

## NEWS & UPDATE

Welcome to IGC (the International Gospel Church) we hope that you will feel at home whether you're just visiting or you're considering being with us more regularly. Our aim is that IGC will prove to be an inclusive graceful community where you will be enabled not simply to live gracefully, but to live fully by grace.

Meetings are held on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

## B.A.S.K.

A time to flow in the unconditional love and acceptance of God

Our Wednesday evening meeting B.A.S.K. has quickly become the go-to meeting for the IGC family. Why not come and be part of a forum for us to come together and simply belong. On Wednesday evening we reflect on the previous Sunday's sermon and discuss both light and heavy-hearted issues in a safe environment. B.A.S.K. is a safe place for safe people to eat together, pray together. Also Wednesday is our Fellowship meeting 2.00pm – 3.00pm.

### LOVE IN ACTION

The Mind of Christ | Mindful of Man

Bring what you can Take what you need



International Gospel Church®

### IGC VALUES

Honour  
Priesthood of believers  
Everyone matters  
Social justice  
Respect  
Equality  
Living loved



LAUNCHING IN LONDON  
November 2016  
Hosted by IGC

IGC Monthly Update  
November 2016

In The Know...



International Gospel Church®

Inclusive Grace-Filled Community

102a Watling Avenue, Burnt Oak Middlesex, HA8 0LN  
Office: General Manager: Michelle Johnson 0208 906 3918  
E-mail: michelle@igconline.org.uk | Web: www.igconline.org.uk

## GRACE NOTES

### The partnership of giving and receiving



And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only". Phil 4:15

One of the mantras that people both remember and like, is our truism. "If you're not free to say 'no' you're not free to say 'yes'". It's a wonderfully liberating truth, and one that I pray you hold onto. For me it is a necessary and important corrective for what I'll call 'the grace immigrant'; most of us are not grace natives, we are grace-immigrants. We were raised in legalism, in the land of shoulding, ought-to-ing and better-had-ing. We lived under both the threat, that God would get us if we didn't give and the inducement that God would bless us if we did. Consequently, when we come to grace, a perfectly reasonable interpretation of our truism. If you're not free to say 'no' you're not free to say 'yes', is to reason - I'm free not to give (which is true) so I don't. Now if that's where you are - great. No problem. Rest there as long as you want to. However, for those of you who have 'banked' the truth, let me just underline that at IGC we teach the grace of giving over and against the law of tithing. Don't let that distinction be wasted on you.

In this month's Grace Notes, I wanted to take the opportunity to point you to the principle of giving under grace. The Apostle Paul lays out the principles in 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 as follows:

- Only give as the Lord leads
- Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and whoever sows bountifully will reap bountifully
- Each one must give as he has made up in his mind
- Giving should never be done either reluctantly or under compulsion
- God loves a cheerful (hilarious) giver
- Give no more than what you can give hilariously
- When you give hilariously, God is able to make all grace abound to you
- Hilarious givers never lack the means to continue giving hilariously
- What you have was given to you freely
- It is God who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food

The reason He multiplies your seed is to enable you to sow (and not store) and increase your harvest of righteousness. When you give in this manner, you will be enriched in every way.

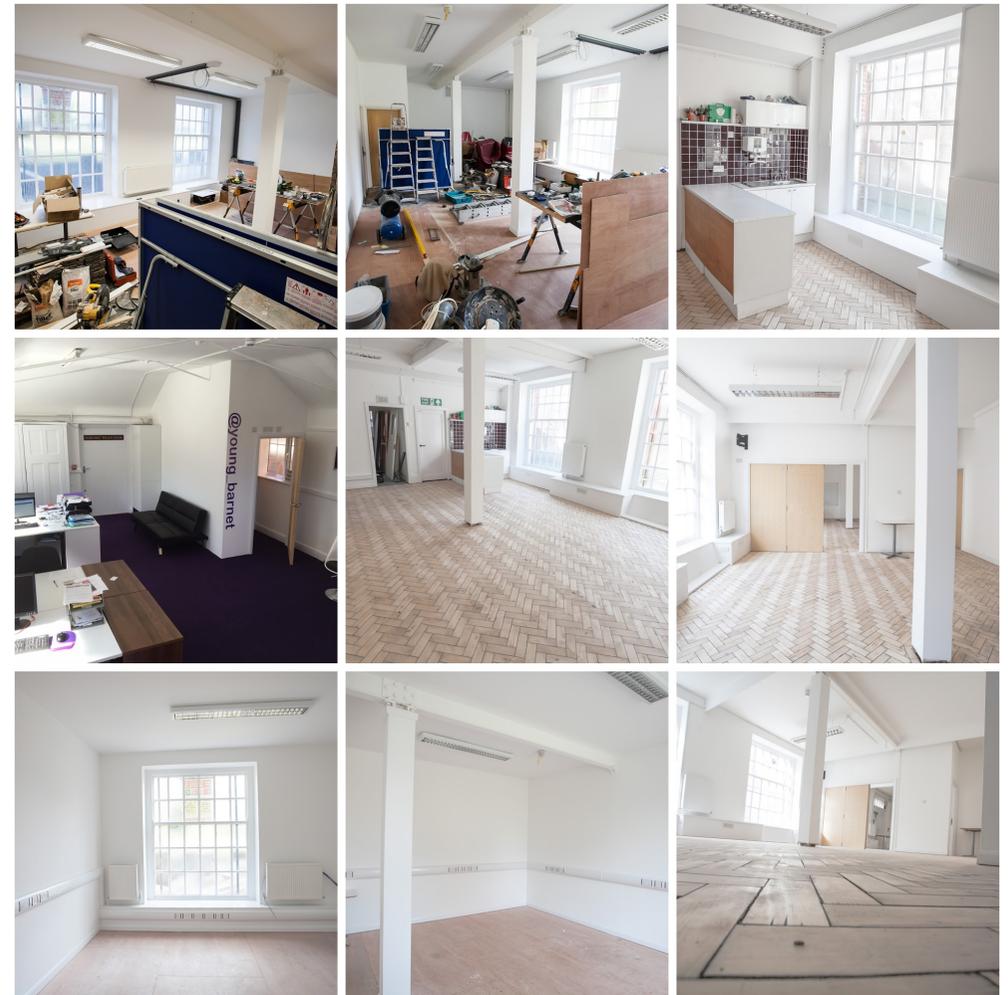
This idea seems to cohere with the Apostle Paul's teaching in 2 Corinthians 8, the only sustained teaching on giving in the Pauline corpus. There, he made an illuminating comment. The Apostle Paul spoke of the people of Macedonia who, in spite of severe affliction and chronic lack, gave liberally as they -

- gave joyfully (verse 2)
- gave voluntarily (verse 3)
- gave sacrificially (verse 3)
- gave beyond their means (verse 3)
- gave of their own free-will (verse 3)
- begged the Apostle Paul to allow them to give to the saints (verse 4)

What was it that prompted them to give in this most abandoned way? The Apostle Paul told the Corinthians in 2 Corinthians 8:5... "And this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us." So, as you give yourself to Him we will leave it to Him to decide if He'd have you enter into partnership with us in giving and receiving.

## THE LOWER HALL

Almost ready to take its part in improving the life chances of the people who live in the community.



### THE EPISTLE OF SANCTIFICATION: 1 CORINTHIANS

6th Nov. 2016: The Milk and the Meat

Rian Francis

13th Nov. 2016: Master Builders (building for the Master)

Graham Mercer

20th Nov. 2016: The Apostolic Life pt.1.

Paul Anderson-Walsh

27th Nov. 2016: The Apostolic Life pt.2.

Paul Anderson-Walsh