

# ELIM LIFE

2016 | ISSUE ONE

£1.99 // €1.99

## LET'S PRAY

BARRIERS TO BLESSING  
AWAKE MY SOUL  
GET ENGAGED

UNCONFESSED SIN  
UNFORGIVENESS  
**DOUBT**  
UNBELIEF



INTERVIEW WITH  
**THE MARTINS**  
(BANGOR ELIM)

**pray**  
WITH A PLAN.

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Elim Life is the magazine of The Elim Pentecostal Church in Ireland. The views expressed in articles and reports are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial board or the Elim Pentecostal Movement.

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## Editor's Note

# Hi all

How is it March already? I don't know about you, but for me 2016 seems to be flying past at a speedy rate! I hope that as the months have been passing that God has been close and real in your life and in whatever season you find yourself.

In this edition we are focusing our attention on prayer. Something that may seem obvious, and maybe even simple but something that is vital and brings so much strength to our relationship with God. Prayer is the key that unlocks so much, sometimes our focus can easily be on the immediate, praying for our situation now, the problem we face today, but what about our tomorrow? What about our future with God? Our children? Their children? I read this quote by Max Lucado recently - "Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."

We may not feel like it but we have a responsibility as Christians to take our prayer life seriously. To persevere when we feel like giving up, to pray when we would rather do a million other things, to speak, to declare, to ask, to believe, because when we do heaven hears. God is always listening and the bible tells us that He who has promised is faithful. He hears, and He will respond. A well known quote on prayer is by John Wesley who said "God does nothing except in response to prayer". Although I don't agree whole heartily with that statement because God is all powerful and all knowing and can do exceedingly abundantly above what I can ask or think, it does challenge me to the core. It challenges me to pray and believe, to pray more rather than

less, and to prioritise prayer in my life. My prayer is that as you read these pages God will challenge and inspire you to do the same.

As someone who didn't grow up in a Christian home I am someone who valued and appreciated the prayers of my church family. I still do! I have said numerous times that we are one big Elim family and we can prayerfully support and encourage one another.

Please take a look at the prayer map that we have created, and the prayer points that we have listed and take some time to pray not just for yourself and your own needs and concerns but for our churches, our leadership and our movement. That as this year unfolds we will experience God like never before. That He will invade and move by His Spirit and that the word will become flesh and move into our neighbourhoods (John 1:14)

I hope you enjoy this edition and please do continue to keep in touch, we love to hear of how God is working and moving in your life and in your church.

Much love and prayers. ■

Sara

# BREATHE 2016

## COME ALIVE



30th January 2016 was to be a significant day in the life of Portadown Elim. This was the day that we were to hold our very first annual women's conference, Breathe. Little did we know what was about to unravel.

It began precisely 7 months ago to the date of the event. We had just come home after an incredible night away of breakthrough with our own ladies and I had scheduled to meet up with Charlotte to 'evaluate'. God had better plans. Thankfulness for all that God had done only a couple of days prior was the main topic of our conversation. But, we knew there was more. We knew there was greater. In that defining moment, just as we do today, we knew that we were sitting on the brink of something incredible. You see, we had both been feeling an anticipation, a stirring, that neither of us had quite experienced before and it wouldn't shift. We started sharing our hearts, our vision, our dreams, what God had been saying to us and showing us individually up unto that point and it all connected. Then we prayed. We prayed very honestly completely aware that once we concluded with our 'Amen' that there was no turning back. This was it. It was time to take God at His word, heed His voice and step out in faith. And so, Breathe

was birthed. God's presence saturated that warm, welcoming, living space that night serving as a reminder that His presence was to be key to living here on in. Making the time to go deeper into His word and taking prayer to another level in intercession were foundational if we were going to be prepared for what was to come. Jonathan Edwards once said; "The task of every generation is to find the direction in which the Holy Spirit is moving and then move in that direction. Our part is simply to put up the sails and let Him take us wherever he wants us to go." And so the journey began, we simply put up our sails.

With every ticket purchase my spirit leapt. Not because of some mere financial gain but because I knew that the more attendees we would have the privilege of hosting, the more 'worlds' would be changed - families, churches, communities transformed - God was about to do something notable and I had the honour of witnessing His plan unfold. It started with our first 100 early bird tickets selling out within 24 hours and ended with our full day tickets selling out a couple of weeks prior to the event. Breathe was the next step forward for the women of Portadown, never did we expect 22 churches to be represented. It made no sense other than God was doing. I've

no doubt that we will have to make room for our numbers to double next year and I don't say this in arrogance but rather in expectation. It's certainly nothing to do with me, nor our church, but because of our 'Yes'. Tozer penned it well when he stated; "See how God winks at weakness and overlooks failures as He pours upon His servants grace and blessing untold. The man of God sets his heart to exalt God above all; God accepts his intention as fact and acts accordingly. Not perfection, but holy intention makes the difference."

In January we stood in faith that this would be the first of many Breathe Conferences to come but more so, that the impact of God meeting with us would have the power and potential to reshape circumstances, redefine pasts and reassure us of a future hope in Him. This day was marked for each of us to once again 'Come Alive' and there was no better way to meet with Abba than together.

It was a privilege to sit under the ministry of Charlotte Curran (our Resident Speaker) and Helen Yousaf (Guest Speaker) throughout the course of the day. Individually and uniquely God used them both to inspire, challenge and stretch us. Charlotte unpacked scripture in a way that

helped us to grasp hold of truth, revealing new insight into His infallible word and pushed the boundaries we had set up for ourselves. Helen's freedom is infectious. As she sang songs over us that Father God had placed on her heart, you could sense a liberty rising. Her heart for God and for His people cannot be questioned. God's anointing was evident; through both of their ministries came healing, restoration and life. I'm so very thankful for their obedience to God's call and for what they invested into each life represented.

Here's a glimpse into some of the life changing stories that we've received since the event:

"... on Saturday morning, I sat in the car still in pain, but was telling myself that if the pain was still there when we got to Breathe, or got worse, at least we were near a hospital. When it was asked for anyone in pain to stand up, I stayed sitting but then a voice in my head told me to have courage and stand. I did and when a friend placed her hands on me, I stopped breathing for the heat and pain that came in the center of my chest. Suddenly, I was able to take in a deep breath and the pain was gone! It was on the way home that I realised I had been taking shallow breaths for days because of the pain, and that the whole day was about the breath of God. I feel truly blessed and have had no pain since, Thank the Lord. Am looking forward to next year."

"...I can't begin to tell you how amazing Saturday was. If I had to explain it to someone I couldn't, all I could say was, you just had to be there! I prayed in the morning before I left the house, please Lord I don't want to cry today, I've spent too long on my make up lol. But when Charlotte said, 'we're going to take a walk', I thought, oh no, hear we go! I managed to hold back the tears all day but it wasn't until the Monday when they all came out. I know God was telling me to deal with stuff from my childhood - abuse - but I was too afraid even to say it out loud to anyone. If I did that would mean that it actually happened. I know now it wasn't my fault and praise God I'm free at last!"

"...I attended Breathe on Saturday 30th January and I was healed from back pain which went from my hip and down my leg! Our God is so good!"

"...God provided me with a breakthrough when I was prayed over in the morning session of Breathe. I was prayed for the grief I still felt 11 years after losing my girl before she was born. The tears were rolling down my cheeks as we prayed, then suddenly, God lifted the burden from me and with a deep breath the tears stopped and I know that chapter is closed. God used

the lady who prayed with me to remind me of the promises He has made me and to hold on to them. I have been bouncing with hope and expectancy since! I can't wait for Breathe 2017, can't believe it is a year away though!"

"...Goodness Saturday was Epic. I really was so blessed and encouraged I don't even know where to start with a response...I left the event with a sense of purpose again. I was so weary in the battle and to be honest so many dreams and desires had died in me because I just didn't have the energy anymore to pursue them. I have felt like I was slowly dying and trying to keep afloat but I have to say after Saturday I have really felt strength come back into me and more importantly, a desire to do what God has for me. I really thank God for what he is doing and know we are only on the brink of greater things and greater days ahead."

"...I had to see a consultant because they found something on my eye the last time I was up for an appointment and I was scheduled to get an injection yesterday BUT when they checked my eye, I was able to read 4 more letters and whatever had started in my eye had disappeared! I still have the macular but God answered prayer on Saturday at Breathe!"

It's no surprise that it was a team effort that helped with the running of Breathe. As the African proverb describes it, "it takes a village to raise a child", well, it takes a church to run an event! From our fabulous male host team (inc. sound/tech guys and head chef), to our band, to the Creative team, to Team PMT (prayer ministry team), to the other girls who made up Team Heart, (Claire and Mo), who caught the vision behind Breathe, took a risk and ran

with it - all played a vital role and the day wouldn't have happened without any of them. There's a saying that goes about our church, often with a hashtag in front of it, and it's this - 'better together' - and this we are. Ezekiel 36:33 through to 37:1-14 are the passages in which this conference is rooted. It begins with, "This is what the Sovereign Lord says..." God chose to show His heart to Ezekiel but not without first reminding Him that it was the Sovereign One who was doing the revealing. We were reminded that it was the One who is Sovereign who waited that day to have an encounter with us, His beloved daughters. And this He did.

Ruins were rebuilt, the desolate replanted and the destroyed cultivated. Dead space came alive by the very breath of Almighty.

Ruins were rebuilt, the desolate replanted and the destroyed cultivated. Dead space came alive by the very breath of Almighty. Ezekiel 37:3 "Son of man, can these bones live?" - YES!

Plans for Breathe 2017 are already under way for Saturday 28th January. Be sure not to miss out! Tickets will be available end of Summer '16 through Eventbrite so stay connected. Follow us on social media: www.facebook.com/breathewomensconference or keep up to date via Portadown Elim's accounts: Facebook - facebook.com/portadownelim // Twitter & Instagram - @portadownelim // website - www.portadownelim.com

God is certainly up to something if He is orchestrating crowds of such beautiful women to meet here in Portadown; our small town with a big heart, lying in wait to become alive by the very breath of our God. Your town/city/village is too!

God bless, ■

// Tasha xx  
(aka Natasha McBride)



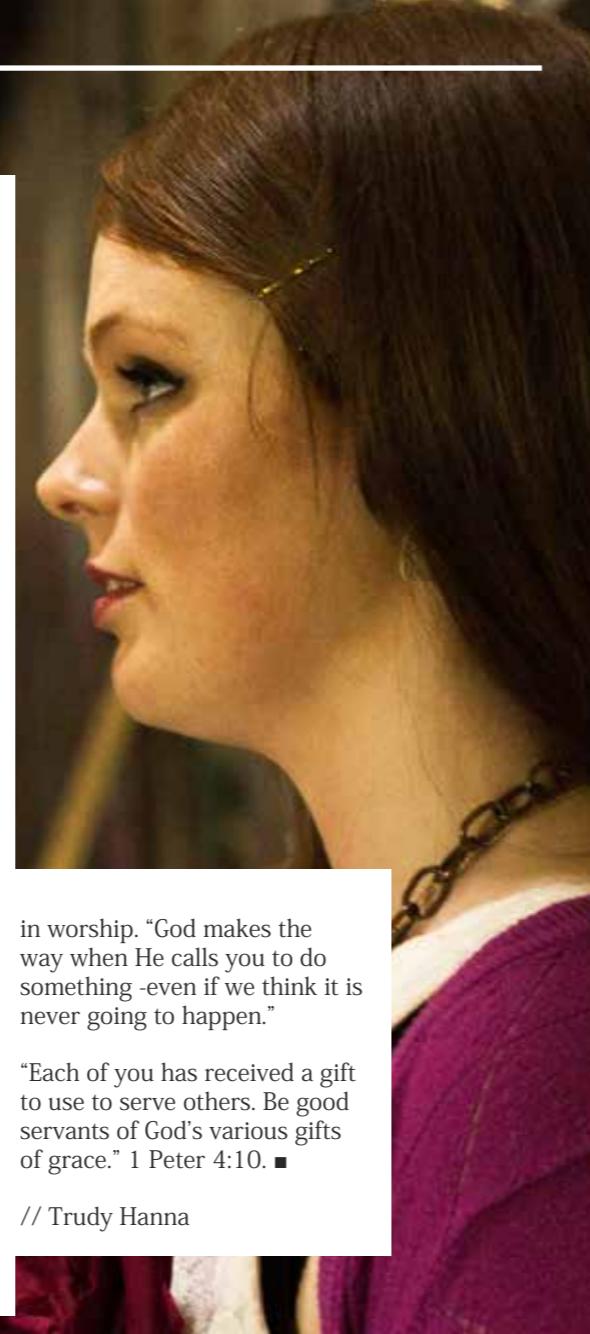
## BANGOR ELIM appoint new full time worship leader

At the start of November Bangor Elim was really excited to welcome Amber Miskimmin as their new full time Worship Coordinator.

