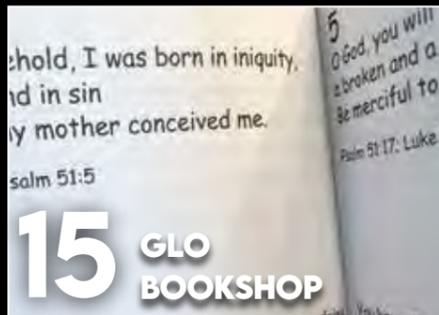
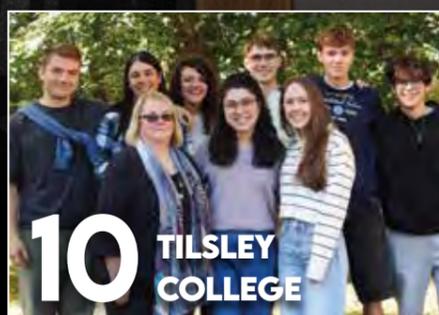


# @vision

Winter 2025

GOOD  
MEMORIES  
IN  
UNEXPECTED  
PLACES

# 4 GOOD NEWS IN UNEXPECTED PLACES



This magazine is published twice yearly to report on the work of GLO in Europe and around the world and to promote mission interest. There is no subscription rate but readers are welcome to send gifts towards postage and production.

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## LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

Many people have a concern about what the long-term impact of their lives will be on others. As Christians this is a big issue because the Bible encourages us to live our lives in view of eternity. GLO, along with many other Christian organisations, benefits greatly from legacies that people leave behind. It is a way of significantly helping the work of the kingdom by organising your giving after you have gone.

We have produced an information booklet on the use of legacies and if you would like to have one then write to: Stephen McQuoid | GLO Centre | 78 Muir Street | Motherwell ML1 1BN | smcquoid@glo-europe.org



# EDITORIAL

by Richard Harknett

Although we understand that sharing the gospel should be a part of each of our lives, we also recognise that there are certain times when that is easier than others. Whether your decorations are up yet or not, Christmas is certainly on the horizon and I'm sure that most (if not all) of our churches are thinking about ways in which we can make the most of the broader cultural interest to share the truth of Jesus' birth, and his subsequent death and resurrection.

However, God remains sovereign over the whole year and so can bring opportunities into our lives at any time. Through this issue of e-vision we want to highlight some of the ways in which God has been giving people in the GLO Family the chance to share the good news of Jesus in unexpected places.

Some of these are moments of high stress, and it's harder to think of a more extreme example than the one Cornel explains to us,

when he writes of recent visits to Ukraine. But even in relatively peaceful countries, life has deep challenges and on p14 Catherine describes ministry in the context of autism spectrum disorder. Other examples show how God can open doors in unanticipated ways to allow connections to be created – whether that is helping with a music camp in France, engaging in football chaplaincy or starting a woodwork group.

Lastly, it's been an encouraging year for the various GLO teams, and it's worth reflecting on some of what took place. One highlight was a new team which ran during the Edinburgh Fringe festival and produced an incredible number of conversations, which you can read about on p13. We're currently putting together the team programme for 2026, so please look out for that in due course.

The question that is left hanging, then, is this: where do we go from here? Maybe we each need to reflect on what God is doing where we are. Are there gifts or skills that are untapped which he could use

“Through this issue of e-vision we want to highlight some of the ways in which God has been giving people in the GLO Family the chance to share the good news”

in new ways? Is God doing something new in the community around our house or our church? Might there be surprising new contacts that God is waiting to develop? Maybe we should be asking God to share his vision for where he has placed us, and that he would open up doors for the good news to expand into our unexpected places.

Now imagine the prison warden. His face is also interesting, it showed the ravages of a stressful job, living at close quarters with the men and women incarcerated under his care. He was responsible for their security and by extension the security of the city as a whole. The autocratic rule of the Roman Empire meant that punishment tended to be severe and jailors like him become hardened as they daily witness the abuse and cruelty of the prison system.

