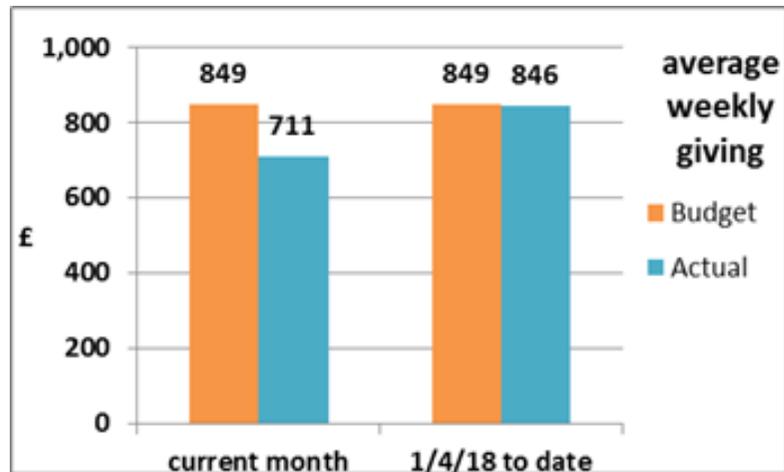


Prayer Meeting

Prayer meeting is held on Tuesday between 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the lower hall.

Average Weekly Giving

Thank you for your continued financial support. We encourage taxpayers to Gift Aid their giving, also you have an option of giving by monthly standing order. Please ring the office for further information.



Teaching Schedule: The Miracles of Christ

3rd Feb.	Jesus Heals a Gentile Woman's Demon-Possessed Daughter. Mark 7:24-30	Rian Francis
10th Feb.	Jesus Heals a Deaf and Dumb Man. Mark 7:31-37	Graham Mercer
17th Feb.	Jesus Feeds 4,000 Plus Women and Children. Mk 8:1-13	Frank Irawo
24th Feb.	Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind by Spitting in His Eyes. John 9:1-12	Paul Anderson-Walsh



IGC Monthly Update February 2019

In The Know...



Inclusive Grace-Filled Community

Inclusive Grace-Filled Community
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Grace Notes

Those of you who have been part of the transitional journey we've been making over the last number of years may remember me introducing a couple of thought pieces: C.L.I.M.A.T.E. changers and Love G.R.O.W.S that I believe the Lord wants us to settle in our hearts. It has been a while since I spoke or wrote about them so I thought it would be good to revisit these over the next few months to remind ourselves of the absurdity and the sheer stunning reality of our message.

It is my prayer that this year, we take a giant step forward and rather than simply feeling we are hostage to the "laws" of cause and effect we recognise that by being who we really are begin causing an effect. The C.L.I.M.A.T.E. changers. Those who understand that Christ Living In Me Alters The Environment. Think about it - we are thermostats not barometers - we set spiritual temperature we don't merely record it. But to begin to engage seriously with this difference making reality we must continue in Him as be begun - by grace through faith apart from works.

That brings me to our Love G.R.O.W.S. Model. In the coming months I will step each of the letters of the acronym out. G (Grace) R (respect) O (others) W (wellness) S (social justice) and see if we can call these principles out of one another.

G is for Grace

As believers we have been conditioned to be uncomfortable with the idea of not working for God. It makes us feel insecure and even guilty. It's what I call the Betty Crocker's Egg Syndrome.

Let me explain: In the early 1950's Betty Crocker Foods produced an instant cake-mix which was designed to revolutionise life in the kitchens of middle-class American families. With the birth of this invention all the American housewife now needed to do was to add water to the supplied powder and, hey presto! However, much to the dismay of Betty Crocker Foods the instant cake mix did not sell! It tanked. Why? What was there not to like? Well, according to the psychologists the firm employed, the average American housewife very much appreciated the convenience of the cake mix, but felt guilty at deceiving her husband and other guests into thinking she had worked hard for them when in fact, she had



Grace Notes...

done very little work. By doing more than adding water, by adding a real ingredient, she could assuage her guilt. The result - sales soared!

Religion is like that - we feel that we must do something ... anything. But as Sophie (one of our young people) reminded us at Christmas Grace is God's Riches At Christ's Expense. And frankly, that's a problem. Few rational people have real trouble believing that they are saved by grace - the problem is, that having been saved by grace apart from works of the law many feel the need to do works of the law in order to stay saved. The Bible is emphatic on this point, "just as you have received Him so continue in him". Simple enough, one would think, but here's where the Betty Crocker's Egg Syndrome comes in. We cannot add an "egg" because to add to the finished work of the cross is to subtract from it. The moment you add a metaphorical egg you stop growing in grace. Get this settled: Christ-plus- nothing-equals-everything.



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