



forward >

THE MAGAZINE OF SALT AND LIGHT
A FAMILY TOGETHER ON MISSION

ISSUE 07 | JANUARY 2010



encounter

the God of the exodus


KING'S BIBLE COLLEGE
& TRAINING CENTRE

KING'S BIBLE COLLEGE & TRAINING CENTRE IS GOING ON TOUR.

Principal Simon Shaw and Dean of Theology Dave Perry will be spending a weekend in four UK cities bringing a dramatic portrayal of the book of Exodus moving from slavery to salvation.

DATES:

26th-28th March 2010 – Manchester
23rd-25th April 2010 – Folkestone
18th-19th June 2010 – Oxford
25th-26th June 2010 – Derby (as part of Deeper)

The stand-alone Encounter days are free of charge but please book so we have an idea of numbers.

www.saltlight.org/events
www.kbctc.org/events


KING'S BIBLE COLLEGE
& TRAINING CENTRE



forward> is available via your church or as a download from our website www.saltlight.org/europe

If you have ideas for things you'd like to see in this mag, please contact us at european@saltlight.org

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FOR THE NATION

A few months ago I had the privilege of being with a group of Christian leaders and Christian MPs in the chapel of St Mary Undercroft underneath the Palace of Westminster. In the context of the MPs' expenses stuff and other discouraging things we have walked through as a nation these Christian leaders felt they should come together, join with Christian MPs and pray that God would pour out his spirit and do something significant for the nation.

It was while praying there with others in that very significant setting that God said to me, like a whisper in my ear, "You do understand that when I give you a vision it's for the nation?"



Steve Thomas
Leader, European Team

He impressed upon me that this was not about sharpening up churches in Salt & Light or sharpening up leaders in Salt & Light or sharpening up our act as local churches. This was something to do with the heart of our nation and we needed to understand the connection this vision has to the life of our nation.

In Genesis 18 Abraham receives a visit from three angels, one of whom turns out to be the LORD. In this visit he is given great promises from God: promises that through him and his family, God was going to bless the nations.

Immediately after this the LORD turns to go and bring judgement on the city of Sodom and he seems to say to himself, "Having given him all these promises, will I not show my friend Abraham what's really going on here?"

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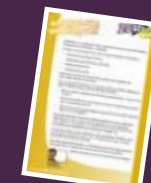
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FOR THE NATION CONTINUED ...

We are a people with incredible promises, an incredible future. And God wants to take us for a little walk, into our nation and say, "Can you see what's really going on here?"

Our nations are going through quite a shaking at the moment. We're hoping that the economic shaking is starting to turn; the UK parliament has been through a shaking, our confidence in our leaders has been through a shaking, the break-up of the family is the thing that is pre-occupying most of our communities at this moment of time. It's a profound disaster for our nations which comes from the choices that my generation made in the 60s and 70s. The wholesale abuse of alcohol and the alcohol fuelled crime in our cities is ... serious. The sexual confusion, the love of money and materialism which many are still pursuing despite the economic shaking.

It is difficult to know what to say. And if we're not careful we sit desperately thinking "whatever is going on?" and "how can we help?"

God wants his people – you and me – who've received his promises, who are so certain of a glorious future to see and understand the tragic mess that we are in: **Everything around us is destined for destruction.**

This is not a very comfortable, cheerful message but it's the truth of what the Bible says.

This is why God wants to plant in every community people who are filled with the knowledge of God and of his word and who understand so clearly what the

promises are in Christ, what the hope is in Christ. People who will show a different lifestyle, live a different way, preach a different message, impart a different spirit and do things differently.

This is not just an option – how about having a few more churches? – It's absolutely essential for our nation that we have many more hundreds and thousands of churches up and down this land to spread a different message, a different spirit.

Abraham didn't pray "God, damn the lot of them! God, this stuff that's going on around us, won't you wreak judgement on this evil that's going on"

No, no, no. He says, "God, surely there's some good people here you want to bless. Surely there's some good people who'll live your way if you show mercy"

What God wants from people who know the love of God is to pray merciful prayers on their communities. And if ever you're tempted to get on a holier than thou pedestal to pray about issues around, may God knock you off it very fast. So that we start to pray with the heart of Abraham.

It is because we're 'friends of God' we want people to receive his mercy and we want our nation to be forgiven and restored. ■

This extract is taken from Steve Thomas' talk at 28:18 Springboard.