Two prisoners were put under his care. They were both religious types, Jews that had joined some new sect the prison warden had never heard of. Their crime was unusual. They were not there because of violent acts or theft. Apparently, they had helped a slave girl who had been demon possessed, giving her the power to tell the future. Fortune telling has always been profitable and her owners had become rich as they manipulated the abilities of their trafficked victim to feather their nests.

These two men had apparently performed a remarkable feat of delivering this girl from the spirits that tormented her and as a consequence her owners had lost their ability to make money from her misery. They seized the two men and caused such an uproar that the local Roman authorities had to intervene. That is when they met the prison warden. The two men were beaten severely in order to teach them a lesson and the prison warden was given strict instructions to keep them safely chained within the prison walls.

Then something even more remarkable happened. An earthquake took place that shook the entire prison and as a consequence the chains of every prisoner fell off. When the prison warden woke and saw what had happened, he was terrified of the consequences that might befall him. He decided that suicide was a better option than being tortured to death by the authorities, so he drew his sword to bring his life to a quick end. Remarkably however, the two men in his care had not run away and when they saw him they pleaded with him to put down his sword.

We don't know much about the worldview of this prison warden, but he was certainly somebody who was spiritually open and believed these events were remarkable. He pleaded with the two men to share what they knew about God and how he could personally experience salvation. They came to his home which was part of the prison complex and

## by Stephen McQuoid

**With a little imagination I can picture her face, the tired look of somebody whose life has been far from easy.**

We may not know much about her but what we do know is that her life had been characterised by broken relationships. Five times she had walked down the aisle to say 'I do' and five times the marriage didn't last. Now she had given up altogether on the idea of marriage and opted for cohabitation, less complicated and with fewer strings. However, coming from a small conservative religious village her reputation was now in tatters. Other women didn't want to spend time with her because she is perceived to be 'tainted' goods. Decent men don't want to spend time with her either because then their reputation will be on the line. Her life had become one of aloneness, an isolation made more painful by the shame that she felt.

One day she went to the well, alone as ever, because she had few friends in the world. It was the wrong time of day to draw water, but of course that made it ideal for her because she knew she would have the well to herself with no condemning voices or accusing glances. To her surprise a man was sitting there; he also looked tired but just because of the long distance he had been walking that day. Because he was a traveller he didn't have any equipment with which to draw water from the well, so he asked her for a drink. She could see that he was a Jew and she was from the despised Samaritan minority, so his request surprised her. However, what ensued was a conversation that dramatically changed her life as from this apparently coincidental meeting she discovered the good news that she could be forgiven and have eternal life.

**“To her surprise a man was sitting there; he also looked tired but just because of the long distance he had been walking that day.”**

**“...as a church we need to be intentional about sharing the good news with the world. Intentionality takes effort and imagination. ”**

shared the good news not only with him but all of his family. In gratitude for his newfound faith and friends, he washed their wounds and shared his food with them.

These two stories are well known, one from John 4 on the other from Acts 16. What links them together is that different people discovered the good news of the gospel at a completely unexpected moment and place. As modern-day missionaries we are sent into the world to bring the good news of Jesus, and we need to learn lessons from these and other stories.

Evangelism is a flexible thing. Many churches go to great lengths to organise Family Services, activities, Alpha and Christianity Explored courses as well as a whole range of different age centred groups in order to share the good news of Jesus with our needy community. It is right that we do so because as a church we need to be intentional about sharing the good news with the world. Intentionality takes effort and imagination. It means that we need to commit ourselves to sharing the good news and reaching people using any appropriate method.

However, not all evangelism will be organised. Often God provides opportunities in our everyday lives to share the good news of Jesus. All of us will spend a part of our week encountering people who don't know Jesus, and it may well be at some of these encounters could provide an opportunity for us to be his witnesses. But just as Philip knew how to take that first step of opening a conversation when he saw the Ethiopian eunuch reading Isaiah in his chariot (Acts 8:30), so we need to be prepared to use every opportunity God grants to share the good news. If you are prepared to do so and if we pray for those opportunities and make the most of them, we will share the good news with people in unexpected places.





