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Greetings!

I hope this newsletter finds you content and enjoying the grace and peace that come from our Father above. God provided a lot of opportunities on this trip to help expand the reach of Leicester Bible institute. So let's dive in!



On October 4th, my group arrived in London. This time I was able to bring along David Conder. David joined me last year when we held the Leicester Men's Day. I also had the honor of bringing along Gary & Amy Witcher. Gary & Amy work with SIBI's Senior Adventures in Ministry (Senior AIM) program. For them this was a survey trip for possibly taking a Senior AIM trip to England in the future. It was a pleasure to have these three individuals with me.

As with any stop in London, we took some time to view the sites.



Saturday evening we were privileged to get to visit the elders, deacons, and minister of the Stratford congregation in London. We met in the home of one of the elders. The Stratford congregation has approximately 150 members with 130 of those being very active. They do have several members actively participating in LBI. One of the impressive things about the Stratford congregation is their use of Zoom. They utilize Zoom daily for

various activities of the congregation including LBI, two different children's classes (one for not baptized and the other for after baptized), ladies' classes, and a morning devotional from 6am–7:40am every Monday through Friday. This began as a covid outreach but has continued as they have members from other countries participating as well. Each morning they have 80-90 attendees for their morning devotionals. The Stratford congregation has 13-14 different nationalities in attendance each Sunday and has been in existence for 22 years. They have had over 300+ visitors just this year alone. They are in the



process of looking for their own building as they are currently renting a room at a Catholic school for their services. This is the congregation I recommend you visit if you ever find yourself in London on a Sunday morning.

Sunday morning we were blessed to be able to join the Milton Keynes congregation for Bible class and worship. I taught Bible class and then presented the lesson during worship. There is also a good group here of LBI students. When Katya and I were in England last May, we were with Milton Keynes for the



ordination of their first two elders. It

was wonderful to get to spend time with the Milton Keynes congregation. We had 100 in attendance when we were there, The Milton Keynes congregation celebrated their 20th year of existence this year.



That evening we had the pleasure of joining

Paul and the Leicester congregation for a baptism. Jamie, Millie's friend, whom she had been studying with gave himself to Christ in baptism. This is the 14th baptism this year in Leicester. It was encouraging to see several members of the Leicester congregation there as well as to experience a baptism in the new building. Jamie's



family and some of his best friends were there for his baptism. Paul did a good job explaining what and why Jamie was doing in getting immersed into Christ. All of these visitors also left with a new Bible. For those who helped to provide funds for these Bibles: **THANK YOU!!**

Because Janet had her doctor's appointment on Tuesday, we had a day without Paul. So we went to Birmingham to visit Cody & Kelsey

Marceau. Cody is an ex-AIMER. He and his family of 6 have been serving in Birmingham for 1 ½ years now – primarily focused on Muslim refugees. They are involved in various activities like a run club and a soup kitchen – all including these refugees. They have found many of them to be receptive. They have them in their home and can have 40-60 attendees for their Thursday devotional/prayer groups. It was nice to get better acquainted with them. We were also able to share with them the benefits available to them through the Leicester Bible Institute.

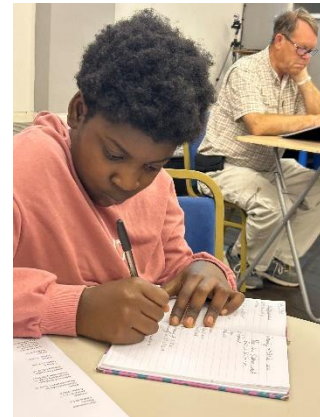


The picture to the right has special significance that I did not know before this trip. The lady in yellow is Sabina. She is one of the reasons why Paul & Janet decided to begin the church in Leicester. Sabina and two other ladies had begun taking the bus from Leicester to Loughborough to go to church. Paul was initially thinking of starting the church in Derby. One evening after service in Loughborough, Sabina's prayer request was for a congregation to begin in Leicester. Paul & Janet decided that night that God had called them to plant a church in Leicester. Sabina's living room is where they met for the first time to plan the Leicester church. The rest, as they say, is history. Sabina is also financing a church building being built in her hometown in Ghana.



We visited several members in their homes with Paul. To the left is Hannah. She provided a wonderful meal to honor us as her guests. Hannah is originally from Ghana. During this visit, we learned that Hannah has a YouTube channel. Hannah has currently been going through the book of Psalms and recording it in her native language and posting it on YouTube. If you want to check it out, she has over 180 videos posted. You can find it at: www.youtube.com/@StepsinHisWord.

On Wednesday evening Gary taught a lesson on "When your children ask" based off passages in Scripture where we are reminded and encouraged to be passing along the message of God's providential care and scheme of redemption down to our children. It was encouraging to see even the children taking notes during the class.



We also got to spend some time with Simon and his family. Simon is a member of the church in Shephshed. Simon is also a student in Leicester Bible Institute. He has completed 7 courses and has gone through some of those courses multiple times as he has shared them with others. Simon and Daniel were close and spent a lot of time building each other up. Simon is a great encourager! I taught a Thursday evening

Bible class in Shephshed. It was my first time visiting that congregation. We also had some members from Loughborough in attendance. They were encouraged to have extra visitors.





On Saturday we went up to Coventry for a lectureship/fellowship hosted by the Erdington congregation in Birmingham. It was a wonderful time of fellowship with over 200 people present. I did not get a chance to meet everyone, but I personally spoke to people from at least 10 different congregations / cities. During our trip I handed out over 200 wristbands advertising Leicester Bible Institute. And I have already received interest and applications from this event.

It was truly a good time of fellowship.

Sunday was spent in Leicester. Paul has been taking the congregation through a study on the eldership during Bible class. I presented a lesson on **Matthew 5:14** where Jesus states that “*you are the light of the world*”. A pretty impressive charge since Jesus said “*I am the light of the world*” – **John 8:12**. We are called to be Jesus daily in our lives in this world.



After worship services on Sunday, the youth and university groups stayed behind for a time of fellowship and devotional. Calum Hill from Loughborough led the devotional. We also had a Zoom video call with a group from Romania during this time of fellowship.



I continue to receive messages about the influence that Leicester Bible Institute is having in the lives of people in England. Thank you so much for partnering with me, Paul & Janet to make this a reality. It is having an impact!

With love, Mike

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

– **Hebrews 13:16** –

