

Hello,

“For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.” Romans 12:3.

I’m sorry that Annette and I only managed one newsletter last year. It was a difficult year for us. Now all of us are experiencing strange times, times of plague and trouble; portentous times. Sat at home I’ve had time to think more deeply about my own state of mind and I realise I’m not where I should be and I might well have been “thinking of myself more highly than I ought”.

Tim’s dream

The week before lockdown I had a strange dream. I knew it was important; somehow one just knows if it’s a “too much cheese” dream or something more significant. I had no idea what it meant and so I asked the Lord about it in my prayer time the following day. What He said shocked me.



In my dream I was cruising down the motorway on the way home. Then I saw that the motorway up ahead was closed and we were being diverted off down a slip road. If that’s ever happened to you, you know how frustrating it is. I remember being very irritated in my dream. Almost straightaway after being diverted I lost my way and ended up on the wrong road although I didn’t realise this until the road started getting smaller and rougher. It turned into a gravel track and then a dirt track and then I went through an open gate into a field. The field was in fact part of the back garden of a large country house. I could see up an embankment to a driveway at the side of the house and in the distance at the front of the house I could see the road I should be on.

I couldn’t get up to the drive or back onto the road because of the grassy embankment. I just couldn’t drive up it because it was too slippery. On the other side of the field was another embankment leading down to what seemed a way out and a way back onto the road. Gingerly I started down it in the car. Rather quickly though I lost control on the slippery slope spinning ever around and round, down and downward for what seemed like an age. Eventually I came to rest in a valley of scrubland. Annoyingly from there I could see the motorway and it looked like it was now reopened with cars flowing normally.

From my vantage point I could see there was no way for me to drive out, no way back the way I had come and no way to the motorway. There was nothing for it but to take the number plates off the car (to obscure its identity), abandon it and start to walk home.

When I awoke I was puzzled by the dream without a clue as to what it might mean.



So, during my prayer walk that morning I asked the Lord if the dream meant anything.

Straightaway He answered me: "if you don't stop doing all the things you're doing, you aren't going to get home". I knew what He meant. I'd end up abandoning my broken ministry in a field. Things have to change and now.

In the last few days I've had time to think about the whole thing as I sit here in my house locked down like everyone else. I realise I've been going flat out since 2014 and I've picked up many of the tasks no one else wanted to do. I'm tired and have been so for a while. Since Candice died I've gotten crabby and difficult. My love for the people hasn't died, but it needs an overhaul. I feel a bit like Elijah when he fled to Horeb with his mantra "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty ... and I am the only one left" (1 Kings 19:10). It's not true of course for Elijah or me, but I feel it; time for a recalibration and a little humility.

Crabby and frustrated is not Jesus, it's just old Tim Jarvis. I need help Lord.

Please Pray for Our Ministry

Calling
Prayer
Partners



We have most of the week covered now by people who have agreed to pray for us one day a week. We still have Tuesday's, Thursday's and Sunday's unfilled. Please email me tim@gateway.uk.net if you set can aside time to pray for Annette and I and the ministry on any of those days each week.

Gateway Community Care Hub

We've now closed our Gateway shop in Withernsea after six years of continuous operation. Some of you will remember that the shop was the catalyst for starting our first church in Withernsea. Opening the shop was obedience to God's purposes for Withernsea and for our ministry. Nothing lasts forever though and the Lord has new plans for Withernsea. As soon as the shop closed at the end of January 2020, volunteers led by Sarah Harries (assistant pastor of the Withernsea church) worked feverishly to refurbish the shop and reopen it as the new 'Gateway Community Care Hub'.

Our landlord Bob Hamilton installed a brand new disabled toilet with yours truly doing the electrics and rerouting the central heating plumbing.

The hub was opened on 7 March by Withernsea mayor Terry Dagnell.



The hub is an answer to prayer even though it only functioned as intended for just over a week. It's been quickly repurposed as a hub for the distribution of emergency food and other supplies to those self-isolating in the Coronavirus lock-down.

The hub revitalised interest in Gateway church bringing new faces to our church services (briefly prior to lock-down). The name of Gateway is riding high as the hub does its essential work we are getting noticed and respected for the hub's response to the pandemic.

You can read more about the hub here: <http://kingstrust.org/Withernsea-hub/>.

Gateway Churches

The churches in Withernsea and Filey are locked-down like everyone else due to Coronavirus. Perhaps we're all getting tired of hearing about and talking about Coronavirus, which is why I have avoided labouring the subject in our newsletter. I want to tell you instead that both churches are well, none of our people have the virus. I pray that is the same for you, your loved ones and your churches. Let's all keep praying for all of us and let's remain steadfast, bold and full of faith not allowing any room for fear and anxiety. Pray also for any you know who are sick or have lost loved ones at this time.

The church in Withernsea has a brand new website here:
<http://gateway.uk.net/Withernsea/index.html>

The Filey church has put its bible studies, communion and sermon archive online here:
<http://gateway.uk.net/Filey/c-on/index.html>

We're not broadcasting a Sunday service. There are many other churches doing that and most of them are resourced to do a lot better job than we could ever do.

Thank You

Thanks for reading our newsletter, for praying for us and for giving into this ministry. If you know anyone who would like to receive our newsletters then get them to email me tim@gateway.uk.net to let me know.

Financial Support

If you feel able to support us financially, please visit:-

Stewardship page <https://www.give.net/20218473>. (personal support)
Gateway church <https://www.give.net/20198262>. (church charity)

Kingstrust <https://www.give.net/20177181>. (Annette's charity)

We're presently running a big COVID19 fundraiser here:
<http://kingstrust.org/COVID19-appeal/index.html>
It would be great if you could give into that.

Thank you for all your support.

Bless you,



Tim & Annette Jarvis