Along with her husband Jonny, Amber has quickly settled into church life and ministry. Amber has brought a fresh and vibrant enthusiasm to our worship team and we look to amazing days ahead.

A Little Bit About Amber...

Amber Miskimmin is a twentysomething singer/songwriter from Northern Ireland. Following from her debut album LongSpin (released October 2009) she released an EP album "Outstretched" in summer 2011. Outstretched is born from a desire to reflect the Father's heart for His people, and their response to His unfailing love for them in return. In Summer 2014 her brand new 10-track album Heart Soul Mind Strength - in which she journeys through the discovery of what it is to love the Lord with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength, was released.



Amber came to Christ at the age of seven through the witness of two close friends: "I am so thankful for these friends. Never underestimate the influence of a small child!" It was at that same age that she began learning music in-depth. Violin and piano lessons continued right up to grade eight and took her through a music degree: "Music has been such an integral part of my life because of the new song He has put in my heart." Beverly Sills once wrote "There are no shortcuts to any place worth going."

Amber was once told by her music teachers that she would never make it in music. Several years have passed since then, and Amber has amassed a wealth of experience in leading worship both at home and abroad, building on her passion for playing, writing and singing music with a deep desire for the heart and glory of God and for leading God's people

in worship. "God makes the way when He calls you to do something -even if we think it is never going to happen."

"Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others. Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace." 1 Peter 4:10. ■

// Trudy Hanna

## GENERATION NEXT

Charlotte Curran, who has headed up Generation Next Elim Ireland for the past four years and has done a tremendous job, spoke to Elim Ireland some months ago to say that she would be standing down in 2016 to pursue other areas of ministry. We want to say a huge thank you to Charlotte for all she has done for the Children, Leaders, Parents and the Elim Movement. It's very evident that God's hand is on her life and we pray for her and her family to continue to know God with them every step of the way!

We're delighted to say that Lynda Brown from Beersbridge Road Elim has been appointed and will take up the role from the



start of February. Lynda is a qualified Teacher and has been involved in Children's ministry for 12 years, which includes being part of the Generation Next Team. You can read a bit more about Lynda and get in touch via the Generation Next web page - <http://www.elimchurchireland.com/generationnext>

Let's continue to pray for Lynda and the team as they seek to lead this generation into all that Jesus has for them! ■

#GenerationNext #Elim #Ireland

## WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Michael McClean & Kim Mitchell, daughter of Pastor Stephen Mitchell & Diane, Banbridge Elim, who were married on 22nd of December in Lisburn Elim followed by a reception in Larchfield Estate. May God richly bless you both in your future together.

Lots of love from your friends & family at Banbridge Elim. ■

Congratulations to Laura Michael and Scott McFarland, daughter of Pastor Edwin and Margaret Michael, who were married at Portadown Elim on 20th December 2015. Praying God's blessing on you both as you begin married life together.

Huge congratulations from all the Elim Life team. ■

## INDUCTION



On November 15th Phil Seifert was inducted as assistant pastor in Lisburn City Elim. Pastor Phillip Seifert previously served in the church as a deacon. Pastor Edwin Michael preached and led the induction. Pictured are members of the Lisburn City Elim leadership team, with Pastor Phillip Seifert and wife Edneide and Pastor Edwin Michael. ■

# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

A BIG THANK YOU to all of you who continue to send in your news and articles for the magazine! If you would like to contribute to Elim Life Magazine, please take notice of our deadlines below for submitting articles / news / testimonies in the coming year!

Many blessings,  
Sara

June 2016 Issue  
6<sup>th</sup> May

# BARRIERS TO PRAYER

UNCONFESSED SIN  
UNFORGIVENESS  
DOUBT  
UNBELIEF

Oswald Chambers said about prayer, 'We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defence. We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all. Most of us would prefer, however, to spend our time doing something that will get immediate results. We don't want to wait for God to resolve matters in His good time because His idea of 'good time' is seldom in sync with ours.'

There's a lot of truth in this quote from Chambers and I think most of us can agree with his words. Have you ever asked yourself why prayer is so difficult when we know the lifeline it is to our Heavenly Father? We all know that communication is vital to any relationship, so we know by extension therefore, that prayer is vitally important to our relationship with God. Paul encourages us in his epistles on more than one occasion to pray 'without ceasing' or words to that effect. Sometimes we can barely pray once in a day, so how can he expect us to pray like that?

Let's quickly look at three of the most common barriers to prayer because I suspect many of us face these barriers but we don't realise they are barriers or that we are facing them and so they remain hidden and a fruitful prayer life remains elusive.

The first barrier that we may be facing is **unconfessed sin**. Isaiah 59:2 says, '*your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.*' Of course Isaiah is addressing the Jewish people who had committed many sinful atrocities against God, but it doesn't change the fact in our New Testament faith that sin separates from God. If I fall out with Sara, we're still married, but there is a momentary separation between us until we resolve our differences. If we live with unconfessed sin in our lives, whatever it might be, it will cause a friction in our relationship with God and our prayer life will be one of the first areas to suffer.

The second barrier is **unforgiveness**. Jesus said in Mark 11:25, '*And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.*' This together with the parable of the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18:23-35 makes it clear that unforgiveness can cause a 'blockage' in our prayer life. It fills the pathway of prayer with lots of junk and makes it very difficult for us to enjoy our prayer life. I certainly wouldn't say that forgiving is easy or straightforward, however, Jesus is clear we must forgive and if we don't there will be consequences to our prayer life and by extension to our walk with God. Forgiveness is at the core of our faith, after all we have been forgiven much by God, therefore should we not then forgive others?

The third barrier is **doubt or unbelief**. Hebrews 11:6 says, '*And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.*' James also has a few choice words for 'doubters' when he tells us in James 1:6-8 they are double-minded, unstable and shouldn't expect to receive anything from the Lord! Don't get me wrong, there are times we all doubt, but it shouldn't be a pattern for any of us. We can all suffer from 'last minute nerves' as we pray bold miraculous prayers; that is natural. But, we can't allow doubt to grow in our hearts. Paul encourages us to 'take every thought captive' (2 Cor 10:5) and that includes doubt. It is like a disease that multiplies in our heart if we allow it to grow and if it remains and then our faith will become stunted and our heart sceptical. Believe God, trust in His unfailing love and faithfulness and throw doubt out the window, then stand back and see God perform His wonders in your life.

There are other barriers to prayer we face, but these are definitely the top 3 most of us struggle with. However, remember the words of 1 John 1:9, '*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*'

There is no barrier that any of us face that can't be overcome. The brass heavens can open again and we can enjoy God's presence in prayer again. Ask God to help, confess, forgive, believe and know that our God longs to spend time with you in prayer right now! Breakthrough the barriers and experience the power and transformation that prayer can and will bring. ■

// Gavin Allen



# Awake My Soul

I AM WRITING THIS IN THE HOPE THAT YOU HEAR MY HEART AND ARE CAPTURED BY WHAT GOD CAN DO WITH YOUR HEART.

I recently read in the book 'Fervent' an acronym and it stuck with me.

Prayer  
Releases  
All  
Your  
Eternal  
Resources

Cheesy, I know, but I couldn't get it out of my head when I read it and it has moved from my head to my heart; "All of my eternal resources", Wow!

I love hearing amazing stories of answered prayer, the stories you read about were people are in need of a real miracle, they pray and answers come. Stories like that of George Muller who took care of more than ten thousand orphans throughout his life. He did this without ever asking for money. He would pray in private and then encounter God's provision in public. When he died it was discovered that he had detailed accounts of more than fifty thousand documented answers to prayer in his journals – "prayer releases all of your eternal resources!!"

God takes us on journeys; it's part of the adventure of abundant life. I had a different perception of someone who is used in interceding for others, in my head it was someone who is making use continually of our 24/7 direct line to God and they hear God's voice talking to them every minute of every day. I can remember attending a spiritual gifts course a number of years ago. On that course I felt I could never have the gift of hospitality, as you could only have that gift if you could be a masterchef and cooking is definitely not my forte! God has shown me that this is not the case; you can have the gift of hospitality and still burn chicken so when it comes to the gift of intercession you can intercede and access all of your eternal resources for others when God asks you to pray.

I have watched on as a child when my mum and dad have sought God in prayer from the small to the massive and they have had faith that God can do exceedingly abundantly more than they could ever ask or think. I have seen God do and been amazed at the answers to prayer in my own life throughout the years and loved how eternal resources have been poured out.

In recent times there have been those heartbreaking circumstances that just don't add up in my earthly eyes. All I can do is trust God who sees and knows the bigger picture. I can pray, not as a helpless effort to be doing something, but as a strategic battleplan, releasing eternal resources. It has been one of those circumstances over the past few years where God has really taught me about standing in the gap for others and it came in the form random 'wake ups' in the middle of the night! I am not talking about a 'heard a noise' wake up or a 'mummy call' wake up. It is not the frustration of lacking the ability to return to a deep sleep, but being sound asleep one-minute and then the next you are wide awake!

When this happens I have been challenged to pray, not 'please Lord help me sleep' but 'God you have me awake for purpose - who is it you want me to pray for? How can I pray to release eternal resources for others?' And in these times I have been so blessed to what God has let me be a part of in standing with others. Awake for purpose to pray for the person who is struggling with situations and awake at the same time needing comfort that only God can bring. Awake for purpose to the person who has had to go to hospital in the middle of the night with sudden illness. Awake for purpose to pray for situations and lives to be changed.



PRAYER  
RELEASES  
ALL  
YOUR  
ETERNAL  
RESOURCES

Awake for a purpose to stand in the gap for others and pray to release eternal resources.

So the next time that you are all snug in your warm duvet, your head comfy on your memory foam pillow and suddenly your dreams are interrupted by an awareness of being wide awake. Remember you are awake for a purpose.

Pray – Father, my eyes are open, please help me see.  
Intercede with confidence – knowing that "prayer releases all your eternal resources"  
Rest – knowing that God can do exceedingly abundantly more than we could ever ask or think. ■

// Sharon Thompson



# GET ENGAGED

24/7

I like to talk. I like to talk a lot. I'll talk about anything and everything, to anyone. But seemingly it's not just me, apparently ladies in general like to talk. Research has shown that on average women speak 20,000 words per day, compared to only 7,000 words for our male counterparts. This got me thinking about how I actually use those words every day. For someone who talks so much, I began to realise that at times my prayer life can become a little stale and stunted. Yes, there have been times when much time can be spent in prayer and the words flow freely to my Heavenly Father, but to be totally honest there are also times when the busyness of the day seems to consume all my time and before I know it, I'm slumping into bed, sleepily uttering a few words and yet I understand the power that prayer harnesses. Prayer opens up a direct line to a Heavenly Father who loves to hear from us.

As I have been off work on maternity leave I've had the joy (most of the time!) of doing the school run. Almost every day as I collect my little girl from school, the same question gets asked "How was your day". I ask because I'm interested. I want to know the details. It matters to me if she has had a good day, or a difficult day, or even just an ordinary, uneventful day. I care about it. Inevitably some days the answer I get is "fine". No details. No elaboration. I much prefer the days when she jumps into the car and chatters happily away about everything that has happened. I believe this is how God feels. I believe He loves to hear all our details, because He cares. Because we matter to Him.

