



# Young Life prayer letter

October 2008

*'The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me". But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish...'*

Jonah 1:1-3

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As Christians, we are called to spread the gospel everywhere. Gospel means 'good news', but the good news doesn't make sense without the bad news.

Imagine that your doctor prescribes you medicine when, as far as you know, you're not ill! Now imagine he has just told you that you have a serious illness which you will die from unless you take the medicine. Each of us, by nature, is separated from God by our sin and because of this, we deserve His judgement. But God, in His grace, has given us the antidote - salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ. The gospel! Let us be faithful in how we share it, and let us make sure that, unlike Jonah, we obey the Lord and seek every opportunity to evangelise. There is a happy ending to the book of Jonah; despite Jonah's initial disobedience, God uses him, and the city of Nineveh repents and is saved.

**Nathaniel Elcock - YL National Co-ordinator**

## Branch Focus

This month, we have news from four of our branches - York, Birstall, West Cornwall and Leicester.

### York



Praise God for good numbers of regular attendees at York! This term we are looking at various issues which find their first mention in the book of

Genesis. So far we have had an overview of the book and looked at the origins of sin and how the fall of Adam and Eve has affected us all. Please pray for some of our older members who are either returning or going away to university for the first time; that the Lord will be with them as they seek to settle in, and that they would find good churches. We give thanks for various young people who we've been encouraging to come for some time, who have recently been and hope to come again. We have just had our annual houseparty with Vinny Commons speaking. It was a great time and we thank the Lord for that, while praying that He would really move in

the group. Pray that we would learn more about Him and how we can live lives that are pleasing to Him. We also have an evangelistic event coming up and would value prayer that the Lord would be preparing the hearts of those who will come along, and that our members would have boldness to invite friends to the event.

### Birstall

We have a group of over twenty meeting regularly and it's good to see some coming from other churches on a regular basis. Pray for the older more serious Christians as some non-Christian parents are saying they are too into church. Praise for the visible growth among some, and their willingness to share the gospel naturally with their friends. Pray that we will be able to use their aptitudes and energy in discipling the younger ones. We are encouraged!

Please also pray for those who went on our houseparty, 17th-19th October in Llandudno where David Jones spoke on 1 Timothy.

### West Cornwall

We have been encouraged recently as West Cornwall YL continues to press on. A really good group of YLers make the programmes lively and challenging. Many of our speakers who visit

Speak of how thrilled they are to be able to come to such a group as this. As we begin our new term, we are altering our programme slightly to follow a DVD curriculum by John Piper called 'Don't Waste Your Life'. It runs over ten sessions and we are praying that the Lord would really use it to challenge us as we seek to live for Him.

Please pray for:

- Those who come regularly who are not yet Christians.
- The members of our group who are Christians; that they would grow in their faith.
- Wisdom, as we look to plan some evangelistic events in the future.

## Leicester

We are generally encouraged! This term we have seen a few new students coming along. We had a great time at the Midlands houseparty (17th-19th October) in Northampton where Tim Howlett was our speaker. Please pray for our bonfire party which is planned for 7th November and this year, our Christmas evangelistic meal instead of the usual party.

## General Prayer

- Pray for all the houseparties going on at the moment. These are such great events which provide an opportunity for young people to spend the weekend with friends, learning more about God and His Word.
- Please pray for the Student houseparty which will be taking place 5th-7th December in Stoke. Plans are well in place now, but we need people to book. Booking forms are available from our website. Pray for all aspects of the organisation, and that those who attend would be blessed.
- Please also remember in your prayers the National Council meeting on 14th November. Pray that the Lord would give guidance as decisions are made.
- Our annual Leaders' and Committees' training day on 15th November is fast approaching. Please pray that this would be a really great day and that it would be a help and encouragement to all who attend.

If you would like to receive the YL prayer letter by email only, please contact the YL office.

## Vinny Commons

I continue to be heavily involved with Southport YL. In addition, I recently spoke at the York YL houseparty near Leeds and at Aughton Park, Ainsdale Evangelical Church and Emmanuel Evangelical Church (Stoke). In the near future, I'll be attending the Southport YL houseparty near Leeds and speaking at Ramilies Road (Liverpool) and Wellbeck Road (Newcastle). Thank you for your continued prayer support.



## Nathaniel Elcock

I have recently had speaking engagements at Garforth Evangelical Church, and have attended the York YL houseparty. Future engagements include: NE area bonfire event, YL National Council, East Kent YL and Milnrow Evangelical Church. Please pray for the administration work which I do, as there is always lots of it!



## Other News

- We now have a new website! Take some time to have a browse. Over the next few months, we plan to add more features and content.
- 'Holidays of a Lifetime!' is a new book by Trevor Knight, documenting the history of UBM, from the earliest days right up to the present time. It is Trevor's very personal account of the impact and influence of UBM on the lives of many. RRP £4.95, available from the UBM and YL offices.
- Please contact the office if you would like more copies of our Events Brochure '08/'09.



## Dates for your diary

- Nov 14th:** National Council
- Nov 15th:** Leaders' and Committees' Day
- Dec 5th-7th:** Student houseparty