The full text was published in the November 09 Leader> magazine and the mp3, CD or DVD is available to buy. Both can be found in the Resources section of our website:
www.saltlight.org/europe/resources

2020 UK VISION NEWS

what are we working on?

2020vision> is a statement of our vision for the next 10 years: Pioneering, Proclaiming, Transforming – Together!

To help us work towards this vision, we are working on 4 key goals:

- Planting and growing churches
- Developing apostolic bases and teams
- Releasing leadership
- Transforming society

These goals are not the whole vision, yet they are valuable and measurable markers on the way!



Mark Mumford
Leader, UK Team

Since we launched 2020vision> in summer 2009, we've been working on loads of things to help us pursue this God-mandate!

- We've started to overhaul our UK training programmes – more on this in 2010!
- We've been setting up a new team to work on 'Transforming Society' – this is a major focus for us!
- We've been thinking about finance and how best to enable what God wants us to do together.

One really important thing we're doing together next year is planning Transform! Our new summer event is going to be a very important time together: to be together as a family, to hear God's word and to be empowered and equipped to do what God is calling us to.

So, the rest of this issue of 2020vision> news is looking at Transform, why we doing it and what we hope to do. Watch out for the Transform brochure and promo video which should arrive with this issue.

Our main speaker, Ben Wong, is a challenging, funny and radical speaker. We hosted him in Derby a year or two ago, and he was excellent!

Please do all that you can to be with us next summer! ■

TRANS FORM

NEW FORMAT NEW VENUE NEW NAME ... NEW PURPOSE?

As you will be aware, the last 2 years or so have been a time of new direction for the Salt and Light family and we are gearing up for the next 10 years as we look forward in the light of our 2020vision>. One of the key times of being TOGETHER is our annual summer event.

A new venue has been found which is suitable for our long term needs – we want the event to improve year-on-year and we need space to grow into. It's also in a central location (Lenchwood, near Evesham) to help with accessibility.

The timing of the event is new – the beginning of the summer holidays competes with fewer events, is away from the popular bank holiday weekend and is also dictated by the availability of the site!

The format is also new – the event is shorter – we've cut the length to reduce costs somewhat and made it more accessible to those who struggle to get lots of time of work. It's different and we hope you like it – there won't be whole days off but still plenty of time to be family together!

Finally, a new name: Transform is about a time of powerful encounter with God, a time for us to join as a "family-army"; it's a time to encourage and equip in the 2020vision> and also a time to celebrate God's goodness and grace to us His people. We feel Transform, sums these things up well – and it gives a new edge to the event which will be fresh, inspirational and dynamic.



**RADICAL DISCIPLES
IN A CHANGING WORLD**
28 JULY – 01 AUGUST 2010
Lenchwood, Evesham
Book online at
www.saltlight.org/europe

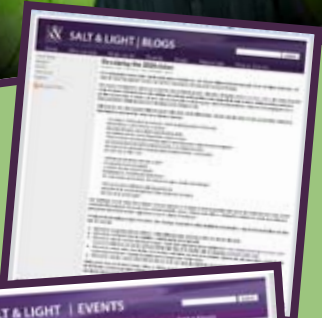


what's on the 2020vision website?

2020 VISION NEWS



Resources such as the prayer videos we showed at 28:18 are an excellent summary of the issues and lead you into prayer. Why not watch them on the 'net in your personal devotions or small group?



Blogs by different members of the teams will keep you informed of the latest developments



New **events** for different parts of the vision will be coming online over the next few months

feedback

IF YOU HAVE ANY FEEDBACK ABOUT THE 2020vision> WE'D LOVE TO HEAR IT european@saltlight.org



CHURCH PLANTING

Across the continent of Europe, we are seeing God stir people to plant churches and raise up 'apostolic bases'. On the next 2 pages we give a snapshot of some of the things that are happening, but first we asked Steve Thomas about all the jargon!

STEVE, AS A FAMILY OF CHURCHES, WE USE THE WORD 'APOSTOLIC' QUITE A LOT. WHAT DOES IT ACTUALLY MEAN?

"Actually, the Bible uses the word in several different ways, which is why we can find it confusing! The word means 'sent one'!

An apostolic team (Ephesians 4 team) is a team of leaders who are sent out together, led by an apostle, to support and plant churches (not a team of apostles, but a team led by an apostle!)

An apostle is a leader who is sent out with a particular calling and mission, including planting, 'building' and 'fathering' churches.