# HOPE IN THE MIDDLE OF TEARS IN UKRAINE!

By Cornel Haures

**W**ar. People are leaving their homes and cities to save their lives after about 40 years of peace. Each on his own account, without God and without the awareness of a possible tragedy from the Slavic brothers, the Russians. Now they are sheltered in the western part of Ukraine in old buildings that once were a school or the post office, or in the disused buildings from the communist era offered by the town halls in the villages. Others from cities and areas devastated by the Russian army are hosted in the buildings of churches in the western part of the country with no desire to return to their home areas where they have nothing left.

You see them on the streets alone, sad, bent over with cold and pain. I meet some of them once a month at the Betania church in the city, or at Lumina church, on Saturdays where these churches have a program of assistance for refugees. They come, attend the prayer time, listen to Christian songs, then listen to an evangelistic message of about 20 minutes. I see their gaze from the pulpit in search of hope, tears are streaming down their cheeks, each with their own story.

Here I also see warm, serene looks but still with tears flowing to the floor. I ask myself: Who are they? Do they have a different story? At the end I shake hands with each one. I ask where they are from and they all come from the war zone, some from the areas already occupied by the Russian army. Vasile stands in line to receive his monthly food ration from Betania. His face is serene but furrowed with wrinkles, worries and tears:

“I am from Cercase, two sons in the war, my wife stayed to take care of her parents in the occupied zone and received an identity card from Russia, and I fled with the boy who is now 17 years old, taking refuge here to save him.”

I ask him, where is his boy? He answers me, pointing with his finger: in the choir! Wow.

“We arrived here with nothing! We were hosted by a family who fascinated us with their kindness. We got to know them and realized that they are believers. We came to church with them and one evening our son listened to the sermon and handed his life over to God. Since then, church has been the guiding word for him. I also believed the gospel, we were both baptised last year. The Lord Jesus is the love of our lives!”

I also shake hands with Alla and her little girl who is about 9 years old. She listened to the sermon carefully. Only the two of them are alive after the bombing and came here. And on the street they listened to the Gospel. They are saved and pray for peace.

Oksana is all in tears but smiling: “Christ found me! I lost my husband, and I have two small children, but I thank God that He will take care of us.”

A young man of about 30 years old without a leg, on crutches, but looks cared for. He smiles too: “Christ saved my soul! I lost my leg in the war, but the Lord gave me eternal life and a believing wife. I got baptized and 3 months ago we got married!”

Ukraine is in the middle of war. In the last 3 years, GLO Bukovina has transported over 500 tons of food and humanitarian aid by small minibuses. I have always carried the gospel, the only hope in the midst of tears and many souls have found salvation despite the troubles and in the midst of tears the gospel is the sure hope of the nation!

“I ask him, where is his boy? He answers me, pointing with his finger: in the choir! Wow. !”



# MEN'S SHED

by Stephen Scott

**S**tephen Scott, one of our GLO Partners in Northern Ireland writes – From a desire to reach out to those who would not normally frequent church, we produced a list of ideas and activities that might encourage them to engage with Christians and see for themselves, that like them, we are just ordinary people, no better, no worse. We also experience all the ups and downs of daily life, yet we have an inner strength and hope that helps us to negotiate life.

Some men in the church who enjoy working with wood, on thinking how could they use their gift and pastime to reach out to others (1 Cor. 9:23), came up with the idea of a Men's Workshop.

They thought that a workshop would be a perfect environment where men could come together to:

- be involved in practical ways in making things out of wood
- develop friendships that would encourage spiritual growth
- introduce Jesus to those who had as yet not encountered Him

Just a thought, ‘imagine 2000 years ago people wandered into Joseph’s workshop and chatted to Jesus as he worked with his tools of the



trade (Mk. 6:3) unaware that they were speaking to the Saviour of the world’.