I have no doubt that the seasons in my Christian walk directly influence my prayer life. We could all identify with that experience of walking on the mountain top. We feel close to God and prayer comes easily as a thankful heart spills over in words of praise to our Father. Walking in the valley could be described in two ways. The valley can cause us to question God, to doubt and to feel far from Him, but more often than not, difficult times can impact our walk by revealing our human weaknesses, our frailty and make us realise that the God we serve is an awesome God. In these times we may cry out

to almighty God in our despair or disappointment, desperate for an answer from heaven. In my opinion the times that pose the biggest threat to my prayer life are the insignificant, "normal" times. Times when life just trundles along, with seemingly not much happening. It's then that prayer can become something that we 'just do'. A little bit of pride can creep in with an "I can do this on my own" type of attitude. Or worse still, rather than outpouring a prayer of thanks to a God who blesses us daily we can become thankless.

So on the brink of this new year, I find myself asking the question "how can I improve my prayer time?" "How can I bring God into the circumstances I face on a daily basis?" "Into my marriage, my relationships with my children?" "How can I bring God into what I face in the workplace?"

Some of you may have seen the film 'War Room'. It tells the story of a husband and wife who are drifting apart, disconnecting from each other. When the wife meets an elderly lady through work, she is encouraged to pray for her marriage. The elderly lady encourages the younger that we as Christian women face spiritual battles and that we must decide to stand and fight for those around us with the weapon of prayer. She reveals her "war room". Her closet, where battle is done. All around the walls are little notes, reminders of prayers that have ascended to heaven and the answers and breakthroughs that have come. Testaments to the truth the God hears and God answers.

Whilst that may be fiction, a divine truth comes out of it. We are involved in spiritual war fare. We possess a mighty weapon. When we pray into situations in our families, our churches and the world around us, God hears and He answers. Imagine the impact in your church of an army of praying women. Women who claim God's favour and blessing over their churches, their husbands, their children. What a move of God we could see. Women who train up the next generation and instruct them on the power of prayer over daily living. In Mark's gospel we read

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. Mark 11:24

Sometimes I try to limit God. Yes I ask, but sometimes I don't truly believe God will answer. Sometimes I think that what I'm asking is too small to bother God with. Sometimes I think what I'm asking is too big, and seems impossible to me. Both are wrong!

We serve a God who loves us to bring the small things, as He shows us He loves us with a father's love, and He challenges us to bring Him the big things - so He can amaze us with His answers.

And so in 2016 I want to be more intentional in prayer. I want to be thankful on the mountain top, to be praying for breakthrough in the valley and to be constant in the mundane. At the end of this year, I'd like to survey my war room. May I see note after note of reminders of answered prayers. May I feel more of His presence in every aspect of my life. Who's with me? This is war. ■

// Nichola McWilliams

# pray

## WITH A PLAN.

### WHEN WE PRAY THINGS HAPPEN, CO-INCIDENCE OR GOD-INCIDENCE?

Every week we have prayer meetings in our churches and I am sure we have daily prayers – but what if we committed to praying beyond our walls, beyond our communities? We have 58+ established Elim churches – each with varying numbers and together we get to make an impact in our communities and our land.

**Pray big, bold prayers** knowing that He who hears is able. Our movement may be 100 years old but in truth we are only just beginning. God can, God will, the question is are you willing to be part of whatever it is He wants to do. Bring revival to our land Lord and start with me.

### SO HERE'S THE PLAN:

#### Step 1

Ponder the map of Ireland and become familiar with the wider Elim Church family

#### Step 2

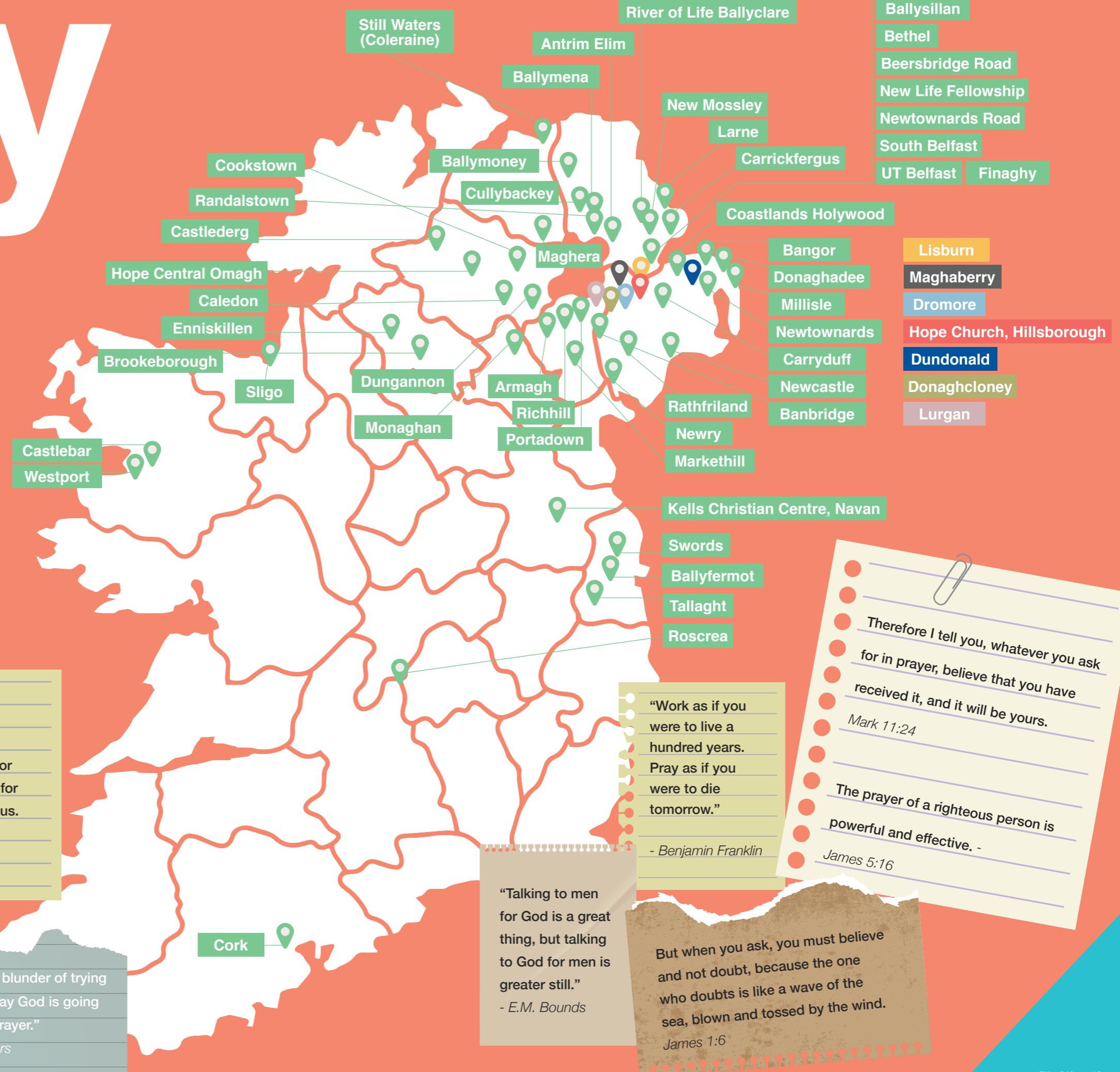
Use the Planner on the next page to help you pray for our movement with intent and purpose.

“Prayer is the rope that pulls God and man together. But, it doesn’t pull God down to us: It pulls us up to Him.”  
- Billy Graham

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.  
1 Thess 5:16-18

“Don’t pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it.” - Corrie Ten Boom

“Never make the blunder of trying to forecast the way God is going to answer your prayer.”  
- Oswald Chambers



# prayer

POINTS 31 DAYS

**01**

Pray for:  
**SUPERINTENDED  
EDWIN MICHAEL**

That in all he does  
he will know and  
hear the voice of  
God.

**09**

Pray for:  
**OUR CHURCH  
LEADERS**

(those employed and  
those who volunteer)

**17**

**PRAY THAT  
PEOPLE WOULD  
BE SAVED AT  
YOUR CHURCH**

**25**

Pray for:  
**THE LOCAL AREA**

How can your church  
help make Jesus known  
in the area where it is  
based?

**02**

Pray for:  
**OUR LEADERSHIP  
TEAM (ILT MEMBERS)**

Pastor John McAvoy,  
Pastor Gary Beattie,  
Pastor Roy Johnston,  
Pastor Steven Neill  
Pastor Hugh Moore

**10**

Pray for:  
**ELIM BIBLE  
WEEK**

Pray for Bible week  
and all on the team  
who will be planning  
and preparing.

**03**

Pray for:  
**OUR PASTORS**

That they would know  
God's wisdom, direction  
and voice as they lead  
the churches in which  
they are placed.

**11**

Pray for:  
**KIDS DEPARTMENTS  
IN YOUR CHURCH**

That each leader and  
volunteer involved  
would know their  
time is valued as they  
impact the little ones  
for His Kingdom.

**04**

Pray for:  
**OUR MISSIONS  
DIRECTOR**

Roy Johnston and  
his team.

**12**

Pray for:  
**OUR YOUTH  
DEPARTMENTS**

That all would know  
and experience the  
reality of God in their  
times together.

**20**

Pray for:  
**CHURCH GROWTH**

How can you  
encourage and  
welcome new people  
into your church  
family?

**28**

Pray for:  
**ELIM ACADEMY**

For those involved  
– that as they learn,  
they will grow in their  
knowledge and love  
of God.

**05**

Pray for:  
**SERIOUS  
FOR GOD**

For Darren  
McClatchey as he  
leads, and his team.

**13**

Pray for:  
**OUR SENIOR  
MINISTRIES**

That the older  
generation would  
experience God in  
every area of their life.

**21**

Pray that our churches  
would be known  
as being generous,  
places with open  
doors and open  
hearts to love and  
help whenever and  
wherever we can.

**22**

Pray for:  
**CREATIVE &  
WORSHIP TEAMS**

That as they serve  
God they will know His  
direction, leading and  
prompting.

**29**

Pray for:  
**THOSE WHO SERVE SO FAITHFULLY  
IN YOUR CHURCH, IN HOSPITALITY, IN  
CLEANING, IN ADMINISTRATION OR OTHER  
SOMETIMES UNSEEN MINISTRY. THANK  
GOD FOR THEIR SERVANT HEART.**

## PRAY WITH INTENT. PRAY WITH PURPOSE.

We have listed points for the next 31 days but don't feel that you  
have to stop then. We are one big family – so keep praying, keep  
believing and He who is faithful will answer.

**07**

Pray for:  
**OUR CHURCH  
PLANTS**

Holywood (Coastlands)  
Omagh (Hope Central)  
Dublin (Finglass, Colough)  
Small groups being  
established in Longford  
& Carrick-On-Shannon.

**08**

Pray for:  
**ELDERS AND  
SESSION MEMBERS**

That they would know  
Godly wisdom in all that  
they do.

**16**

Pray for:  
**PREACHING**

That as the word of  
God is preached in your  
church it will speak very  
clearly into individual  
hearts and lives.

**24**

Pray for:  
**OPPORTUNITIES**

To serve and build  
relationships with other  
local churches and  
community groups in  
your area?

**31**

Pray for:  
**UNITY**

To be established in  
your church and in our  
movement. That we  
would be united in heart,  
soul and strength. One  
God, one Kingdom.

# ISRAEL TOUR

We would love you to join us for a wonderful trip to Israel. If Jesus considered it important enough to walk for several days to take His disciples to Jerusalem, 3 or 4 times a year, how can we, as His Shepherds today, excuse ourselves from such a journey, especially when we can travel to Jerusalem in just a few hours. It is far easier and less costly for us for us to go to Jerusalem, than it was for Jesus in His day and it's also much safer to travel in tour time than it was in His Journey through the land with us.

## ITINERARY

### 1 NIGHT IN TEL AVIV AND 2 NIGHTS IN TIBERIAS

Visiting: Capernaum, Tabgha, River Jordan, Mount Carmel, Caesarea, Nazareth and many more.