An apostolic base (apostolic centre) is the home church or group of churches that an apostolic team are sent from. Ephesus and Antioch are good examples in the Bible; Marseilles and Uddevalla are just two of many current examples from within our family of churches."

We also talk more broadly about apostolic churches, meaning the type of church we want all of our churches to become – with a spirit of training and sending like the New Testament church.

AND WHAT ABOUT 'CHURCH PLANTING'? HOW DO WE SEE THAT IN THE BIBLE?

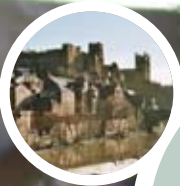
"The Bible doesn't use the term 'church planting'. What we see in the NT are people – ordinary people, supported by apostolic teams – living and doing mission, people getting saved and churches being formed. Mission-led church planting, you might say! Or, the church being apostolic!"

WHAT DO YOU SEE GOD DOING NOW, IN CHURCH PLANTING?

"Across Europe, many streams and networks are seeing a shift to a missional apostolic mentality. We're seeing mission-led church planting teams, engaging with different communities, working to see the gospel impact those people. It's slower and often involves a smaller team than what we take to be 'conventional' church-planting, and needs a different kind of support from apostolic teams, but its what God seems to be doing!"

A SNAPSHOT OF SOME OF THE GROWING TEAMS AND MAJOR CITY CHURCH PLANTS ACROSS OUR EUROPEAN FAMILY! FULL DETAILS OF ALL THESE CHURCHES AND TEAMS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SALTLIGHT.ORG/EUROPE

(the linked green circles show how we are connecting accross Europe working together to church plant)



DURHAM
Four north-east churches (Teesside, Middlesbrough, Newcastle & Hexham) are together planting into the nearby city of Durham.

LEICESTER
Ben & Esther Rook are recruiting 50 -100 people from across Salt & Light to form a plant in the UK's first white-minority city.



Ben & Esther Rook
EMCF Church Planters



John & Nom Bilson
Créteil Team Leaders



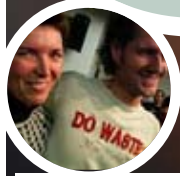
PARIS (CRÉTEIL)
A small planting team, led by John & Nom Bilson, is starting to work in this Paris suburb, supported from French and UK churches.

MARSEILLES
With a keen interest in North Africa, this church plant is becoming an apostolic base.



Jean & Agnès Pilonel
Destinée-France Team Leaders

COPENHAGEN THE HOUSE
This community of young people, living in a large shared house, have a vision to impact culture in their city! Led by Frank and Betina Anker Wiik.



Frank & Betina Anker Wiik
Leaders of 'The House'

NORDIC TEAM
Supported by Dave and Chris Richards (UK) and Buck Hudson (US/Sweden) we are seeing a great new team emerge serving Northern European nations.

UK
The new UK team, led by Mark Mumford, have set out their 2020vision and are committed to planting at least 75 churches in the next 10 years: new plants in regional towns and communities; major city plants and supporting plants in mainland Europe and many other nations!

BERLIN ANYONE?
It's very early days, but a vision to plant in Berlin is starting to emerge. Interested? Contact us for more details!



FRANCE DESTINÉE TEAM
The family is growing, now with 20 congregations and house churches relating to a national apostolic team, supported by a diary of events. There are good links with Belgium, Switzerland and UK.

LAUSANNE JOY IN THE CITY
Planting started 2 years ago and the church now has 32 'vision partners' (adults and children).

SWITZERLAND JOY IN THE CITY
A new team is coming together to plant and support churches. Led by Marc Walther.



Marc Walther
Joy in the City Team Leader



CHURCH PLANTING



THE EUROPEAN LEADERS' CONFERENCE 2010

PIONEERING, PROCLAIMING, TRANSFORMING - TOGETHER

1930 Thursday 18 - 1400 Sunday 21 February 2010, Oxford, UK

www.saltlight.org/europe

CONNECTING EQUIPPING ENVISIONING REFRESHING

resonate
school of worship

A Salt and Light 3 week intensive School of Worship for the raising up and equipping of the next generation of worship leaders and song writers.
5-23 July 2010, Winnipeg, Canada www.saltlight.org/europe

off the
EDGE

31 MAY - 4 JUNE 2010 | A CONFERENCE FOR UK YOUTH, Y7-Y9

Destinée 2010
Cénacle de Tigery



19 - 25 JULY 2010
www.saltlight.org/events



NORDIC TEAM CONFERENCE
HORRED 13th - 15th May 2010
www.saltlight.org/europe/nordic