We are blessed to have adequate facilities in our church building, Fermanagh Christian Fellowship for Men's Shed. After a shaky start due to Covid restrictions, was established in 2020. Now operating for five years we have been blessed to see an obvious growth spiritually and numerically from the original two or three to around twelve men.

Meeting each Thursday morning the ‘Kettle’, the first and most important tool of the workshop is switched on. Men's Shed functions best after a cuppa, but this is also a great opportunity to sit together around the table and talk honestly and openly, sharing life experiences with a focus on spiritual matters.

It is through guided discussions based on God's word that we explore and share the Good News of Jesus and it is so encouraging to observe a diverse group of men who are all at very different stages of spiritual awareness, speaking freely about how the Lord is impacting their lives, either as they discover more about their

faith or on their own personal journey toward faith in the Lord.

Through the Men's Shed some have become regular church attenders, involved in the various ministries, and others more involved within the fellowship. Friendships have been forged, and others have shown an interest to know more about Jesus.

Just a footnote – the men with a variety of skills spend their time making anything from trays to chairs, from general repairs on the church building to making play items for local schools.

“Now operating for five years we have been blessed to see an obvious growth spiritually and numerically from the original two or three to around twelve men.”





by Alison McLeod

# SPORTS CHAPLAINCY

**G**ordon and Alison McLeod work with GLO and Gordon has responsibility for GLO Media. Alison writes here about her involvement in Sports Chaplaincy.

I began serving with Sports Chaplaincy in February 2019. In December 2018, Mark Fleming, the Scottish Director of Sports Chaplaincy, asked me to prayerfully consider becoming the chaplain for the Kilmarnock Women's First Team. I took time to pray and seek God's direction, also asking for prayer support from trusted Christians in my life. God clearly spoke to me and confirmed that I was to take on the role.

At the time, I didn't know the first thing about football and had no real interest in the sport. Mark reassured me that knowledge of football wasn't necessary, as the role was primarily pastoral care for the emotional, mental, and spiritual wellbeing of the players and staff.

After accepting the role, I received training through Sports Chaplaincy UK, including Mental Health First Aid. We also attend an annual conference, which provides great encouragement and connection with other chaplains across the country.

Mark introduced me to the Kilmarnock Women's team, and I was welcomed in as part of the squad. I attend one training session a week and am present at all home games at Rugby Park. At

first, it felt a bit awkward standing on the sidelines during training, but as I built relationships with the girls, it became a joy.

My role involves being a consistent and caring presence, offering a listening ear, meeting one to one with players, grabbing coffee in small groups, and supporting them through challenges both on and off the pitch. I often meet new players before training to help them feel more at ease. When players are injured, I get more time to chat with them, and of course, I pray for their recovery too!

With their permission, I let the girls know I am praying for them and sometimes ask my church to pray as well. It's a privilege when they come to me to talk about things they're struggling with or just to share life.

One player asked me to christen her baby. I explained we don't christen but offered a baby blessing service instead. She agreed, and I've since had the joy of blessing all three of her children, sharing the gospel with her family and teammates in the process.

It's truly an honour to walk alongside this team and serve God in this unique and meaningful way.



Watch Alison's Chaplaincy Video using the QR code link.

**“My role involves being a consistent and caring presence, offering a listening ear, meeting one to one with players, grabbing coffee, and supporting them”**



# MUSIC CAMP

by Chris & Michelle Hall

**O**ver the years, we have been involved in various summer music teams, where we welcomed all age groups from different churches and countries, to prepare concerts in order to present the gospel through a variety of songs.

For a while, we had been considering the possibility of running a similar team, which would be open primarily to young people interested in music. The idea was that enabling young people to develop their musical abilities and to perform in a safe and encouraging environment, and hence to grow in confidence and self-esteem, is in and of itself a demonstration of God's love and interest for the person. Working alongside the young people and other leaders, we would be trusting God to provide opportunities to share his love and our personal faith in him.