### 4 NIGHTS IN JERUSALEM

Visiting: Old City, Garden of Gethsemane, Garden Tomb, Caiaphas' House, Yad Vashem

### ENJOY A DAY TRIP TO DEAD SEA AND MASSADA

## SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Communion Service at Garden Tomb
- ★ Trip to authentic Nazareth Village demonstrating the industry of the Galilee area
- ★ Boat trip across Sea of Galilee.
- ★ All entrance fees included on itinerary
- ★ Flights and transfers included. Taxes included.
- ★ Half board throughout in moderate 4\* hotels

## PRICE

### PRICE: £1495

Return flights included. All taxes and gratuities. Places allocated on a first come first serve basis. Deposits are non-refundable.

### PAYMENTS

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Deposit: £100 per person by 10 December 2015 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | £200 by 30 January 2016                      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | £300 by 31 March 2016                        |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | £350 by 31 May 2015                          |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | £350 by 31 July 2016                         |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | £195 by 31 August 2016                       |

## BOOKING

For booking forms or further information contact:

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YOUR MAGAZINE  
YOUR VOICE  
YOUR WAY

# ELIM LIFE KIDS



- CROSSWORD
- LOL CORNER
- JELLY BEAN PRAYER

Inside this Issue...

THE FIVE "W'S" OF PRAYER

5W'S



# THE 5Ws OF PRAYER

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

James 5:16 (NIV)



**WHO ?**

**WHO SHOULD PRAY?**  
**A: ANYONE!**

This bible verse tells us that anyone who needs God's help or anyone who has received God's blessing should pray - and that is all of us.



**WHAT ?**

**WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY ABOUT?**  
**A: ANYTHING!**

We should pray for healing when we are sick and for forgiveness from sin. We should offer prayers of thanks when we are happy, and ask for help in times of trouble.



**WHEN ?**

**WHEN SHOULD WE PRAY?**  
**A: ANYTIME!**

If we should pray when we are in trouble, when we are sick, when we are happy, or when we have sinned, that is just about any time, isn't it?



**WHERE ?**

**WHERE SHOULD WE PRAY?**  
**A: ANYWHERE!**

This verse does not come right out and tell us where we should pray, but I figured it out. If we should pray any time we need God's help, then I guess it just makes sense that we should pray anywhere we are, because wherever we are, God is there!



**WHY ?**

**WHY SHOULD WE PRAY?**  
**A: BECAUSE GOD ANSWERS PRAYER!**

The verse tell us that prayer is powerful and effective and that if we will pray, God will hear our prayers, heal the sick, and forgive our sins.

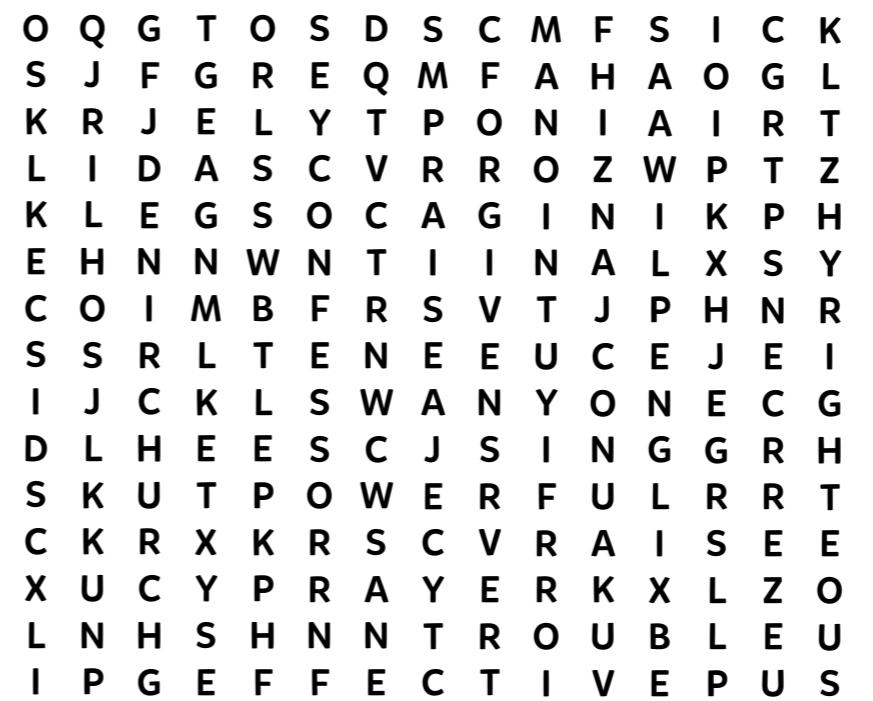


# THE PRAYER OF FAITH

'Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.' James 5:16



CONFESS SINS FORGIVEN HEALED	TROUBLE ANYONE HAPPY SING	SONGS PRAISE SICK ELDERS	CHURCH ANOINT FAITH RAISE	PRAYER RIGHTEOUS POWERFUL EFFECTIVE
------------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------------



## THE JELLY BEAN PRAYER

**RED**

Red is for the blood He gave.

**GREEN**

Green is for the grass He made.

**YELLOW**

Yellow is for the sun so bright.

**ORANGE**

Orange is for the edge of the night.

**BLACK**

Black is for the sins we made.

**WHITE**

White is for the grace He gave.

**PURPLE**

Purple is for the hour of sorrow.

**PINK**

Pink is for our new tomorrow.

**X MOVIE TIME**

Watch todays story on YouTube! Here's a couple to choose from!



1

2 mins





2

8 mins





## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK.

We hope you have enjoyed this edition of EL Kids. This magazine is for you – your magazine, your voice, your way. Get in touch, send us reviews of books and albums you have read or prayers that you have prayed. We would love to hear from you and let others in our world know what is happening in yours.

**Send your info to:**  
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or via facebook or twitter.

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 Elim Life Magazine  
 elimlifemag@gmail.com

Mark postal entries to:

**Sara**  
Brookeborough EPC  
300 Nutfield Road  
Brookeborough  
BT94 4HL

Ask an adult in your world for help if you need it!

**LOL CORNER**

A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read,

"The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt."

His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he answered, "God made me a long time ago."

"Oh," she paused, "grandpa, did God make me too?"

"Yes, indeed, honey," he said, "God made you just a little while ago."

Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"

Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church."

"Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked.

Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."

**THE PRAYER OF A  
RIGHTEOUS PERSON IS  
POWERFUL & EFFECTIVE**  
JAMES 5:16

**Look after your armour**  
Never stop learning from the Bible.  
Never stop believing what the Bible says.  
Never stop obeying, to the best of your ability, what Jesus tells you to do.  
Read and Pray, and then Obey.

# A NOTE FROM EDWIN

[IRISH SUPERINTENDENT]

## THE ULTIMATE 'GAME CHANGER'

Over the centuries there have been many notable people whose contributions have irreversibly altered the course of human history. People whose relentless pursuit of discovery or progress in a particular field produced a breakthrough that changed civilisation forever. In the fifteenth century Gutenberg's printing press paved the way for the mass dissemination of information and changed human education forever, in the nineteenth century Edison and Swan's long lasting light bulbs liberated man from a near total reliance on daylight. In the 20th century Alexander Fleming's discovery of penicillin revolutionised modern medicine. Tim Berners-Lee's 'world wide web' and thousands of other breakthroughs all make life on planet earth what it is today. These people could all be described as "game changers;" people whose contribution radically changed life, as we know it. People who by their discovery propelled man-kind forward into a new era from which there would be no going back. People, whose resilience, persistence and drive, broke through boundaries and made the seemingly impossible, possible. Through them, what was extra ordinary has become the stuff of every day living so that in the twenty first century we communicate, travel and live in ways that would have been unimaginable in previous generations.

Every single day we live we owe an immense debt to 'game changers' yet we rarely give them a thought. Be honest, do we ever think of Edison when we flick the light switch, or Fleming when we take an antibiotic, or the Wright brothers as we board a plane? Yet we owe everything to those pioneers who pushed the boundaries of knowledge and broke through.

**The One, who blazed the trail, broke through and led the way making it possible for others to follow.**

While we applaud them all, they all stand eclipsed by Jesus who, for me, will always be the ultimate 'game changer,' the One who, on behalf of us all, not only altered time but also eternity. The writer to the Hebrews describes Him as, "the author and finisher of our faith" (Heb 12:2). The One, who blazed the trail, broke through and led the way making it possible for others to follow. As the 'Last Adam' Jesus was victorious where the first Adam, and consequently, every other human being had failed. He alone in all of human history lived a sinless life without defilement. At the cross when that life was offered up, a once and for all perfect sacrifice, for the sin of the world, everything changed! All of history orbits that unique, never to be repeated, weekend. A blood stained cross and an empty tomb means an outstanding debt was paid and individuals could be reconciled to God. A life of faith and relationship with God became possible for all who would receive it. There could be

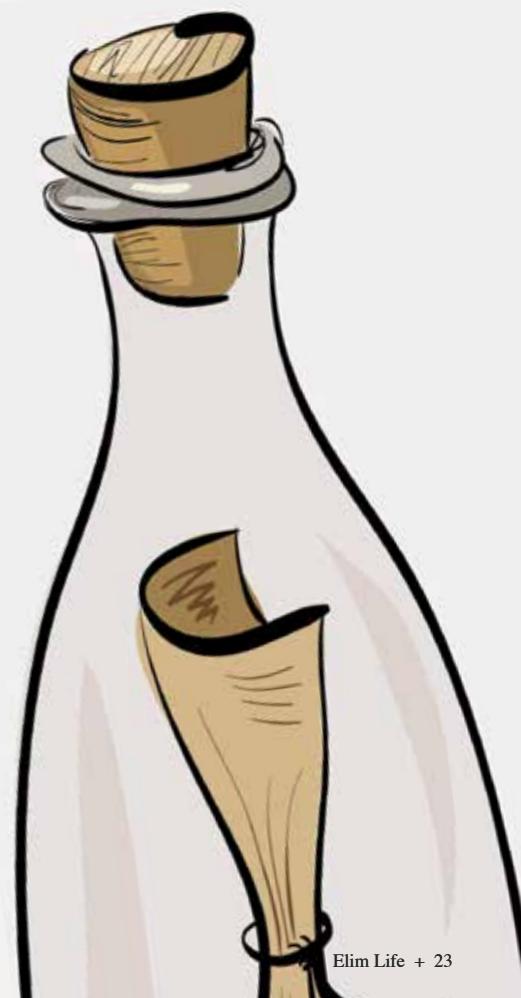
no going back. Satan had been defeated, his stranglehold broken and time and eternity had been forever altered by the ultimate 'game changer'.

In Heb 6:20 He is described as the forerunner who enters into the presence beyond the veil on our behalf. The amazing thing here is the concept of the forerunner. In the old covenant no one followed the High Priest beyond the veil. He went there only as a representative but no one followed, whereas Jesus leads and opens up the way into the very presence of God. We are meant to live a new life founded on His breakthrough, a life of victory and constant access to God.

If all of the above is not enough, the New Testament goes on to show us that death has been defeated and ultimately with death defeated we will one day stand in the very presence of God in a glorified body when our 'game changer' brings many sons to glory.

As we celebrate everything that Easter means let's not forget to give thanks and should you ever find yourselves in what 'appears' to be a hopeless situation, let's remember that His finished work means all of heaven's resources are at your disposal and our God specialises in breakthrough. ■

// Edwin Michael



# JOSH'S STORY

**Josh Martin's story is one that many of us heard about and prayed about, as we as a movement prayed for a miracle for the little boy from Bangor. This was not just a story for this family, but life. Life that was turned upside down, inside out, but a story with a miraculous ending, and a story that displays over and over again, the power of prayer and the difference it can make to any and every situation.**

The interview below is taken from a service held in Bangor Elim It can be listened to online at: [bangorelim.com/archives/category/podcast/page/3](http://bangorelim.com/archives/category/podcast/page/3)

Pastor Gary looks back with Josh, Tim and Kim to Christmas 2014 when Josh started to feel unwell. Tim explains how Josh was first admitted with suspected appendicitis but very quickly grew worse and doctors became concerned when the pain started to take over. He was then quickly transferred to the Royal Hospital.

