Hi Readers.

Christmas has been and gone. We were mightily blessed in many ways. January has seen us reflecting over 2016 through Nehemiah on New Year’s morning. The following Sunday we were encouraged with the visit from Carol & Ginny, our ‘Ladies in the Congo’. Along with Dyke Chapel over £1,300 was directly raised for their Lighthouse Project, which is in next month’s ‘CONTACT’ magazine. Thank you for your generosity.

Having reflected, last Sunday we started to look at where God’s church should be heading. I likened this to the old driving acronym of ‘*mirror-signal-manoeuvre*.’ We have looked back, and are discerning God’s will for us before we ‘signal’ this intended change. This was finished with Joshua being ‘strong & courageous’ when he manoeuvred his nation in to the Promised Land that God had promised them.

As I type this we have a Members Meeting this evening to continue learning and discerning God’s will for us, His church.

We are clear on His command, summarised for us as ‘God in, love out.’

God ‘in’ is from above. He loved us first, and so much that Jesus came to the cross. Mark 12:29 makes this clear, that as we reciprocate God’s love up, we then love our neighbours

This loving our neighbours is Love ‘out’; this is God’s overflow. This overflow is given intentional direction in Matthew 28:19, where Jesus orders us to ‘Go…tell.’

Like Joshua, to do this we need to literally and physically step out. We want to be a church without walls this year. From the internal fellowship like the lovely church meal this Saturday (thanks Denise, JB, and many others) flowing out through the young people’s clubs (that includes White Heather!) and a truly welcoming Sunday Service.

Will you step out this month? Please personally invite someone to Alpha. It doesn’t matter if they miss a couple. Starts 31st Jan, 7pm, weekly, at our Manse. This is Love. This is

Pastor Andy.

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