This summer we partnered with a secular bilingual language holiday centre for young people in order to run such a team. We were part of a group

of team leaders, but with specific responsibility for the music camp, others being responsible for various other activities.

We prepared the week-long team, carefully selecting songs, organising and leading the rehearsal times for the two concerts and we were pleased to have an input into the lives of the 8 young people that were involved in the team. They all enjoyed taking part, some of them daring to perform in front of an audience for the first time. We also had the opportunity of presenting a few of our own faith-inspired songs at the first mini-concert.

At the end of the camp, we were able to give away copies of our CD which contain our own songs inspired by our relationship with Jesus. We continue to pray that they may have a positive impact on those that took them.

This kind of team is much more akin to being a witness in a work environment, albeit in a concentrated timeline, which brings with it its own

**“At the end of the camp, we were able to give away copies of our CD which contain our own songs inspired by our relationship with Jesus.”**

challenges: living away from home alongside the team members and other leaders, time constraints, technical challenges and restrictions (for example, the transportation of instruments and necessary sound equipment). It provides an opportunity and the challenge to demonstrate Christ through our actions and interactions with other participants, and the sharing of our faith comes about in day-to-day conversations as everyone gets to know one another.

It is also puts us in touch with people who may have no or little connection with Christianity. Being a witness in this kind of environment, at least here in France, may be one of the few occasions for some of these young people to discover something about a personal relationship with Jesus.



**“Currently we have students from Scotland, Faroe Islands, France, Portugal, Serbia, Brazil, USA, and Canada!”**

(iii) personal and broader-scoped evangelism, (iv) careful discipling of new believers and (v) systematic training of leaders.

When he has free time he enjoys reading biographical narratives, global missiological publications and leadership books. He enjoys walking and cycling, whether with friends or on his own, as a means of exercise and a way to appreciate nature.

Although they are based in Largs for the time being, they are praying and looking forward to securing a property closer to the College. The hope is that, by being nearby, they can more fully dedicate their time and energy to the life and work of the College. It is not just about convenience, it is about being present, engaged and able to contribute in a more meaningful and sustained way.

Thank you for your support of Tilsley Bible College, as we together equip God’s people to do God’s work in God’s world.



# TILSLEY COLLEGE

**We are always excited to welcome a new cohort of students at Tilsley and this year is no exception.**

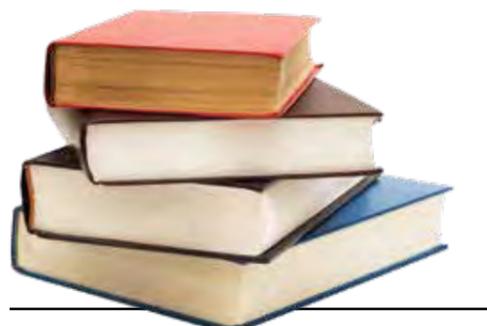
Students study with us in all sorts of ways – some access evening classes in our JOSHUA programme, some are part-time in Open Access arrangements or in ADVANCE – our four-week compact course in Bible and Mission. Still others study with us in short programmes of 14-16 weeks duration allowing them accumulate credits towards our formal accredited awards of Certificate, Diploma and Baccalaureate in Biblical Studies and Christian Ministry.

This year we have ten students in our JOSHUA evening classes, three in our ADVANCE programme and two in Open Access arrangements. Remaining students are six in certificate level programmes and four in diploma level. It is encouraging to see their

enthusiasm for learning and growing in Christian discipleship. It is also very special to have a range of international students studying with us once again. Currently we have students from Scotland, Faroe Islands, France, Portugal, Serbia, Brazil, USA, and Canada!

Ava, Jodi, Anne-Fleur, Juliana, Levi and Hans-Elmar are studying at Certificate level. Naomi, Zoë, Daniel and William are studying at Diploma level. Chris and Samuel are on Open Access arrangements in our Diploma Year classes. Please pray for all our students that they would be blessed in their studies, grow in their love for the Lord and for His Word, learn to serve with grace and humility and mature in likeness to Jesus over their time with us.

