Last year my husband and I and two friends were running a course and God asked me in a prayer time to invite my neighbour across the road... truthfully I didn't want to, it was too close for comfort...what if he said no, took offence and never spoke to me? I finally plucked up the courage to invite him. When I invited him, he said no, but that he was so pleased I had cared enough to ask. Afterwards I was glad I had followed God's leading. It wasn't the response I expected, but it was a positive one. Anyway, I hope this testimony encourages you and perhaps challenges you as much as it has challenged me.



A testimony from Scotland: Three neighbours become closer to God through, "Street Alpha"



Alpha

In September 2012, a neighbour living on our street invited me into her home. She had been to church a few times. She offered me a cup of tea and suddenly, quite unexpectedly, started to ask me questions and as she asked some of the big questions about Christianity, she was in tears. I asked her if it would be okay to meet every week for one hour to try to answer some of her questions, with no strings attached. When I went round next time, she had purchased a book about Basic Christianity, so we studied that in November and December. She felt that in her heart she became a Christian at this point and she introduced herself at a church weekend as a "new Christian"

In the New Year we continued to study together and she started coming to a regular home group. Another neighbour who had lots of problems sometimes stopped me in the street and I would pray with her. In the New Year, I had an idea to do a "Street Alpha" at lunch time. Another Christian from our church also brought her neighbour to the group. In total there were three Christians and three non-Christians attending. While the course normally runs for ten weeks, ours ran over a much longer time as both my husband and I developed unexpected health problems. By June we had just completed 5 of the Alphas sessions and decided that it was running over too long a period, so after the summer we did the final Holy Spirit sessions. Afterwards one of the ladies who was not a Christian asked if we could do a cake and prayer evening. We had home-made cakes and everyone in the group prayed! One of the ladies said that she was "nearly there" as a Christian. All three women continue on a journey and we are looking at next steps in the next few weeks and months.

Before all of this happened I had been prayer walking my street, and at every opportunity seeking to get to know my neighbours. God has provided many opportunities to invite people into my home or for me to visit theirs.

We kept the lunch simple, just home-made soup and bread and a piece of cake with a 'cuppa'. A couple of ladies from church helped with the serving and washing up.

It has been a wonderful experience. We would definitely recommend it to other people and if you have any questions about how to do this in your street please contact me through the neighbourhoodprayer.net website.

NEIGHBOUR FRIDAY



PRAYER

Psalm 18:1-3

Lord, I pray You will protect the children on my street from the peer pressure to take drugs or drink alcohol. For those who have already used these substances, I pray You will heal them of any long-term damage.

Look at your household consumption of alcohol and see if you need to cut down.

Getting your copy of the HOPE prayer guide starting 18th October

Printed copies can be ordered from UCB. P & P charged for orders under 1,000 copies; over 1,000 they are free.

<http://www.ucb2go.co.uk/pages/hope-resources.html>

CARE

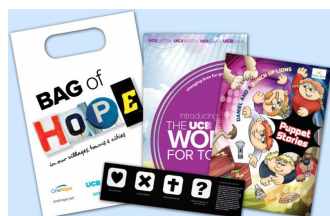


*in our villages,
towns and cities*



HOPE is encouraging churches to see Harvest as an opportunity for mission. If you've got lots of home-grown fruit, tomatoes or veg, invite your neighbours to celebrate God's goodness with a meal. Making jam? Make some extra to give to neighbouring families - or if you are baking, like the churches in Burton, how about passing on the message of HOPE on a cup-cake. Visit www.hopetogether.org.uk to find out more about HOPE and 2014 as a year of mission together in words and action.

SHARE



Why not order the UCB bag of HOPE to give out at Halloween?

www.ucb2go.co.uk/pages/bag-of-hope.html

Every Blessing



Rebekah Brettle

P.S. Don't forget to click on the block advert links to some of our great partners (on the left).

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