**Gary: The next day was Christmas Eve – what happened?**

Tim: As soon as he was brought up he was taken to theatre, he went in and they were going to operate and it was only then they released there was something wrong, more serious than the appendicitis. They did X-rays when he was out cold and they found a mass, basically they said they were suspending the operation until the 24th and we thought he would be a few hours, but he was in surgery for six hours, a long six hours, and when he came out, at 8pm at night he was taken straight from theatre to ICU. It was at that stage his main consultant spoke to us, they brought us into a side room.

Then it started to become more obvious why he had been in for six hours. They said we have some really bad news to share with you. First of all we have found a primary tumour, and then they said it was the size of a melon. That was bad enough but they said there was secondary cancer as well. And if you know anything about cancer you know that if primary cancer is found quick

enough and so forth most cases can be treated but whenever it gets to secondary stages it is an awful lot more

serious. There were five tumours then removed and they were the size of golf balls. There were also a number of tumours remaining and some were inoperable and we were basically told to prepare ourselves because our son was going to become really really ill.

**Kim:** That was the first time we met Dr Johnston and he said –we can normally tell what type of cancer it is but we don't know. We are going to have to run a lot of tests. It looks very, very rare. He said it would take about a week and he couldn't do anything to speed that up.

**Tim:** I think he had a few ideas, he said it was probably one or two possibilities, and when we did find out – if I could share this, someone mentioned on Facebook, that we were lucky that the cancer was treatable and curable, we never shared that publicly, because Josh would've been able to find out. But just some information in 2012 there were 32.6 million people worldwide suffering from cancer, Josh's cancer in total in 24 years had less than 400. So to put that in context there were less than 20 people in the world that had Josh's form of cancer. When we got this information we realised this was not going to be straightforward there was no real treatment plan.

**Kim:** There was no treatment plan, they just said it was an extremely poor prognosis and they really didn't mince their words, about what was in front of us.

**Gary: That's Christmas Eve, you were devastated. I was at hospital with you until about 6pm, we came back and had a service here, our Christmas Eve service at Church. Later on that night comes through this terrible news, there was no good news in it all, and the church began to pray. We prayed on Christmas Day, we prayed on Boxing Day and we just started to pray and believe that God could do something that seemed impossible in the face of it. It was a horrible, horrible Christmas, particularly for you guys, but for those who love you and care about you. An awful time to have to live through.**

**Tim:** The other wee bit of information which obviously Josh knows now was the question of timescale. It's a question you should never have to ask about your son or daughter and I pray you don't, but when we asked our two consultants they were very very honest with us and they said literally if we didn't have chemo that in two or three weeks the aggressiveness of the cancer would take over his body. And that timescale rocked us. You can't put that into words, we never shared that, only with one or two of our family. We kept that.

**Kim:** Dr Johnston had given us several types of cancer that it might be and whenever we were told what it was it was the worst of all the options that he had given us. It was worse than your worse nightmare.

**Gary: It was devastating for you and the wider family...the grandparents as well.**

**Josh's grandparents, Mavis and Carl also share their experience of what happened on the full audio link. Below is just a summary.**

**Gary: Josh, how did you find out that you had cancer?**

**Josh:** It was in the hospital and my dad and my doctor was there, I was in my bed, and when I woke up and seen a massive scar down me I kind of knew something was up. So I saw that and then they said that they had taken tumours out of me. I immediately asked, so do I have cancer and he didn't tell me immediately in case I got upset – but after a while he told me, but I didn't really know how to react. How do you react when you are told you have cancer? I was shocked, but at the same time it was weird – I still had my personality, I wasn't dead or anything. So I felt the same, and I was already told that I was getting two weeks off school.

**Gary: I don't know of anything, and I've seen what you guys had to go through, I've said many times I don't know how you did it. I don't know you stood up, how you managed to function. How do you feel when you hear that your kids got cancer?**

**Kim:** It's really hard, Tim just started to cry, Tim just wept that night in the hospital and I honestly thought I was going to pass out. I don't have words to explain but my head was swirling and I just remember praying God we need you. We need you now, right here and

Tim and I very quickly agreed (Josh didn't know that he had cancer then) we agreed that we would put a brave face on it. Because we thought that if he saw what was in our hearts then wouldn't do him any good. So for six months, that was a one six months, where Tim and I did shifts, we would literally hand over for five minutes, give an update of medication, and all these medical terms that we are now very ofey with, and as soon as we closed the hospital door behind us the tears would start. I'm sure some people on the west link wondered what was going on in my car as I cried out to God. But one of the things, the very first thing, that I resolved, God I believe you are who you say you are. We have been given no hope, we had zero hope. In fact it was worse than that, hard to even explain, and I believe that God was Joshua's healer. I opened my bible and I read the promises that God had for my son, and for my grandchildren, all the hopes and dreams that I had to be a granny and hold grandchildren in my arms, which the doctors were saying was impossible. God's word said you shall not die, you shall live and declare the works of the Lord. My favourite one – By his stripes, Joshua was healed. That was the only thing that gave me hope, believing that He is who he says he is.



in size that how aggressive it is. So Joshua was wheeled in again for six hours, and they couldn't do what they had hoped to do because there was so much disease in his bowel it made it extremely difficult. My son is 13 and this cancer was taking over his body. It was so aggressive, it was deadly. We were told you have to sign these papers now or we are going to lose him. He drew out trying to explain what it was he was trying to do and on his third attempt we just said take him, do what you have to do, our heads were swirling we couldn't understand and I remember thinking God you promised that you would come in the last watch of the night, and now this would be a pretty good time for you to come, because we need you, we need you now. There was one conversation we had were I remember questioning the doctor, what have we done to keep our son alive, what have we done, because for six months he was in excruciating pain and I remember saying is this the right thing to do? Is this ethical? Should we be doing this? What have we done to our son? He is being kept alive by tubes, and all sorts of things, what have we done? What is the point in this? I know that we weren't the ones getting the treatment, but to listen to your son, we did twelve hours shifts, and to listen to him groaning in pain and their strongest painkiller couldn't help him, it was torture.

**Gary: Josh, things got worse, and much worse, you ended up having to get chemo into you because the cancer had grown so aggressively, you had no choice, so on the 19th Jan, less than a month later, they started to pump you with chemo. What happened with your first chemo?**

**Josh:** Well my first chemo they tried to give me the most toxic drugs because they needed to get rid of the cancer as quickly as possible, and I had probably every single reaction that you could've had to those drugs, first of all my mouth, the lining of my mouth just went, so I couldn't talk, I couldn't drink or eat, I could hardly move, morphine couldn't control the pain and they had me on every painkiller they could and none of it worked. I was still always in agony.

**Gary: Unreal. Tim all through this we were praying, all over the world. You were putting things up on Facebook, and you were careful about anything that you put up so that Joshua wouldn't find out just how ill he was. Can you explain how bad it was, things just seemed to go from bad to worse.**

**Tim:** Yeah, he got home for a few days and literally at home we were just watching him constantly, there were nursing coming out, community nurses and they were brilliant, we actually couldn't get the pain under control, with all the morphine and every medication you could think of, and then with his wound there were lists of issues and Joshua started to get very ill very, very quickly. What we didn't know was that his magnesium, potassium, all of his levels were just dropping through the floor and there was nothing we could physically do, we got

03 AUG 2015

Josh pictured at home prior to undergoing 15 sessions of Radiotherapy

him back into hospital pretty quickly and they started working on him, but we had no idea just how poorly he was then, it was one of the times that we nearly lost him, but we didn't know. They worked on him and tried to fluids into him, and the chemicals into him and he just hit bottom, literally within two days. If I could stress one thing, just in case there are people who have cancer or are struggling with it, there are some cancers that you can go in and be treated as a day patient and go home. Or you can go in and get chemo over IV for a couple of days and then go home. That just didn't happen with Josh, he wasn't well enough in between. He would get his chemo treatment then he would dip down, hopeful that he would get out, but that didn't happen with Josh, he was basically bed ridden for three months. He did not get out of bed. If he did it was a few steps and then we had to carry him. I don't know how to get across the intensity of that. Those three months particularly where horrendous. But it was basically six months in hospital and I had no comprehension of beforehand. We didn't go into details but basically the amount of blood that he was given, blood transfusions, platelets, it was never ending.

**Gary: And one of the things that we did as a church was to give blood. We wanted to do what we could. One of things we did as a church was when we began to pray we would put a little Facebook message out and we did this on Boxing Day, thinking a few folks might gather, we had hundreds of people turn up, and we began to put a little hashtag (I don't really know the point of them!) but we put up the hashtag #PrayforJosh and that really snowballed. One of the posts and updates that Kim put no go 70,000 hits and people praying all over the world. There were billboards that appeared saying pray for Josh, there were pages and pages in the papers, there were radio interviews, and it went viral. Thousands of people all over the world praying on every continent. Not just in Bangor Elim, but all over the world. People taking photos with the hashtag pray for Josh. Josh all of that as going on and you were able to see some of it on Facebook, how did that make you feel?**

**Josh:** Well it helped, it really encouraged me, just knowing that there were so many people praying, and so many people out there. It just really encouraged me when I wasn't really feeling the best.



*Joshua's last burst of chemo was tough on him and he ended up back in hospital for a number of blood transfusions, platelets, antibiotics and fluids.*

**Gary: If we fast forward to May, Josh has now had six sessions of chemo on top of all the operations and everything else and the side effects were getting worse. The original plan was to have nine sessions, what happened next?**

**Tim:** The decision was made that the chemo wasn't really being affective and because he was getting weaker and weaker and the decision was made that if we continued with chemo he was going to be too weak to go into surgery, so they made the call that they were going to go and open him up again. He was in so much pain, one of the things that I remember was that he was on a drug, a fairly well known drug that I used to take for severe headaches, 10mg at night that would have knocked me out, Joshua was on 70mg and he still wouldn't sleep, it was immense pain that we talked about. So basically he was going for surgery, it was two fold, he was down from 11.5 stone to about 7 stone, to be truthful every time they weighed him we did everything we could, we put his phone in his pocket, we'd have put a fleece on him, we did everything to prevent the scales from dipping because they wanted to feed him by tube into his stomach, but they had said there would be very little going back from that, and that meant that he was going to be completely bedridden and we were determined that was not happening. The operation planned was to basically work on his bowel, to repair that and to work on the cancer tumours that had grown.

**Kim:** He got one day out for his birthday.



*Celebrating his 14th Birthday at Belfast Zoo, prior to an operation.*

**Tim:** His birthday was 22nd May and he got out, and Mrs Huddleson came round and I'm sure she won't forget Josh saying "If I'm healed can I come back to school the next day?" That wasn't on the cards, he was seriously, seriously ill, and there were a few tears shed. But he was allowed to go to the zoo and see the animals close up.

**Kim:** Josh's operation was a nine hour surgery and we watched every second. We thought we were going to get updates, it was a two-fold surgery, it was to remove tumours and to do major bowel surgery. We sat for nine hours, if anyone has had kids going in for surgery you know how slowly time goes, and I just remembering praying. I really felt in my heart, although this might sound strange to some, I really felt like God was telling me, just worship me, I've got it all in my hands, I'm in control, just worship me, I knew about this before Joshua

was even born, I'm away ahead of you, I go before you and I hem you in. Just turn your eyes to me, don't look at your circumstances, we all know when we do our thoughts go into overdrive. There was one verse, and it was more of a thank you to everyone who prayed, it's from the Message version, We felt like we have been sent to death row that it was all over for us, and instead of trusting in our own strength to get out of it, we were forced to trust in God totally, not a bad idea since he is the God who raises the dead, Amen, and he did it, rescues us from certain gloom, and you everybody who prayed for us are part of the rescue operation, a rescue which your prayers played a crucial part. As a family we want to say thank you. We are rejoicing today but your prayers are part of that rescue operation, without a doubt. There were times we could not pray. I remember thinking I have no words left, I have nothing, and God would say, I am his Father, believe it or not I love him more than you do, and that was when I just had to trust him.

