

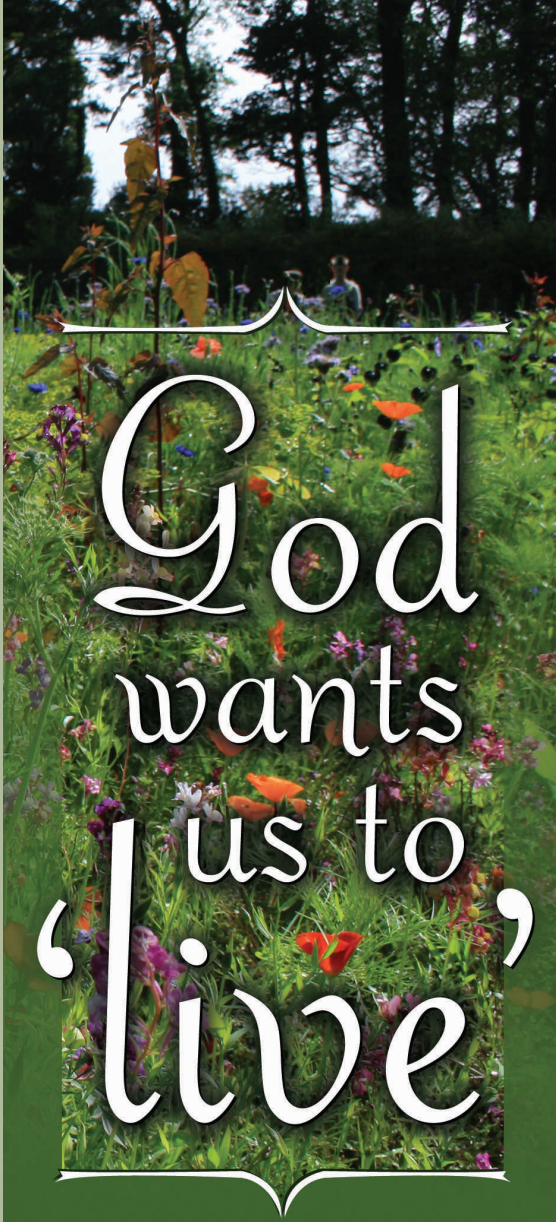
God wants us to live - not simply exist. He desires to give us a quality of life that is full of joy and childlike wonder, as we experience His amazing creation. A return to the life He had in mind when Adam was first created and lived in fellowship with God.

I can almost hear you ask, is this possible? Or, will it always be an elusive reality only to be experienced in heaven?

In Ezekiel 16, God gives an allegory concerning the nation of Israel, He compares her to an abandoned baby left to die, unloved and uncared for. He with tender love picks her up and commands “live”, she responds and is lovingly cared for until she becomes wilfully independent forgetting and forsaking God’s love.

God’s heart towards you and me is still - “live”. Live in My fullness, in connection and dependancy, and the result will be “fullness of joy” which equals “abundant life”. Jesus declared that He had come to give us life in all its fullness!

For me, living is about connection with Father God, living knowing I am forgiven, restored and healed, so because of Jesus and all He has accomplished at Calvary, I can relate to a Holy God. As I listen according to Isaiah 55:3, I can hear



Joyce writes

His voice, “Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live.” I can experience all that God had in mind when He blessed Israel. I can live with His authority, not being ruled by fear and hopelessness, but rather bring His rule into whatever situation that confronts me, His wisdom, His love, His ability to know what to say and do.

I can freely admit my own inadequacy and helplessness, knowing that often I simply exclaim, “I can’t do this or understand this, but thank you God, You can.” And relying on heavens resources am able to bring hope and peace into whatever presents itself on a moment by moment basis.

I have ceased trying to “do anything”, I constantly acknowledge my need of divine help, resulting in rest and great joy.

We are not living in neutral territory; life is not easy; pain and despair seem more prevalent than peace and joy in our society. We are designed to give light, love and hope - impossible without divine resources, only received by divine connection, but available by God’s command. A God who is still breathing His life into you and me and saying “live.”

FROM THE DIARY ~
key dates in the coming months

Sunday 25th November - Ben & Anne presentation of MAF at Living Waters Church, Clevedon

Friday 30th November - Monday 10th December - visit to Gboko, Benue State, Nigeria for Ministers Leadership Retreat with Gbile and Sade Akanni

14th to 24th December - Ben and Anne and the family with us to be joined by Craig, Milena & Family.

Wednesday 16th January - Prophetic Forum - Manchester with Martyn & Linda Smith.

Thursday 17th January - Trustees Meeting of The 222 Trust, Hest Bank, Lancaster

February or March - we are planning to be in the Philippines for about a week to visit the work in Iloilo led by Victor & Sally Fernandez and in Manila by their son Victor Jnr. and Rosilee.

Sunday 14th April - Charles preaching at Wrington URC