

# Exodus Prayer Update February 2008

Thank you once again for your continued prayer support. We hope you will find this letter encouraging as we report on prayers answered in recent months. We also hope this will be a guide in your prayer for Exodus in the months ahead as teams start, partnerships grow and young people have opportunities to seek and serve God.

## Living the 360 Adventure

Those of us committed to following Jesus are called to live in this world. Despite the challenges we are called to live with optimism and with a spirit of adventure – we walk by faith. This adventure should be ‘360’ – affecting every aspect of our lives bringing light, hope, joy and purpose into the desperation. It is easy to allow the world to “...squeeze us into its mould...” Rm. 12 (J. B. Philips) and fall into the trap of hopelessness, when God calls us to be conduits of hope and part of shaping a light filled future.

At this point we have great opportunities to rise to the challenge. We have the privilege of working with many churches and agencies seeing new exciting partnerships emerge. One great opportunity we all have in 2008 is to be part of the ‘Celebration of Hope’ with Franklin Graham, to be held at the Odyssey in April.

This event will, I believe, be a catalyst for new hope, new life, new adventures... and new opportunities for real 360 discipleship.

*Jim Brown*

## Venues

### Lisburn



The sound of banging hammers or whining drills usually generate feelings of anxiety, irritation and resentment...but not for the Exodus staff at Lisburn! The middle of January saw a team of builders, joiners, plumbers and electricians all join forces to **begin the work on our Lisburn venue!**

The venue itself will be divided into **three separate settings**: ‘Deep’ - a Mentoring Café space, a Lounge, and ‘Freedom’ - a Night base. Lord willing, all three will be up and running for our **opening night on Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup>**.

Now that the building is coming together, and our teams are slowly forming, one final aspect that requires our prayers is a **team of faithful volunteers** who will serve at the venue once it opens.

**Please thank God for his timing in providing this building and the work that has started.**

**Pray also that the Lord will send his chosen people who will faithfully minister alongside our Lisburn staff and that this venue will be a blessing to Lisburn.**



### Coleraine

It's hard to believe that it's February again and we're focusing on Easter and the summer that lies ahead. **Reflecting on the September prayer letter** we asked you to pray for the gaps in the schedule to be filled – they were! For a successful launch night – It was! For Godly conversations – they continue to be had! God also answered other prayers as Jonny Hyndman was appointed as the Centre Manager.

**Praise God for his answers to prayer!**

**Please pray that as Jonny continues to find his feet he will seek God for the future of the ministry in Coleraine.**

In the new third venue, called ‘Fuse’, the young people have embraced the games machines with open arms. The space has provided a place for those who come along each week to test their skills, unwind from a stressful week and engage in conversations with each other and the volunteer staff.

We have also been opening ‘Deep’ on Friday afternoon's providing opportunities for young people and youth leaders to connect with each other.

**Please continue to pray for all who come to the venue that they might be encouraged by wholesome conversation and activities as well as the opportunity to relax.**

## Small Groups



### Teams

This year we have teams meeting in more locations than ever. As well as teams in our centres in Lisburn and Coleraine from 7 other areas including Dungannon, Donegal and Foyle. Most of these are led by volunteers committed to see **God changing young lives**.

Our 2008 team theme is '**Beyond Belief**'. Challenging the young people involved to make the summer unbelievable and to turn their **faith into action** and go *Beyond Belief*.

Please pray for the team members that God would reveal himself to them and lead them on.  
Pray also for wisdom and direction for the leaders as they plan and lead group times.



### The 360 Adventure

The 360 Adventure groups in churches have been a real encouragement and this pilot phase of the process has provided a great source of learning as well as real blessing. **Experiences from a 360 group in Lecarurry Presbyterian are below.**

"I am really enjoying the Ex-change course. It is challenging me and getting me to think about my relationship with God. **It is also helping me to continue and progress along my walk with God.**

I enjoyed and found the prayer week in particular very helpful. I know how important prayer is and I have had several amazing prayer experiences. I found what I learned about keeping a prayer journal and prayer diary very useful as I had never heard of these before. **I am really looking forward to the rest of the course."**

Michelle Graham (Group member)

"For our group, engaging with the Ex-change module has been a great adventure! The materials have been an excellent map as we journey from theory to practice especially in the areas of prayer and reflecting on bible readings. Working together on ministry projects has strengthened our team's faith and endurance and encouraged them to explore their spiritual gifts.

**For me, the highlight of the 360 Adventure is watching God working in the lives of these young people,** growing them in their faith, challenging them in their relationships and encouraging them to take risks and be involved in ministry in their own community and beyond. To Him be all the glory."

Miriam Pattison (Group Leader)

Please pray for the young people and leaders involved in 360 Adventure groups.  
Pray also for the development of this process and the future groups involved.

## Mentoring



### Get Connected

Get Connected, our one-to-one mentoring programme is coming to the end of its 16 week course. A significant encouragement is that we are starting to see a number of churches taking it on as a way of beginning mentoring in their situations. **The thoughts of one mentee involved in the past months are below.**

"Get Connected has been a real blessing in my life as I have sought direction and wisdom, and as both myself and my mentor have desired to grow further and deeper in our walk with the Lord.

As I didn't know my mentor beforehand, I knew from the beginning that God had placed us together perfectly. **It has been amazing how issues in my life have been helped and prayed over by someone who has done it all before** and can stand with me in it. I believe it has been an experience too that has greatly pleased the Lord!"

Samantha Cousins (Mentee)

Please thank God for the encouragement and transformation he has brought through mentoring.  
Pray for the mentoring pairs starting in churches and for a culture of mentoring young believers to grow.

## Finance



With a new venue opening soon and **opportunities for links and initiatives with an increasing number of churches**, the financial challenge for Exodus grows. In recent months we have been **greatly encouraged by a number of donations** however there is still a need to secure additional funding that will enable us to take the opportunities available to us. .

We would appreciate your prayers for the finances of the work - praise God for the generosity of those that have given so generously and ask that he might lead others to give.

Thank you for your continued support,  
The Exodus Team