Please pray for students for our next intake in September 2026. We are keen to secure more students from the U.K. Perhaps there is someone



**“Currently we have students from Scotland, Faroe Islands, France, Portugal, Serbia, Brazil, USA, and Canada!”**

you know who you could encourage to study at Tilsley. Please point them in our direction. We’d love to be excited about their arrival next year!

## INTRODUCING THE NEW PRINCIPAL

**We are excited about the appointment of a new Principal for Tilsley College.** José Laussu is a British Angolan who has been in pastoral ministry for twenty-one years. Before he joined Tilsley College as a full-time member of staff in Autumn 2025 he had pastorates in Lobito (Angola), Ndola (Zambia), Paisley (Renfrewshire) and Gourack (Inverclyde).

He also has enriching years of career in cross-cultural missions in Guinea, under the auspices of BMS World Mission (the Baptist Mission Society) Previously, José also served as the Scottish representative for Langham Partnership.

He is married to Lynne. Both José and Lynne speak Portuguese, English and French. Besides teaching World Religions at the Baptist seminary, Lynne developed PEPE, a Christian educational programme for children in Angola and Mozambique. PEPE is also used in Brazil and other countries. She currently works as a teacher of English in high school.

José looks forward to supporting students as they discern and pursue the call of God in their

lives. This is something he is truly passionate about and sees it as a privilege to walk alongside them as they respond to the Lord’s leading in their lives.

His responsibilities include providing spiritual leadership to the College. José’s specialist area is primarily Biblical Studies, as well as his commitments to lecturing in the areas of Hermeneutics, Pastoral Epistles, Pastoral Care, Christian Leadership and Missions. He has undergraduate degrees in theology and majored in RE teaching (Evangelical University), postgraduate degree in divinity and contemporary missiology (Gloucestershire University/Redcliffe College), and intends to pursue doctoral studies soon.

José’s key values are: self-discipline, prayer and teaching believers to be disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. Also, preparation by devoting time to spiritual, mental and physical development and well-being through devotional time, study and delivery of sermons that are relevant to the needs of the contemporary world.

Personally, he has five priorities: (i) prayer and worship, (ii) biblical expository preaching,





# GOOD NEWS IN UNEXPECTED PLACES

by Judith McKeown

**"Expect the unexpected!"** How does this phrase make you feel? Excited? Nervous? A little bit of both?! This year, the summer team programme brought the good news of the Gospel to fifteen locations across Europe and the UK, involving a variety of ministries from international evenings, outreach concerts, teaching English as a foreign language, practical work on the street as well as children's and youth work. Some of these teams have been happening for years, but some were bringing the Gospel to new and perhaps unexpected areas. It was great to see a team in Slovenia for the first time, with outreach to children and families during the Reformation Day celebration in October. A man came to faith in Marseille and many people from different cultures were reached on the streets of Edinburgh through street evangelism. As one team member observed, "It was great to see God working in a different country to my own [showing] that God is a God for everyone, no matter [our] nationality or background. I heard lots of stories of God transforming people's lives..." The Gospel made an impact in unexpected places this summer and we praise God for that.

One common theme from team feedback was

the value team members place on working together – without teamwork the good news would not spread so effectively, in expected or unexpected places. One person said, "I love how the whole team was so connected and we were always looking out and caring for each other." Others expressed joy at preparing activities together, working across different generations and being pushed out of their comfort zones. Jesus' model of sending out the seventy-two in Luke 10 is a great example of effective teamwork in mission and the discipleship element on teams consequently helps people to grow in their faith and relationship with Jesus – I would love to have read a feedback form from the seventy-two! I suspect they were trained to "expect the unexpected!" Another team member said, "It was such a joy to be able to share the gospel and have opportunities to interact with many people and share the good news. It also sharpened my sensitivity to look for opportunities to share the gospel after returning from the trip." Sharing the Gospel in these unexpected places undoubtedly emboldens us to share our faith in our normal, everyday lives and that is at the heart of the Great Commission – disciples making disciples! God challenges our hearts and shapes our characters



on teams in ways we don't expect, so why not join us in 2026 on a summer team and "expect the unexpected" to happen! Please do pray for the 2026 summer team programme and keep an eye on the website and on our socials for new updates.

