

Building On A Fresh Start

We had a strange burst of sun when we probably shouldn't have had at our AGM. We reflected on our year just gone and started thinking ahead; it all feels a little like a New Year, doesn't it? Rather than in January or even September, perhaps this is the best time to think in that way - a fresh start.

It's now May, and this is the time of commission and empowerment for all that is to come. This is the time that, having celebrated Jesus' resurrection, we need to think back to all that He taught and in the power of the Spirit that He sends upon us, to live it out.

The challenge this year is the phase of that living which I think we're in. Paul's missionary journeys, activities and adventures seem "all go" all the time but, as we'll see, even right in the beginning, he goes into a particular phase and teaches for a year in Antioch before being sent off into the next stage.

2015-16 might be the year that builders at last come on site, transforming our Parrs Wood Road church into a building that serves our mission and our locality and stops dictating our life with its own huge needs. We might finally have a place where the regular things are a bit easier to do, causing momentum and energy to move us into new phases.

The temptation will be to see the period in between as a necessary evil, when in fact it can be a time of development and realisation - maybe even revelation! We will be forced to do things differently. We will be taking our life together and trying to make it work in temporary locations with a portable feel. It's times like these when we find out what's really important.

Whatever Paul was up to, he was always proclaiming the Good News of our Risen Christ. The challenge is set for us to do the same.

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