

Newsletter

Version 1



for
Churches in Bicester



10 Weeks to go!

A regular update of news for 'Love Bicester'

God is coming to town!

And He needs you to help!

Friday 19th March to Sunday 28th March
2010

The purpose of this newsletter is to encourage you to be involved at every level of the preparation and especially for the 10 days of 'Love Bicester'. You are part of God's plan in this, he needs you!

What is Love Bicester?

It's a "one-church" opportunity to share the gospel with our friends, family and neighbours



Who is involved?



How can you get involved?

Turn over the page and look out for the three areas that are crucial for the success of 'Love Bicester'.

Michael's Memo

My name is Michael Green, and you and I will know each other well by the end of March, because of Love Bicester. This is what we are calling an outreach, backed by all the churches in town, to spread the good news of Jesus Christ humbly, joyfully and imaginatively. Did you know that the pastors of the churches meet every Thursday morning for worship, breakfast and then pray for the town? It is they who dreamed up your famous Fun Day, which draws thousands of people every year. And now they have determined to work together to bring the Christian message more clearly to Bicester. They are the people behind 'Love Bicester'.

And they have asked me to lead it, with a team from Oxford. I have led many missions, and now I work for the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics. And if that sounds a mouthful, it simply means that we are training Christian graduates from a variety of countries to give a good reason for their Christian faith, to handle tough questions, and to help others to Jesus Christ. A team of 9 or 10 of us will be coming from March 19-28 to work alongside you in spreading the good news of Jesus far and wide in the town. Please pray that God will bless this venture, and determine to play your part!

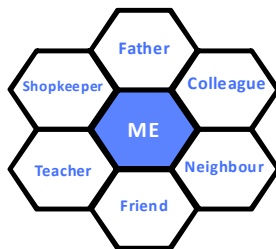


Why is there such a dramatic statement overleaf ' **God is coming to town**'? Well simply, for many people this may be the first time they will experience the love of God reaching out to them. All they will know is you are a Christian and have invited them to an event. It is of course through the power of the Holy Spirit living in us, giving us gifts and power to enable us to do this for God.

There is an invitation by God for us to experience revival here in Bicester and bring God's love, His forgiveness, His healing and transformation to the lives of those who have not known God or have chosen not to accept Him. Will you accept this invitation? Do you want your family, friends and neighbours to accept God in their lives? It has to start with someone bringing the message of the Gospel to them and that is where you get involved as part of a team. That is the purpose of 'Love Bicester'.

Three Crucial Areas to make 'Love Bicester' happen.

OIKOS



OIKOS

First off, we're asking all Bicester Christians to add a model of praying to their quiet time/their prayer groups/their cell groups called Oikos. Oikos is ancient Greek for 'house' or 'household'. The idea is that you choose six people with whom you have almost daily contact who don't know the Lord, and you commit to praying for them and their salvation. It could be the local shopkeeper, a colleague, a relative. The point is that these people are always on your mind and heart. You'll be amazed at how God answers your prayer for these people.

Monthly Joint Prayer meetings or your own prayer group.

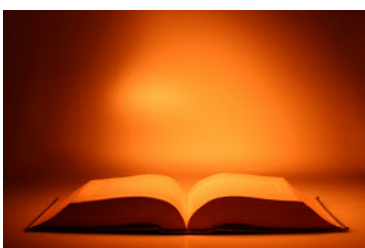


By now you will have become aware of the monthly joint 'Churches in Bicester' prayer meetings. You may have attended few but some of you cannot. It is prayer we need whether we are in one large group or many smaller ones. Gods' power will be released when we ask for His help in bringing all of the events together, when we ask '**Who shall I invite?**' and '**What do you want me to do?**'

So please get praying and invite God into all areas of 'Love Bicester'. Over the weeks we shall ask you to pray into issues where we need God to intervene because we cannot do this without His help. Listen to what God is saying to you, what He is saying to us all and let us know. This is Gods' plan not ours.

Planning events means prayer and action!

In the next 'Love Bicester' Newsletter there will be details of the various events that each church is working towards. There are also plans for scores of house events where you can invite people that God has asked you to pray for.



Remember that prayer without action is a waste of prayer.

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That no action and no prayer means no 'Love Bicester'.