

Small group optional guide New Ground Sunday

IN: FELLOWSHIP

- What do you know about the (sphere) family of churches we are part of; New Ground <https://newgroundchurches.org/>

OUT: PRAYER

Pray for these opportunities for New Ground;

- Brazil! 1 church has joined, others are looking, God seems to be opening doors!
- Scotland! Now 3 churches; hub or cluster of churches working together (similar to France and Holland); they encourage, pray for one another and work together to plant more churches!
- South Africa; Jubilee community church in Cape Town who have just become part of our family!
- Real call to see new generations taking on the call to plant churches

key words from Sunday:

- Jonathan: we all have our part to play; are you going to play your part? We each have a significant role to play, wherever we are, in whatever we are doing.
- Fiona: at prayer central we were praying for EG and the surrounding villages; I got this image of fire, and God wants to light our fires, so we burn brighter – until the fires for Jesus spread everywhere. Luke 12:49 [Jesus said] I have come to set the world on fire, and I wish it were already burning!”

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UP

2 Corinthians 8:1-7 Encouragement to Give Generously

Paul is encouraging and appealing to them to get involved in supporting Christians struggling in Jerusalem.

He uses the example of the Macedonian churches.

What connected these churches, vast distances apart, was Paul and his apostolic team. What bound the churches together was the gospel and Jesus!

- despite the struggles and trials that the churches in Macedonia were facing themselves, **they still fought to support the Jerusalem church**; and with lavish generosity

How did they do this?

- v5 they gave themselves fully to the Lord
- They chose to fully give themselves to the apostolic vision that Paul carried

Have we as a church? Have you as an individual?

- be informed, find out what help is needed
- Pray; for leaders, church plants, open doors
- Be generous; every contribution in faith makes a difference

Starts in my heart; given to the Lord, given to the great commission; devoted to playing my part.

WORSHIP

A thousand hallelujah's // Hope and Glory // Jesus
Hope for the nations