



Dear Family & Friends

July 2017  
Prayer Letter 3

*3 John 1v11 ...do not imitate what is evil, but what is good*

### Introduction ♥

Once again, our thoughts are being turned towards our visit to South Africa. But before we can fully do that, we have a few commitments and engagements to complete beforehand. Recently we have seen, or have experienced, in the UK a great amount of terror, suffering and grief. For the Christian it is both humbling and reassuring to know that God is still on the throne and He is Sovereign, and that He is in control, even when we find it hard to understand all that is happening.

### Church Family ♥

We are delighted to be part of Emmanuel Church Sunday School’s teaching team and to have the privilege of teaching the lessons to the children.

In our role as Safeguarding Co-ordinators (Deputy) we have attended Safeguarding training, and have pursued with the Lead Co-ordinators cascading this knowledge to others. To this end, we have revised the Safeguarding Policy (Child Protection) to incorporate the latest statutory obligations and regulations. Nick and I are also part of the Christianity Explored teaching team, and we delight in this method of evangelism.

### Biblical Counselling ♥

Nick & I attended the Biblical Counselling residential **seminar** in Derbyshire, at the **end** of March 2017 and we are very excited to be part of a local network of Biblical Counsellors; a number of whom are from our own church.

### Ivyfield Court ♥

At Ivyfield Court, where we live, the fortnightly Bible Study Group is better established. Having finished the study in the book of James, the group has commenced the book of Mark – **Christianity Explored**. During our 3 months away in South Africa, **Colin** Spurway, **Deacon** at Ladyfield Church will continue to oversee the group.

Meanwhile, Nick continues with **preaching** engagements, and I, Sheila, enjoy **sharing** the Scriptures at various Ladies` Groups. I have also really appreciated the Physiotherapy Classes and have sought to follow the recommended exercises.

### SWYM Bible Correspondence Course ♥ ♥

But what we want to leave you with is the **report below** by Anita Dekker on the SWYM Bible Correspondence Course. It is an ongoing work, and last month Anita requested to have more books printed for continued use.

#### **SWYM CORRESPONDENCE COURSE: PRISON MINISTRY – Report by Anita Dekker -**

Being involved with the SWYM correspondence course ministry in 2016 was yet again a very humbling and blessed experience.

There was a steady and faster growing influx of letters on a regular basis.

We added the booklet “Exodus – a journey with God” to the list of course material.

We started this year with 56 active correspondents and “by word of mouth” **159** new students started working through the course since January 2016. This was twice as many as in 2015. Over **220 students** receive books currently on a regular basis.



*Nick and Sheila Court – Serving the LORD*

(Report continues) ...The SWYM Correspondence Course has become primarily a prison ministry and the main prisons that receive correspondence are: Mangaung, Tswelopele, Douglas, Stanger and Rustenburg.

The course brings knowledge to **young and old** – from age 18 years to men in their late sixties ... Nydia Harding, a very dear friend of mine, offered her help with translating the material in Afrikaans with the effect that the process has speeded up a little. We have 7 books translated so far. I am often motivated and inspired by the many testimonials of joy and thanksgiving that we receive by our students!

**Testimonials:**

“... I saw the course at one of my brothers and I got interested in joining it as it inspired me a lot and I want to grow in my Christianity...”

“ I am currently serving a term of five years and am doing your correspondence course ... I would appreciate it if you could post this course to my boys age 16 and 8 as this course is really inspiring and I want them also to benefit...”

“ this is my last year in prison and myself will never ever think again of committing fraud in my life ... In Oct I will be back with my wife and children and would like to continue with your Bible studies”

*Anita Dekker*



**PS:** Please **pray urgently** that adequate funding will come in to cover the SWYM Bible Correspondence Course in RSA.

*Praise/Prayer items*

**Praise God for the following:**

For Sheila`s recent physiotherapy sessions

For on-going opportunities for Christian service both in the UK and RSA

For our return trip to RSA from mid August to October 2017

That the SWYM Correspondence Books are being used by many Prisoners

For Anita & Nadia in the administration and translation of the Correspondence Books into Afrikaans.



**Pray for the following:**

That *RSA funding* will come in for the *distribution* of SWYM Bible Correspondence Books, the various SWYM Resource Books, and the shared **Post Box** in South Africa

That Freddy, Leon & Joseph will know the Lord`s blessing in their Church & Schools` Ministries

That Nick & I will have good health, travelling mercies and the Lord`s blessing and help for the 3 months in South Africa.

*With our love & prayers*

*Nick & Sheila*

*Be encouraged – Our Sovereign God is at work*



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**NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS:** [www.swym2016.org](http://www.swym2016.org)

**FINANCIAL DETAILS:-**

UK - Lloyds TSB Bank, Chippenham Branch, Account Name: Step Wise Youth Ministry, Account Number: 03217242, Branch Code: 30-91-99