**Gary: As a church and as a family some of our prayers were not very nice, some of my prayers to God where "Are you serious?" That was all I could cry out, "Is there any chance, could you do something or anything?" We cried out to God and He is big enough to take our pain and our anger and our anguish.**

**Finally you got out of hospital in the middle of June, and on the last day of term you went into school to see your friends for a few hours, and then a couple of days later you decided to go to Coleraine with your mum and your granny. Josh's granny (who is described by friends as one of the most cynical people they know, who never takes anything at face value) said this...**

**Jill:** As the months went on people were suggesting different things that we could do, and friends suggested healing on the streets in Coleraine on a Saturday morning might be something to do. When I heard about it, I just said to Kim lets jump in the car and go up, Mark Marx who leads the groups (HOTS) asked Joshua about his illness and he started to pray over him and with him. He asked Joshua do you have pain, and Joshua said yes, I have pain it's down my left side, and he said sit right back in your wheelchair and put out your legs and Joshua did, and it was quite clear that the left leg and down the left side was about two or three inches shorter than the other. Mark Marx put his hand over his leg and prayed, he said I am going to show you something, keep your eyes open and you will see what I hope is happening on the inside. As he prayed Joshua's leg just grew out, he wasn't pushing his leg out, the leg simply grew out and met the other one. My mouth fell open, my eyes were out on organ stops! Speechless is a much used word. I was left speechless. The next thing Josh is wheeling this wheelchair, he has never been back in the wheelchair since, we had to go and get a very strong cup of coffee. We went back to the car and had to go over a piece of rough ground and it seemed to me this was

the last bit of rough ground we would have to go over. Joshua was walking, pushing the wheelchair, and even tried to lift the wheelchair into the car. We came home in complete silence, and I think that for Joshua that was a major turning point, those people up there, Mark Marx and his team have done a remarkable job. All the way along, people have been praying, people all over the world, for the doctors, the nurses, the surgeons, I feel that there is a whole strength over all those prayers that have been said for all those months all over the world, they have had a huge impact.

**Gary: Fantastic, one of the amazing things through all of this was that "cynical Jill" came to faith through all of this. As Jill said the family believe that God heard the prayers. That day in Coleraine something miraculous happened, what was it like when Mark was praying for you Josh?**

**Josh:** Well just before I was prayed for I was in my wheelchair and I had no energy, then I was prayed for and I really felt like God's presence was with me, but it was a bit weird. I sat down, and stretched my leg out, and my leg, in a matter of seconds grew. I know that is hard to believe but it grew by a few inches, and it was quite crazy, and after, I wasn't in my wheelchair I was pushing it.

**Gary: So we are coming to the really good part. There was radiotherapy that he had to go through, but they weren't sure if it would benefit him because his cancer was so rare.**

**Kim:** Yes, they were able to say that with 30% of people it will have an improvement but with Joshua we have no idea, just because of the aggressiveness of the type of cancer he had. So he went off for radiotherapy for three weeks in August, I had asked people to pray at 11am each day. Joshua was meant to come home and put cream on his abdomen and rest but he didn't, he was bouncing. He had no burning, he was meant to have, he was meant to be in bed for several hours.

**Gary: The very next day, from a wee boy, who hadn't been able to get out of his wheelchair, had no energy we had our church barbecue, and Josh was on the waterside at Ganaway. What were you doing?**

**Josh:** There was a water slide and I wanted to go on it.

**Tim:** I didn't know whether to throttle him or hug him. It was one of those, I was really torn, 13 year old kid, and he had a horrible six months in hospital and someone said to me, "just let him have fun!". He did, he had an absolute ball. Do we protect him?

The scar, was one thee weeks old, and his consultant had warned us when he was in ICU that the cancer was in the wall of his stomach and they had opened the wound three times, and he said, I need to warn you, that at any time that wound could open. Although the cancer had gone, it through me, because I thought I couldn't cope with that, that freaked me out. So he was hurtling down this slide and I couldn't look, I actually said to my mum, "Nanny you watch!"

**Gary: The next few days you were out rock climbing, then four weeks after you went to Relentless, our youth camp, in a tent, during our typical Northern Irish summer of rain, wind and more rain. You've been bed bound for months, you've had**

**back to school?! You can start to see the transformation over a short period of time. After the radiotherapy the consultant had gave you the option to have chemotherapy to hold the cancer back, bearing in mind how aggressively and quickly it had grown previously, but you had some other ideas.**

**Josh:** I pretty much said no. I didn't want anything after radiotherapy, since Coleraine I believed that I was healed, I said no. I was getting better and had gained strength, if I had taken the chemo I wouldn't have been able to come to church or school or do anything that I had enjoyed doing.

**Gary: So you refused treatment and until this point the cancer and grown and grown, you got the end of October and you haven't had any treatment and because it was growing so quickly in January everyone was expecting new cancer growth but what happened when they came back?**

**Josh:** Well I was playing the Xbox and my dad was annoying me and my mum came in and I wasn't listening and then when I did listen they told me that I had no evidence of disease. Which was pretty good! But I knew that God would heal me, and I wasn't surprised so I was quite focused on my Xbox. The doctor didn't want to give me any more treatment.

**Gary: That has become our favourite word in Bangor Elim NED - NO EVIDENCE OF DISEASE after the scans and everything else, they could find no evidence of cancer in his body which is a miracle, an absolute miracle. You now have to get scans every month - you had one recently and nothing there.**

**Tim:** No stopping him, and some of the staff didn't recognise him, to say she was slightly surprised was an understatement. One of the nurses said to me, I'm not a Christian but that has to be a miracle. God is still the God of miracle who heals.

**The family want to thank everyone who as prayed and ask that you continue to pray, the battle isn't over, every month we continue to pray NED. Pray that God will continue to work in Josh's life into old age. ■**



**24 DEC 2015**

*Healthy and happy. With his family - Dad Tim, Mum Kim and big brother David.*



# imagine

23<sup>RD</sup> - 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPT 2016

IMAGINE CONFERENCE IS ABOUT GATHERING TOGETHER THOSE WHO FOLLOW CHRIST AND INSTINCTIVELY KNOW THAT GOD WANTS TO DO "IMMEASURABLY MORE".

AT UTBELFAST, WE WANT TO LET PEOPLE LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY KNOW THAT THEY MATTER TO GOD.

We believe passionately that God has a plan for our city, and we have been on a journey to 'imagine' a city transformed by the love of Jesus Christ. We don't imagine based on fairy tales or make-believe. We imagine based on the revelation of scripture. Not by what we know from the past, or by what we see in the present. We walk into the unseen, by faith.



*'Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.'*

Ephesians 3:20 (NIVUK)

## SPECIAL GUESTS

### ALAN SCOTT

Lead Pastor @ Causeway Coast Vineyard

Alan is a visionary leader, gifted communicator, and a prophetic voice who seeks to bring together biblical principles and supernatural power in a way that supplies the destiny of ordinary people. His passion involves raising up trusted rulers who are kingdom carriers that change the culture. Alan lives on the North coast of Northern Ireland where he enjoys dating his wife Kathryn, raising his two girls, being with friends and thinking and dreaming of ways to lead the church beyond the building.

### SIMON FOSTER

Elim National Leadership Team

As well as being a member of the Elim National Leadership Team, Simon is also the Lead Pastor of E5, an Elim church in Bristol, England seeking to be a "light to the city" and a "blessing to the nations". Simon is married to Jane and has a daughter, Emily. He has been involved in ministry for the past 20 years.

### HELEN YOUSAF

Worship Leader

Helen is an anointed singer, songwriter and worship leader. She met Jesus at the age of 15, and immediately began to sing out new and prophetic songs. Since then, she continues to travel and lead worship, as well as being a regional coordinator for Elim Sound. Helen is married to Shakeel and they have two daughters.



[facebook.com/utbelfast](http://facebook.com/utbelfast)



@utbelfast

**imagine conference**

re:create • re:develop • re:imagine • reform  
re:release • re:develop • re:create • re:imagine

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us...

Ephesians 3:20

## Special Guests



Alan Scott

Causeway Coast Vineyard



Simon Foster

Elim National Leadership Team



Helen Yousaf

Worship Leader

## Info / Booking

23rd - 24th September 2016  
UTbelfast Church

Early Booking: £10 per person  
After 18th April: £15 per person  
Book tickets: [utbelfast.org/imagineconf](http://utbelfast.org/imagineconf)  
\*lunch will be provided

[utbelfast.org/imagineconf](http://utbelfast.org/imagineconf)

UTbelfast Church  
276 Ravenhill Road  
Belfast, BT6 8GJ

Phone: (028) 9045 8621  
Email: [admin@utbelfast.org](mailto:admin@utbelfast.org)  
Tickets: [utbelfast.org/imagineconf](http://utbelfast.org/imagineconf)

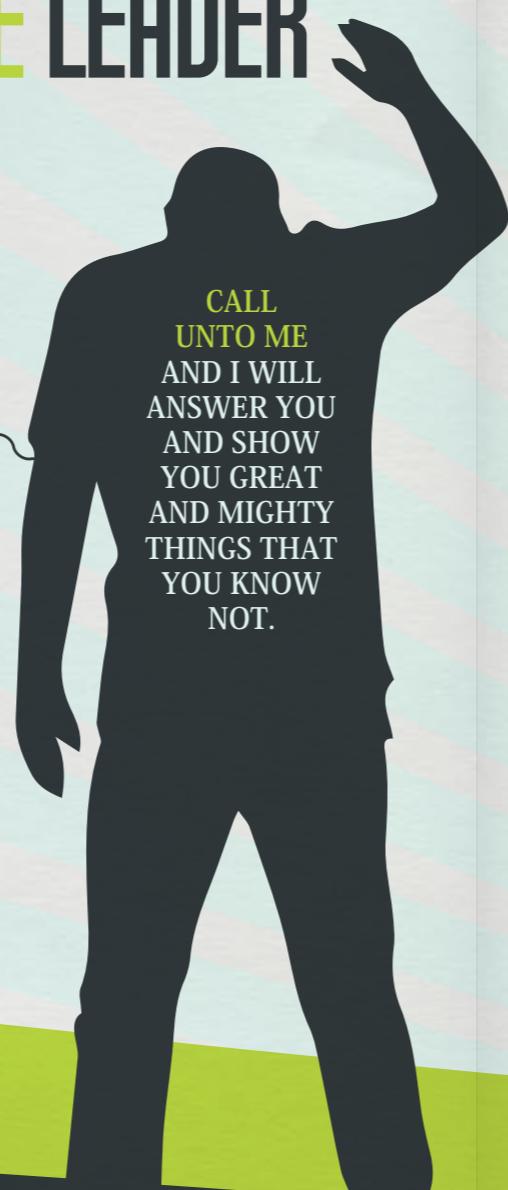
**Evening Sessions:**  
Fri 23 / Sat 24 September: 7:30pm

**Day Session:**  
Sat 24 September: 9:30am – 4:30pm  
(lunch provided)



# THE PRAYER LIFE OF AN ABOVE AVERAGE LEADER

I've never considered being called average a compliment. I think it means you're just as close to the bottom as on top. I don't believe that God meant for you to be average. I don't think God meant for you to live a so-so or bland, mediocre life. As a leader, I don't think God intends for you to be an average leader. I believe that every human being was designed for excellence, that you're not one in a million, you're one in five billion and as the book *In Search of Excellence* states, "The average person desires to be excellent in many different ways." There is no one else like you in the universe.



CALL  
UNTO ME  
AND I WILL  
ANSWER YOU  
AND SHOW  
YOU GREAT  
AND MIGHTY  
THINGS THAT  
YOU KNOW  
NOT.

As Pastors and Christian leaders, one of the key elements in our pursuit of being an above average leader is having an above average prayer life. I want to share some big lessons from the life of Jabez about the prayer life of an above average leader.

Jabez is a man who literally stood out in a crowd. There isn't much written about him in the Bible. In 1 Chronicles 4, you find a couple of sentences about him in the middle of a bunch of genealogies. In the middle of 600 names God singles out one man for special recognition. He stands above average. He's like a redwood tree in a forest of Bonsai's.

1 Chronicles 4:9-10 it says, "Jabez was more honourable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez saying, 'I gave birth to him in pain.' Jabez cries out to God, 'O God that You would bless me and enlarge my territory and keep me from harm so that I would be free from pain.' And God granted his request."