**"It also sharpened my sensitivity to look for opportunities to share the gospel after returning from the trip."**



by Stephen McQuoid

**O**ne of the remarkable features of globalisation is that a single city can contain people from all over the world. One such city is Edinburgh, a beautiful and historic place with a modest population of only half a million, yet home to a population that speaks 150 languages. Its international significance is bolstered by a student population of over 55,000 from four universities of which approximately 45% are foreign. During the month of August the international dimension is further increased as Edinburgh welcomes 2 million visitors from across the world to what is the world's largest arts festival.

All the above makes Edinburgh a perfect location for a GLO summer team. Karen Macrae (one of our GLO trustees) and I led the team which was based at Bellevue Chapel whose location near the city centre where most of the Festival activity takes place, was ideal for our purpose. We were also working alongside friends from the Herald's Trust.

Our main activities were mass distribution of a gospel tract that was specifically written for the event and a street café offering free tea and coffee to passers by so as to engage them in conversation. When conversations did occur, we would offer people a free copy of John's gospel.

The success of this venture was demonstrated by the fact that some 900 gospels were given out.

We also did some open-air preaching and conducted street interviews on camera so that we could produce a short YouTube video on the issue of loneliness. At times the number of people who came to the table for a drink and a chat was almost overwhelming. I personally spoke to people from Saudia Arabia, Qatar, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Canada, India, Pakistan, Nepal, South Africa, Nigeria, Turkey, France, The Netherlands, USA, Australia and Canada. Members of the team also spoke to people from other countries too.

Every team is a discipleship opportunity, so we also spent time every day praying and studying the Bible. I taught on the book of Ezekiel as it speaks to the post-Christian malaise of the UK while at the same time hinting at a 'quiet revival'. We also had church activities such as a music café and a church ceilidh.

The team itself was multicultural, and the gospel opportunities were immense. It would be impossible to have an open gospel conversation

with someone on the streets of Riyadh in Saudi Arabia or Mosul in Iraq, but on the streets of Edinburgh you can meet people from those places and freely share the gospel.

**"...the international dimension is further increased as Edinburgh welcomes 2 million visitors from across the world to what is the world's largest arts festival."**



# WHEN THE WORLD COMES TO TOWN



**C**atherine and her husband Christian have worked for many years in a small church in the west of France that was started by a GLO initiative back in the 80s. Catherine’s ministry is now orientated towards helping and training in the ASD field in and outside the church family.

My friend Elisabeth\* was speaking to me from the children’s playroom in a hospital about 100 km away. Her two boys were undergoing tests following a suspicion of a genetic blood disorder. This didn’t seem like the answer to prayer we had been hoping for... but let me tell you some of the story that led up to this:

A small group of lady “prayer warriors” had felt the need to put in place a two- week prayer chain for ten-year-old Samuel\*, one of Elisabeth’s children. The local education and healthcare services had recently got together with Elisabeth to discuss their difficulties in providing suitable care for Samuel (who was diagnosed with high IQ autism). Why and what were the reasons for his challenging behaviour? Sensory or anxiety issues? Addiction to sugar? Elisabeth had noticed extreme fatigue which can be common for children on the ASD spectrum. Samuel’s weekly timetable was looking very limited as schooling just didn’t seem possible.

One evening, Elisabeth had to call the emergency services because she was not sure if Samuel had eaten a dangerous product – always better to err on the side of caution! It seems, in hindsight, that Samuel had not swallowed anything. I’m sure many parents have lived through a similar dilemma. But because of his emergency admission another health problem

was highlighted through blood tests. Eventually, he and his brother were admitted to a larger hospital in a neighbouring city. The local hospital had not been worried about previous results of blood tests but the paediatric unit in the large university hospital soon diagnosed the problem, and a treatment is in place.

