

PRAYER LETTER – AUTUMN 2015

I am sitting down to write this prayer letter feeling distinctly uninspired. Yep, you read that right... UN-inspired.

My mind is racing, wondering what nugget of truth, what piece of inspiration or hope I can share with you or story I can tell you and all I can come up with is uninspired. Why you may ask? Well if truth be told, it's simply because over the past few weeks I have been SO busy. It's a busyness that will come to an end on Sunday afternoon at 4pm after the young people have left the residential site and returned tired, and probably hungry, to their parents. However it is still busy... busier than I would like it and most definitely busier than my family and in particular my children would like it. My daughter, several times over the past couple of weeks has been heard to say, "Mummy, I just want to spend some time with you." Something is most definitely out of sync and I think busyness is the key.

And so I wonder if that in itself is what God is wanting to speak into. I wonder if, by filling up our lives with lots of different things, we miss out on the BEST that God has for us. And I wonder if by being 'busy' we miss hearing the 'still small voice of God', we miss that inspiration and we miss that 'breath of God' in our lives.

All that 'stuff' may be good things, it may be important things, but is it good things for us? For our families and our relationships with those we care about most? Is it good for our relationship with God? Is it for a season or is it for longer? Does it enthuse us or is it burdensome?

My busyness has been for a season... a two week season. I have enjoyed the vast majority of it and learnt so much however it has tired me. This season has come at just the right time for me... right before Advent, right before Christmas, right before the time known to some (and certainly in my household when I was a kid) as the silly season. It has made me stop and realise that I function better as a person when life is not as chaotic, when the different parts of my life have a better balance. It has enabled me to now look to Advent and make a concerted effort to slow things down.

It has also helped me to realise that even in my work, I can invest more in the people I work with if I take time to plan, to prepare and to understand rather than rushing from one thing to another and seeing lots of people instead of a small number. Investing in the few rather than rushing with a lot can make a huge difference. And as I write these words, I hear that small whisper saying, "That's what I did"...

And so, as October turns into November, I pray that you will be INSPIRED, that you will hear that oh so encouraging 'still small voice of God' and that you will make the space to receive and immerse yourself in the One that gives the inspiration.

With blessings,
Andrea



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PRAYER POINTS

Please pray for:

Staff:

- Jenny, Cathy and myself – that we would slow down and make the time to be with, to learn from and to be inspired by our Creator
- Joy that radiates, permeates and explodes into all aspects of our lives – the relationships we have, the work we do, the interests we have

Work:

- That we would make the time to invest in the few rather than the many and trust God for the ripple effect
- More vision for our work in both primary and secondary schools
- More wisdom in what to say yes to and no to
- For funding for our work (both secondary and primary schools). There is as much and if not more demand for the work we do with less financial resources to do it. Please pray into this with us
- Praise that the demand for work continues to grow even though it's hard fitting it all in
- Praise for the good relationships with other workers across the town

Primary Schools:

- The good relationships with local schools and churches
- More volunteers to begin new groups
- That the children discover a faith in God they can own for themselves
- Please give thanks for the fundraising initiatives that have taken place so far this year and for the money raised
- Please pray for further funding to come in and for us all (and Cathy particularly) to be 'inspired' in the ways we seek this

Secondary Schools:

- The young people in the groups – that they would begin to see that there is a different, more positive way of living and thinking and be challenged to live this way

And, as always, thank you again for your on-going support prayerfully, practically and financially. It is greatly valued and appreciated.

May God bless you and your family during this time. May you make space for His inspiration and hope and light and may He pour upon you the peace of His Kingdom, the exuberance of His love and give you life in all its fullness.

Yours in Christ,

Andrea, Cathy, and Jenny
(The Staff of Beverley Schools Christian Trust)

P.S. If you would like to get in touch with us or if you would like to be added to the list of those receiving these prayer letters (or removed from it), please email Andrea at andrea@bsct.org.uk or call on 07940907168 (there is a voice mail on the phone if I don't manage to get to it in time, so please leave a message so I can get back to you).