Out of those two obscure verses, we learn that there are three secrets to his life as an above average leader. What can we learn from Jabez?

#### You Need a Great Ambition

Jabez didn't want to be ordinary. He wanted to excel and grow. In other words, he was a person of vision and dreams. He wanted something special and something great from his life. Most of all, he wanted God's blessing in his life.

A lot of people never achieve the leadership level that they could achieve in life because they just drift through life with no ambition, no master plan, no real purpose, no dream that pulls them along. It's what I call haphazard living. You've got to have a dream if you're going to be a great leader. And in looking at Jabez' prayer life we'll find that his prayers actually came out of his dreams. When you stop dreaming, you start dying. If you have no goals, you have no growth. You were designed by God for great dreams.

#### You Need a Growing Faith

Jabez had a deep trust and belief in God. It is obvious from his prayer that he recognized that the source of his blessing was the Lord. It reminds me of William Carey who said, "Expect great things from God and attempt great things for God." In these two verses, we

notice a couple of things about Jabez. If you're going to live above average, you first need a great ambition and second, you need a growing faith.

#### You Need a Genuine Prayer Life

Jabez knew that to live above average, it was going to take more than his own strength. It was going to take God's power in his life to accomplish his dream. Notice he's very specific about what he prays about. God wants us to pray about our goals. He wants us to be specific. Nothing becomes dynamic unless it becomes specific. The more specific I am in my prayers, the more quickly God's going to answer.

GOD IS  
ABLE TO DO  
IMMEASURABLY  
MORE THAN  
ALL WE ASK  
OR IMAGINE  
ACCORDING  
TO HIS POWER  
THAT IS  
AT WORK  
WITHIN US.

God dares us to ask for big requests. James 4:3 says, "You have not because you ask not." Jeremiah says, "Call unto Me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things that you know not." Over twenty times in the New Testament we're commanded to ask. Jesus said, "Ask, Seek, Knock." That spells "ASK". In Ephesians 3:20, it says "God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine according to His power that is at work within us." That's one of my favourite verses because it says you can't out-ask or out-dream God. Stretch your imagination and let God take you further than you've ever gone before in your prayer life, in praying for God's blessing on your ministry and on your life.

Have you let God give you a great ambition for your life, for your ministry? Have you had a glimpse of what God wants to do in your life? Maybe the most important thing you could do is take a full day off get off by yourself with your Bible and say, "God help me to see the situation as You see it. Help me to see Your church as You want it to be. Not as it is, but as You want it to be." The most fulfilling ambition is to do God's will. The Bible says, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you." So never be afraid of having ambition if what you're attempting is ultimately for the glory of God. There's no doubt about it that ambition outside of God's control is destructive. But ambition under God's control is dynamic. I believe that there is nothing that God won't do for the person who's sole ambition is for God's greater glory. Let God give you a great ambition for your church. ■

// Rick Warren (A section taken from his blog -  
The prayer life of an above average leader)



INTERNATIONAL  
CHRISTIAN  
EMBASSY  
JERUSALEM



# PRESENTING GUESTS OF THE ICEJ

## Thursday 5th May @ 8pm

Portadown Elim Church



**Avi Mizrachi**

Executive Director of Dugit Messianic Outreach Center and Pastor of Adonai Roi congregation.



**Nizar Touma**

Pastor of the Nazareth Church of Nazarene.



**Pastor Edwin Michael**

Elim Church Ireland Superintendent.

Hosted by  
**Portadown Elim Church**  
Clonavon Avenue, Portadown, Co. Armagh



/portadownelim



## GUESTS



**AVI MIZRACHI**  
MESSIANIC JEWISH PASTOR

Avi, the Executive Director of Dugit Messianic Outreach Center and Pastor of Adonai Roi congregation, was born in Tel Aviv in a Jewish home. After serving in the Israeli Air Force, he decided to visit his sister in America, where he met Yeshua as Savior and Lord. In 1984, he married Chaya and went back to Israel. In 1985, God opened the door for them to study together at Christ for the Nations Institute in Dallas, Texas and they again returned to Israel in 1987.

Upon returning to Israel, Avi was employed by Dugit, a Christian Art Gallery and Bookstore in Tel Aviv. Avi worked there until the store was closed in 1992. At the urging of the Holy Spirit, Avi was led to establish a center for outreach. Dugit was opened anew as a Messianic Outreach Center in December of 1993. Additionally, in the summer of 1996, Avi was led to found a new Messianic Congregation in Tel Aviv. The name impressed upon him by the Lord was "Adonai Roi", Hebrew for "The Lord is my Shepherd".

Avi is a recognized leader in Israel and an international conference speaker. It is his heart's desire to bring the Gospel to Israelis and to disciple them to become strong believers, rooted and grounded in the Word of God.



**NIZAR TOUMA**  
ARAB PASTOR

Nizar grew up in Nazareth, in Israel, and was raised in the Greek Orthodox Church.

Touma was saved around the age of 19 through the preaching of an American minister named Lindell Browning from the Church of Nazarene.

Two years later, in 1987, Touma enrolled in theological education in Cyprus. Following graduation Touma began assisting Browning in leading the Nazarene church in Jerusalem. After he was ordained, Touma took over as pastor for almost 10 years.

In 2000, Touma felt God leading him back to his hometown of Nazareth and after he and his wife Katie finally accepted the clear direction of the Lord, they called Browning and told him they were ready to go back to Nazareth, where a pastor from Northern Ireland named Henry Stephenson, had been leading the church. They have been pasturing the Nazareth Church of Nazarene ever since. They also started a large yard sale where they sell cheap items, allowing them to buy food supplies for local needy families and also to distribute Bibles in Gaza, including a solar-charged audio Bible.

Touma has a heart for reconciliation between Arab believers and Messianic believers, trying to build bridges between Arab and Jewish pastors.



**PASTOR  
EDWIN MICHAEL**

Edwin is the Elim Church Ireland Superintendent and is responsible for leading the Irish Leadership Team and giving leadership to the Elim Churches throughout Ireland.

After pastoring in Markethill Edwin spent over 20 years as a Pastor in Portadown. He also pastored for an eleven month interim period in the Elim Church in Ballymena before his induction as Superintendent.

Edwin is married to Margaret and they have two grown children. He has been leading trips to Israel for almost 20 years and has a deep love for the country and its people.

## CONTACT INFO

For further information on the event please contact:

Johnny Haire:  
07500 773667

# Why Adventuring with Jesus isn't Instagrammable!

 Joanna Callender

 [www.joblogsaboutwords.blogspot.com](http://www.joblogsaboutwords.blogspot.com)

As Pastors and Christian leaders, one of the key elements in our pursuit of being an above average leader is having an above average prayer life. I want to share some big lessons from the life of Jabez about the prayer life of an above average leader.

Adventuring with Jesus. It sounds so idyllic. As if it means climbing big mountains with worship music in your ears; or white water rafting while praying at the same time. Or (and I've actually done this one), going to a new coffee shop across town to read the Bible with a skinny flat white.

But just as I start to fool myself; that adventuring with Jesus is a cool, edgy phrase to apply to life's moments, I remember some words He said.

*"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"*

Matthew 16:24-26

This Jesus we follow is asking us to deny ourselves; challenging us to be prepared to lose our lives; to be prepared to be uncomfortable because of our faith and to sacrifice what we really want for what we believe in.

These words are a massive challenge. But they can also be a huge encouragement.

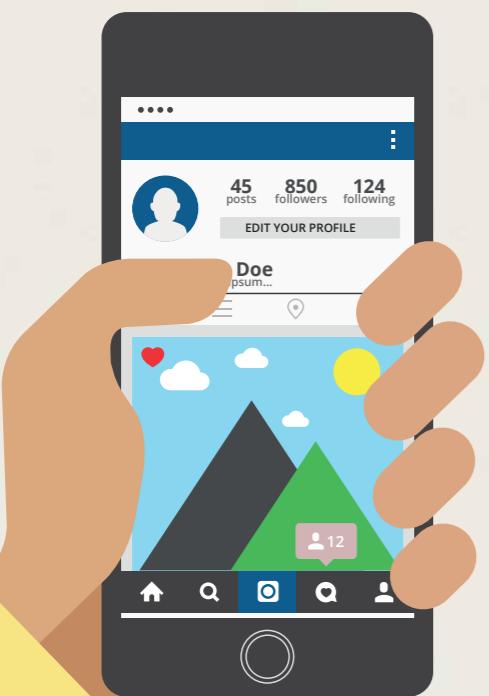
Adventuring with Jesus isn't always supposed to be cool, exciting or instagrammable. Jesus actually told us it was going to be tough. For many Christians all over the world that is literally being prepared to lose their life. For many others it means a different sort of sacrifice; having friends who make fun of your faith; tithing to your Church; choosing to date people who share your beliefs.

For me, it means landing in a new town I haven't chosen; starting to seek God's kingdom in a place that's a bit new and scary to me. I'm definitely where God wants, but it still feels uncomfortable and lonely. It's not edgy, cool or Facebook-worthy. But it is real. Jesus challenges each of us to live differently for Him; to speak, act and live in a way that honours him. That's never going to be an easy way to live.

In the middle of the difficult, challenging or lonely times - and they happen to all of us - God is in our midst. Whether you're hearing challenging words from God, or whether you're struggling to hear His voice, know that adventuring with Jesus can be hard, but it's worth it:

*"Praise be to the god and father of our lord jesus christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of jesus christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade."*

1 Peter 1:3-4 ■



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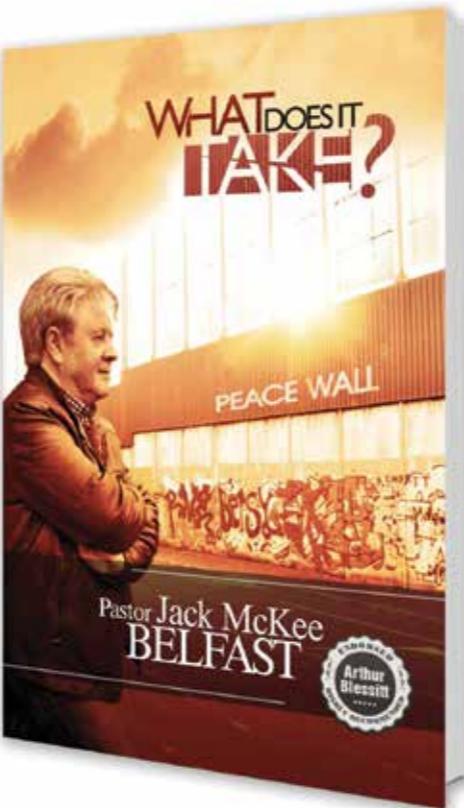
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## BOOKS REVIEWS

### WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

Author: Jack McKee



Pastor Jack's new book 'What Does It Take?' has been receiving some amazing reviews from Germany, New Zealand, America, Canada, England, and across Northern Ireland, from people saying they couldn't put it down to others saying it was inspiring and challenging.

The Belfast Telegraph devoted one and a half pages to promoting this book and to sharing Jack's story stating, "It reads more like a thriller than the life story of a man of God".

Looking back on 2015 Jack says, "Having come through another year I am thankful to God for His unfailing faithfulness, not just over one year, but over a lifetime. My story only has meaning and significance because of His Story."

Arthur Blessitt wrote: "Many people have heard of or seen the struggles and conflicts in Northern Ireland and wondered what could be done. One man, called of Jesus accepted the challenge and the call. With total focus on Jesus, the Cross and people he has and is making a great impact in Belfast and on to the world. This book "What Does It Take?" will rock your world. Warning 'you too may become a radical follower of Jesus'. Great book my friend Jack, so proud of you and you lifting up the cross and Jesus! A servant, pilgrim follower of Jesus and fellow cross carrier."

Roy Fields wrote: "When you have stood and faced death, had people shoot at you, and had your car bombed and destroyed, and you stand with a cross while people mock you, and your church is right smack dab in the middle of a major

conflict zone, and you still go on, I believe you have the authority by God to write a book called 'WHAT DOES IT TAKE?' I have known Jack McKee for many years now and there is one word that could best describe him – Pioneer. This book is a MUST READ. It will inspire and build your faith to stand for Jesus Christ in your generation now."