Since this rather traumatic event, Samuel seems to be better all around. We are not saying he is no longer autistic, but his mum has definitely noticed an improvement in various ways. Since the weeks of intense prayer, the educational services have opened up a small unit for four children just near Elisabeth’s home. Samuel will be starting to integrate into the class soon. What a joy to see Samuel at church recently and to hear that things had gone well at Sunday School – a previously complicated group situation for Samuel which meant that Elisabeth came to church by herself.

Yes, GOOD NEWS sometimes appears to have an unexpected trajectory, but God knows what He is doing and asks us to pray believing. What

started out as an alarming visit to the Accident and Emergency service has now led to a general improvement for a little boy coping with the many challenges of living with ASD.

\* Names have been changed.

**“A small group of lady “prayer warriors” had felt the need to put in place a two- week prayer chain for ten-year-old Samuel”**



Behold, I was born in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.

Psalm 51:5

Do you ever wonder, “Why do I keep doing bad things?” Perhaps you think, “The problem is, I am bad.” Yes, you are. But, you need to tell God all about it. Admit that you were never good. Not even when you were tiny. He knows when we only pretend to be good.



**“He had some concerns. He was not happy with one of the prayers and wanted to know whether we were aware of it”**

known to us who he was or why he was in, he just bought the Bible, along with another small book, and left.

A few days later we received an email, involving the second book he had bought – a children’s book of prayers. He had some concerns. He was not happy with one of the prayers and wanted to know whether we were aware of it, if we supported it being read by children, and ‘what we were going to do about it’. You will be able to see the “offending” entry on the image included with this article.

What is interesting to me is that when I first read that entry, I also wanted to be offended. How could you say something like that to a small child? I am the father of two small boys, and my natural self wants to make Christianity pretty and warm and fluffy. But then I ask myself, ‘Do I believe that it is true?’ Well, again, I am the father of two small boys...

This was great because this man had been introduced to the darkest part of God’s redemption story and, rather than his offence leading to him shutting off his and his daughter’s access to the Bible, he instead asked a question. And because of his question, we were given the opportunity to share the fullness of God’s redemption story, which bleeds out of every page of his daughter’s Bible, and of his daughter’s prayer book as well.

So, what happened next? I have no idea. But I do know that at least one man, who had never been exposed to God’s word, has now heard, and has a written record, of the gospel of Jesus Christ to him and his daughter. And that is great news.

by Catherine Moreau

# THE VALUE OF PRAYER

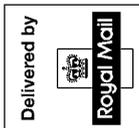
# GLO BOOKSHOP

by Alex Barlow

**W**e have noticed a marked increase in people coming into the bookshop in 2025 to purchase Bibles for the first time in their lives. Over the past three weeks alone, we have had three people come and ask us to help them choose a Bible, two of whom went first to churches who weren’t able to supply them with one, (mental note to make sure my home church is well-stocked!)

The story that popped into my mind when I learned the theme of this e-vision, however, was not so much good news in an unexpected place, but good news in an unexpected way.

In July of this year, a man who knew nothing of Christ came into the shop with his daughter to purchase a Bible, simply because she had asked for one. Stop the story there and it’s already a ‘Wow!’ moment. But it doesn’t stop there. He didn’t make



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## GLO EUROPE VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to grow mission focused churches in Europe.

### OUR FOCUS IS TO:

#### EVANGELISE:

to proclaim the gospel to as many people as possible in Europe using every method available

#### ESTABLISH:

to ensure believers are established in their faith, strengthen existing local churches and plant new mission focused churches in Europe

#### TRAIN:

to prepare and equip people for mission, to evangelise and church plant and to serve God and his Kingdom with excellence in a wide variety of vocations

#### RESOURCE:

to provide resources that support mission activity through finance and literature, strategic input and pastoral care