

BCC News!



Richard's Ramble! For most people August is a slower month. At work, many people are off on holiday, nobody really wants to do business and decision making is put on hold until September. At church, congregations are diminished, groups shut down, and missional activity is put on hold. At home, people often take time out to be with family or to go visiting. All of these things are a fact of life in the 21st Century where we have more leisure time and more disposable income than previous generations. For me, August is usually one of my busier months. It usually incorporates a trip to India and some frantic activity around the One Event. In between these things I attempt to keep all my other duties ticking over.

One thing I have noticed is that many people, when they go on holiday, leave Jesus at home. The result is that they return from holiday physically refreshed but spiritually drained. This is by no means universal, of course, but I believe that taking Jesus with us wherever we go will always be better than going without him and then trying to catch up on our relationship with him when we return. He has promised to be with us always and so can be part of our leisure as well as our church life. This summer, take Jesus with you wherever you go.

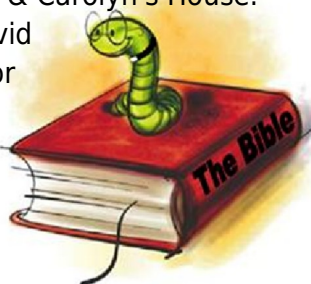
God bless, **Richard**



August Calendar

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 27 13:30 Monday Friendship g | 28 19:30 Discovery Course 20:00 Homegroups | 29 | 30 20:00 The Brink homegroup | 31 20:00 PDP | 1 Aug 21:30 Bev. Street Angels | 2 10:30 Sunday Meeting 18:30 Prayer Meeting |
| 3 13:30 Monday Friendship g 18:00 18-30s | 4 18:30 Lindum Hse Service 20:00 Homegroups | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 10:30 Sunday Meeting 18:30 Prayer Meeting |
| 10 | 11 20:00 Homegroups | 12 18:00 Beverley Street Ange 18:30 CMA Meeting | 13 | 14 20:00 PDP | 15 21:30 Bev. Street Angels | 16 10:30 Sunday Meeting 18:30 Prayer Meeting |
| 17 | 18 20:00 Homegroups | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 10:30 Sunday Meeting 18:30 Prayer Meeting |
| 24 13:30 Monday Friendship g | 25 20:00 Homegroups | 26 | 27 | 28 ONE Event 20:00 PDP | 29 21:30 Bev. Street Angels | 30 |
| 31 ONE Event | 1 Sep 20:00 Homegroups | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 21:30 Bev. Street Angels | 6 10:30 Sunday Meeting 18:30 Prayer Meeting |

Bible Book Club starts back: Wednesday 16th September
Discussing the book of Acts at Richard & Carolyn's House.
See David Miller for details.



Job Vacancy

Part time worker delivering session work to East Riding College (Bev. & Brid).
Approx 5-7 hrs pw. Initially for 1 year from September 2015.
Are you motivated, organised, creative and flexible in your work? This could be for you! See BSCT website for more details.



Homegroups start back on Tuesdays starting 8th September (incl. Brink). Please let the welcome team know if you would like to speak to someone about joining one.



For up to date information and dates visit: beverleycommunitychurch.org

August 2015 Edition
Produced by – Carolyn Bradbury





Five Points for Parents Who Want to Pass On the Faith

How is religion passed down across generations? That's the theme of the book Families and Faith by Vern L. Bengtson (with Norella M. Putney and Susan Harris). As an exercise in statistical and sociological research, there is nothing particularly biblical or spiritual about the book (though, interestingly, the author describes how at the end of the project he started going to church again and now is an active part of a local congregation). And yet, this doesn't mean there is nothing to learn from books like this.

In the concluding chapter Bengtson suggests five things families should know, do, or remember if they want to pass on their faith to the next generation (195-98).

1. "Parents have more religious influence than they think." One of the main themes in the book is that parental influence with respect to religion is not actually waning, despite the alarmist cries from watchdogs and worry-worts. The single most important factor in the spiritual and religious lives of adolescents continues to be their parents.

2. "Fervent faith cannot compensate for a distant dad." It's important for children to see religious role modelling in their parents. But personal piety is

no substitute for the quality of the parent-child relationship. Parents who are warm and loving are more likely to pass on the faith than those that are distant and authoritarian. This is especially true when it comes to fathers. A relationally and spiritually distant dad is very difficult to overcome, despite the religious zeal of the mother.

3. "Allowing children religious choice can encourage religious continuity." On the one hand, Bengtson argues that tight-knit religious communities with clear doctrinal and ethical boundary markers are more likely to pass on the faith from one generation to the next. On the other hand, families must allow for some flexibility. Children must not be afraid to explore the what's and whys of their parent's faith, even if that exploration feels uncomfortable to mum and dad for a time.

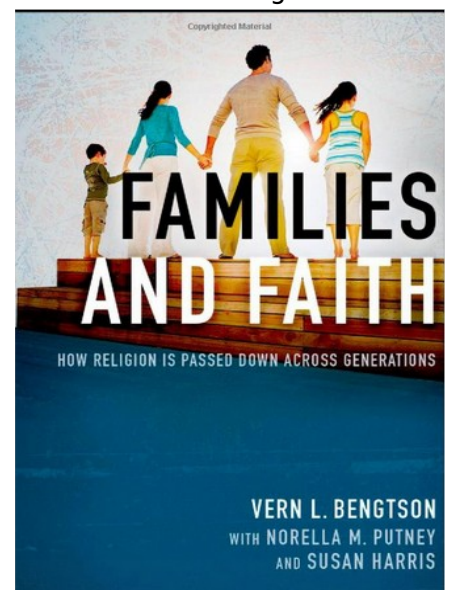
4. "Don't forget the grandparents." This was the most eye opening theme in the book. In white middle class America, when we talk about the family we mean the nuclear family of mum and dad and their kids. Bengtson's research shows the important role grandparents play in either subverting the faith of the parents or reinforcing it in their grandchildren. It makes sense: if our children are around grandparents (not to mention aunts and uncles and cousins) who all believe, faith will feel much more of a natural given.

5. "Don't give up on Prodigals, because many do return." In Bengtson's sample,

the prodigals who came home were the ones who knew they had parents waiting for them, ready to accept them if and when they returned to their roots. Don't give up parents. Keep praying and keep on loving.

Overall, Bengtson argues that families are doing pretty well in passing along their faith to the next generation. Intact families do better than families with divorce, and religious homogeneous parents are more successful than parents in interfaith marriages. Warm, affectionate parents-the kind kids admire and look up to-do better than cold, distant parents. And these parents do better with the support of grandparents. But even when these ideals are missing, family mechanisms can compensate: "families are wonderfully resilient" (198).

The even better news is that our God is wonderfully gracious, faithful, and able to do more than we ask or imagine.



Article written by Senior Pastor Kevin DeYoung. Father of six young children