Pastor Edwin Michael wrote: "What Does It Take? Is a compelling read; a gripping account of his journey over 33 years of ministry in the complex and troubled city of Belfast. Beyond the pages you will pick up the heartbeat of a man of God who has been deeply impacted by the truth that the real church exists not only to worship but also to be a voice and an irrepressible influence for change in a seriously messed up world. As you read, prepare to be challenged, and inspired by the pioneering spirit that leaps from these pages.

Jack was brought up in the heart of conflict within the city of Belfast, where he has also ministered, in his home community, as an Elim Pastor since 1982. He has defeated death several times as terrorists on both sides of Northern Ireland's conflict have tried to silence him. >>



On one occasion, prior to him and Kathleen going to the Elim Bible College in England, the IRA attempted to place a bomb under his car, but they were disturbed and fled; on another occasion an IRA terrorist fired five shots at him from close range, but missed with each shot.

On other occasions, as serving Elim Pastor, he was sentenced to death by Loyalist terror groups for speaking out publicly to condemn their acts of violence and intimidation against others.

In 2005 his home was attacked at 3.30 am while he and his wife were in bed; his car was also petrol bombed at the same time and completely destroyed, yet he refuses to be silenced as he continues to touch the lives of Protestants and Catholics across Belfast and beyond with the message of God's love.

In 1993 he pioneered New Life City Church, a church that today is often referred as 'the church on the wall' because in 2009 they moved into a large warehouse that literally straddles the 20ft high Dividing Wall that separates the Falls and the Shankill Roads. Inside the building there is a large auditorium fully equipped for concerts, an indoor 5 a-side 3G football pitch, a coffee shop called Wholly Ground, a pre-school playgroup, besides several other programmes for all ages.

Jack has done several 40 Day Cross Walks around the Dividing Wall in Belfast and has done several 40 Day Cross Vigils, supported by members of New Life and other churches. In 2011 he fulfilled a 40 year dream by walking through the streets of Belfast alongside Arthur Blessitt while carrying a cross. He has done many other 'out of the box' things like CU@ theCROSS, Cycle Cross America,

and 39+1, all of which he writes about in his new book 'What Does It Take?'

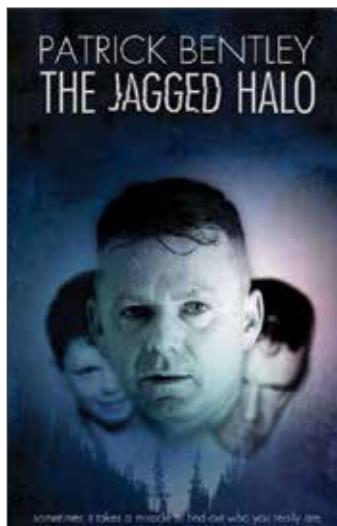
Jack wants to thank everyone who has stood with him throughout these years, from within the Elim Movement and those from other churches, but especially from those within New Life City Church. He knows full well he would not be where he is today without the hand of God being so evidently upon his life, and without the support of faithful and committed people.

He especially acknowledges the support of his family; his two daughters Chara (Kara) and Paula who have not only been a blessing to Jack and Kathleen, but have helped to bless and touch the lives of many others; his son Jonathan who could have been Pastor of his own church, but has chosen to stand shoulder to shoulder with Jack in New Life City Church, where he is affectionately known as Pastor Johnny, and where he has displayed the same heart and passion for reaching the city of Belfast with Gospel of Jesus Christ.

However, Jack's main acknowledgement is reserved for his wife Kathleen to whom he dedicates the book as follows:

The book can be purchased in Faith Mission and Bethel Bookshops, and can also be purchased via the New Life web site [www.newlifebelfast.org](http://www.newlifebelfast.org) and on the publisher's site [www.mauricewyliemedia.com](http://www.mauricewyliemedia.com) or on Amazon where it can also be downloaded on Kindle.

Jack is available for ministry, especially on Sunday nights. Feel free to contact him at [pastorjack@btinternet.com](mailto:pastorjack@btinternet.com)



### THE JAGGED HALO

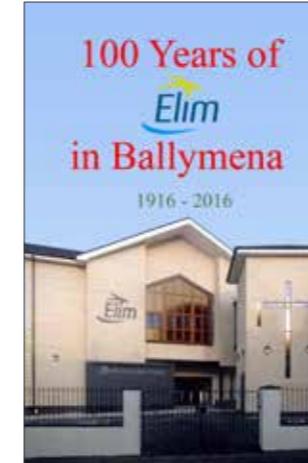
Author: Patrick Bentley

Patrick Bentley has been to hell and back. In this book he pulls no punches in telling us about the underbelly of Irish life.

This is the story of an abused child struggling for normality in the town of Skerries in the early 70s. It's about an early life of crime that led to being locked up in a reform school run by Christian Brothers, leading

to abuse, fear, isolation and no sense of identity. It's about a teen finding a place to hide in the voice and music of Gary Newman, a search for a soulmate, leading to forbidden love, to Jesus.

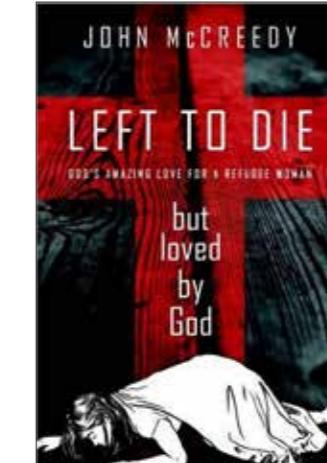
A journey through the world of drugs and beyond the painful story of the jagged halo.



### THE 100 YEAR STORY

Author:  
Sam Montgomery

Book about the history and the life of Ballymena Elim. Make sure you pick up a copy and enjoy the stories and images within. You may even spot a few familiar faces.



### LEFT TO DIE BUT LOVED BY GOD

Author:  
John McCready

This book explores the horrible real life issues that we face today in our world such as the refugee crisis, homelessness and human trafficking through the lens of the biblical story of Hagar. It demonstrates how God cares about the rejected and the desperate and that He can always meet our needs to matter how drastic or difficult the situation may appear.



**17<sup>TH</sup>-22<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2016**  
**ULSTER UNIVERSITY, JORDANSTOWN**



**FEATURING  
JEFF LUCAS & OTHERS**

**FULL DETAILS IN THE  
NEXT ISSUE OF ELIM LIFE**

- > MORNING BIBLE STUDIES // 11AM
- > AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES // 2PM
- > EVENING CELEBRATIONS // 7.30PM

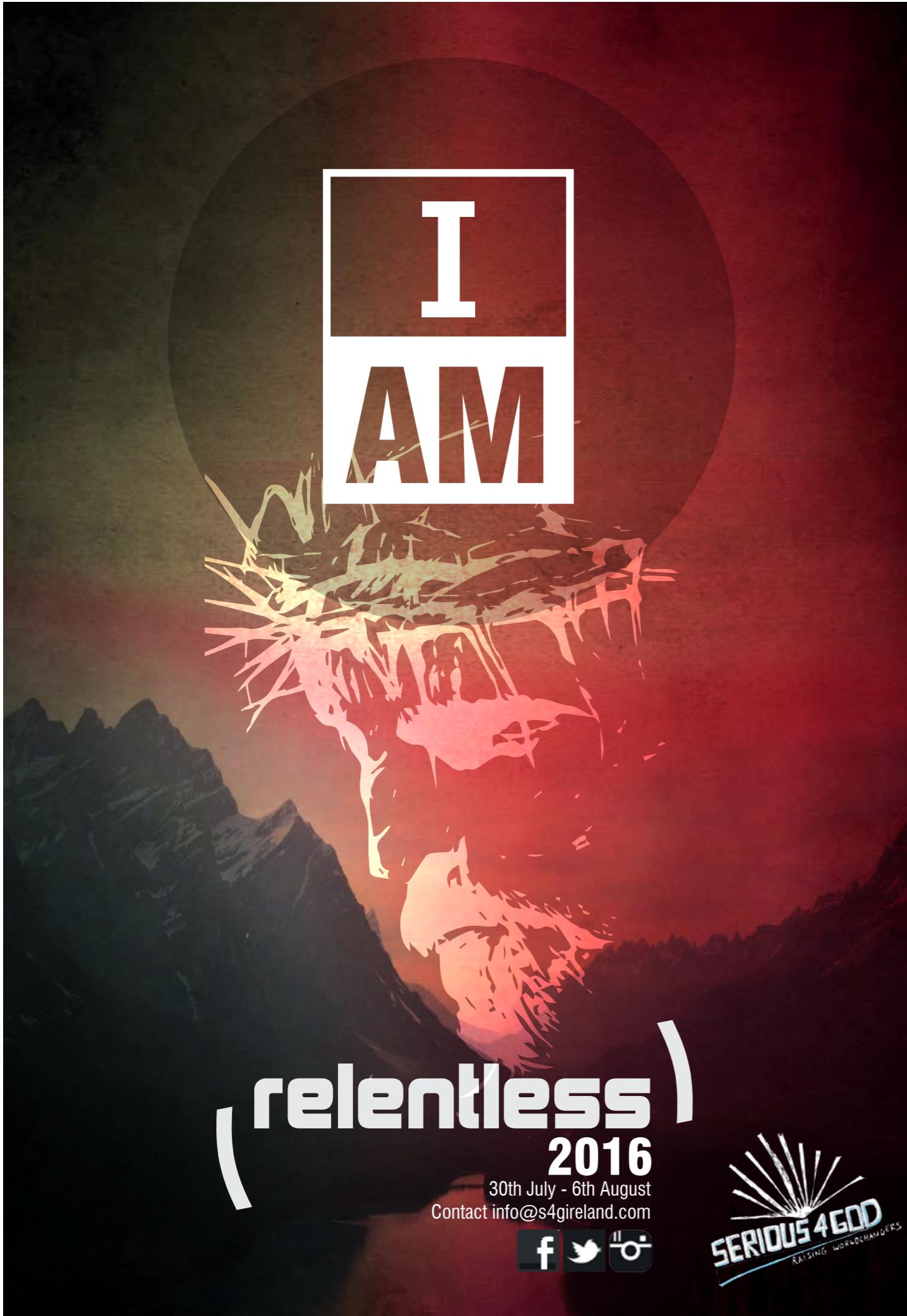
[elimchurchireland.com/wondrous](http://elimchurchireland.com/wondrous)

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EVERYONE NEEDS A  
**SECOND CHANCE.**  
**WHAT ABOUT YOU ?**



**MY HOPE**  
Simply Sharing Jesus.

  
Chris Llewellyn  
Rugby champion to Rend Collective

  
Natalie McDermott  
Swansea hospital to Ebola doctor in Liberia

  
Brian Sumner  
Liverpool skateboarder to global pro with Tony Hawk

"Second Chance" features a powerful message from Billy Graham and exciting stories of transformation from CHRIS LLEWELLYN, lead singer of the leading Irish Christian band REND COLLECTIVE; Natalie McDermott, a doctor from Cardiff who served in Liberia to help people with Ebola and professional skateboarder Brian Sumner, who was brought up in Liverpool and found global fame with Tony Hawk - famous in the skateboard world.

These three people tell their stories of how they discovered that God gave each a Second Chance in their search and meaning of life when they had an encounter with Jesus Christ and realised their need and found new purpose and real fulfilment in life.

Most Elim Churches in IRELAND will be showing this film - only 24 mins long - from now until Easter this year.

WHY NOT COME ALONG AND BRING A FRIEND AND DISCOVER THAT MAYBE YOU MAY FIND GOD OFFERING YOU A '**SECOND CHANCE**' in your life also.



For more information including further resources visit  
[www.myhopewithbillygraham.org.uk](http://www.myhopewithbillygraham.org.uk)  
or locally [norman.lynas@bgea.org.uk](mailto:norman.lynas@bgea.org.uk)

**BILLY GRAHAM**  
Evangelistic Association  
Always Good News.

YOU WILL  
**SEEK ME**  
AND **FIND ME**



WHEN YOU SEEK ME WITH

**ALL YOUR HEART**