



Young Life Prayer News

March 2010

He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

John 9:25

People have all sorts of opinions about the Lord Jesus and make various accusations of him. The Pharisees in John 9 say that they *know* him to be a sinner even. But it is irrelevant what people think of him - whether 'demon-possessed' (John 10) or 'just a good man' (as many think today). As true believers we know, as did the blind man in John 9, that we were blind but now we see. We were spiritually sick in our sin, but are now spiritually healed; righteous before God in this life, and ready to meet God in the next. May we echo the words of the healed man a few verses later: "Lord, I believe", and may we worship the Lord for who he is and what he's done for us at the cross.

Nathaniel Elcock - YL National Co-ordinator

Branch Focus

This month, we hear from four of our branches with news and prayer requests: Birstall, Bedford, Undy and Harrogate.

Birstall

We are feeling really blessed at the moment. We have a committed core of young people, some of whom are second generation YLers who really want to live for God. We currently have about 25-30 meeting weekly and it is so good to watch different individuals lead the groups in short times of directed Bible study. We have just returned from the North East area houseparty where a girl who has been to YL once became a Christian and another girl who became a Christian last year gave her testimony. A few young men in their early twenties have been coming along in the last few weeks. Please pray that they will want to commit to the work as the current committee continues to age and many of the young people go away to university. Forthcoming events include 'Ready Steady Cook' in early March!

Bedford

- We are thankful for good numbers over the last few months, and pray this will continue.
- About 10 new people have started coming to the Friday programme since Christmas. Pray that they would develop an interest in spiritual things and feel welcomed into the group.
- Give thanks for a girl from a non-Christian background who started coming last summer and is eager to come to the Saturday Bible studies and learn more about the Biblical world view. Pray that she would grasp the truth of the gospel.
- Pray for some who have been coming for a number of years but who do not yet show spiritual interest.
- We are thankful for a good core group of workers in their twenties.
- Please pray for our evangelistic meal on 20th March.

In association with United Beach Missions

Undy

- We are thankful for good numbers of young people attending the groups: up to 20 in the 7-11s and 20+ in the 12-16 group.
- Pray for the 'Sports Outreach' each month.
- Pray for the way forward for the group, as many of the leaders have left for various reasons.
- Pray for others to help in the leadership. We give thanks for some of the parents who help out. Please pray particularly for one father who helps and has lost his job through ill health.

Harrogate

We continue to be encouraged in the way the Lord is blessing at Harrogate. There is a solid core of 15-20 teenagers. It's great to see some of them standing for Christ at school in the face of opposition - please pray for them in these circumstances which can often be difficult.

Please pray that we would have a real desire also to reach out to our friends.

A number of young people have booked for UBM for the first time. Pray that this would be a time when their faith is really built up.

General Prayer

- Please remember the Leadership Training Weekend in Leicester (19th-21st March). Pray for people to book and that the event would be a tremendous encouragement to all who attend.
- Pray for the Easter Speakouts (Dublin, Galway, Leicester, Southport, Yorkshire).
- Please pray for the planning which is currently going on for the various YL Holidays.
- Please pray for the National Council meeting on 13th March - for wisdom and guidance on the various decisions which need to be made.
- The promotional DVD project is properly underway at last. Pray for the Lord's help with this, and that it may be greatly used when finished.
- Pray very much for the plans to mark the YL centenary next year. We hope to be able to release details within the next few months.

Employment issues

At the end of August, Nathaniel Elcock will be moving on from YL, having worked in the role of National Co-ordinator for the past three years. We are currently in discussions with a potential replacement for Nathaniel. Please pray for wisdom and guidance for National Council and the YL Management, for the right person to be appointed and for a smooth transition between employees as we seek to take the work of YL forward into the centenary year and beyond.

Vinny Commons

My regular YL commitments continue. Pray for the ongoing work with the Southport branch. We had a great time at the NW area houseparty at Quinta in January. Pray for the Leadership Training Weekend in March which I am involved in running and for the Southport Easter Speakout where we expect around 60 young people to be sharing the gospel on the streets. I would also value prayer for my brother who continues to struggle with cancer.



Nathaniel Elcock

In recent months I have had commitments at the NW and NE area houseparties, YLH planning meetings, the MV day, the North of England Conference and Garforth Evangelical Church. I am involved with planning the YL Leadership Training Weekend (19th-21st March), the Yorkshire Speakout and various centenary items. I am also currently working on a number of magazines. Please pray that I might be effective in these last few months as my time with YL draws to a close.



Dates for your diary

- Mar 13th:** YL National Council, Leicester
- Mar 19th-21st:** Leadership Training, Leicester
- Apr 2nd-5th:** Easter Speakouts
- May 8th:** UBM Leaders' Day, Leicester