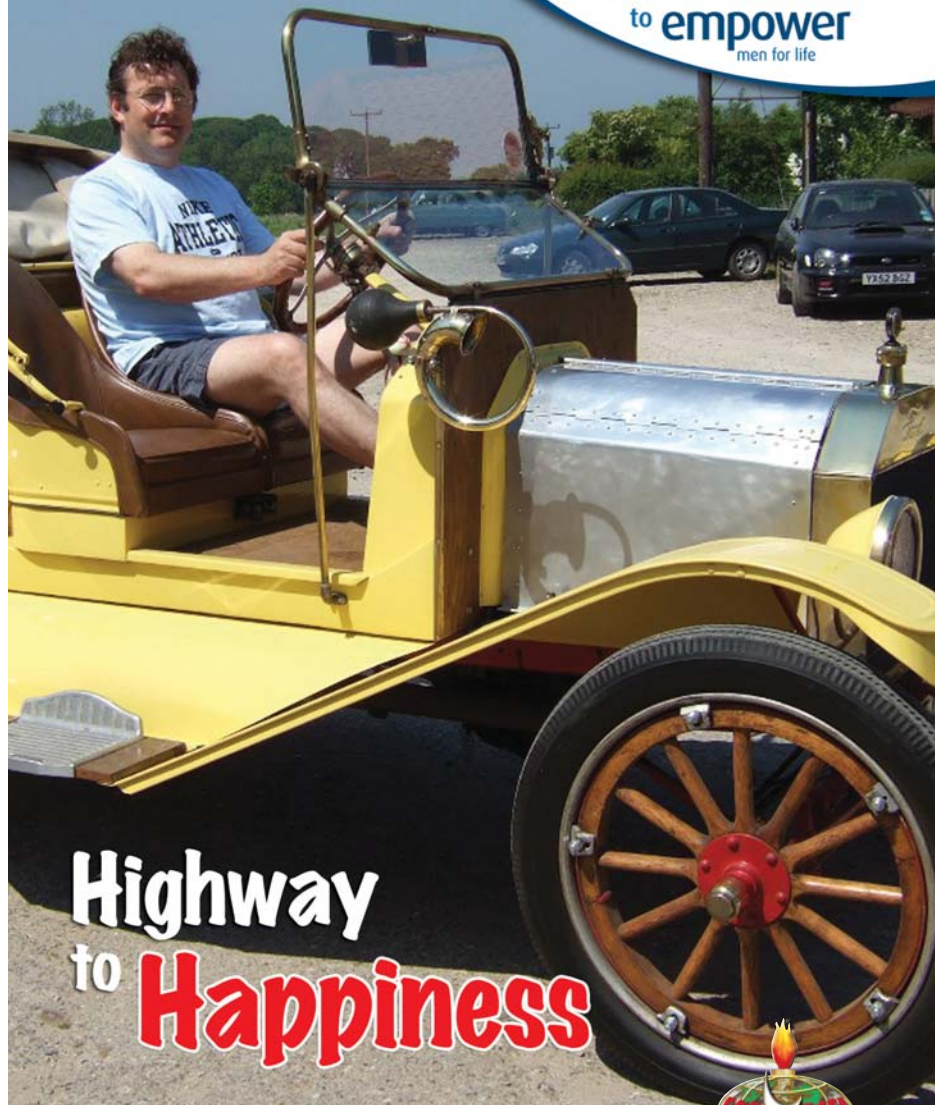


voice
to empower
men for life



Highway
to **Happiness**

Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International



All work and no play

Nick Szkiller



Nick and Liz Szkiller

My father came from Poland. At the age of fifteen he was taken by the Germans to work as slave labour on a farm. When the Germans were short of troops he was even conscripted into the German Army to fight against the allies of his country. Providentially, however, he was able to escape and joined the allied army. After the war he settled in Huddersfield where he was employed in the textile industry.

Heartbroken kids

When I grew up, after a spell as a disc jockey, I joined the motor trade and became a Director of a Jaguar dealership before I launched out in 1992 to indulge my passion for vintage cars. Liz and I married in 1978 and in 1979 we went through the painful experience of losing twins late in her first pregnancy. Our first child Victoria was born in 1981 with Down's Syndrome. So there we were, a couple of heartbroken kids who had lost their precious little babies and then had a disabled child. Little did I know that Victoria was to become one of our life's

greatest blessings. We had two sons James and Richard and later adopted our daughter Gabriella whose mother had died very young. Few people understand how bringing up a disabled child places great strain on a marriage. By 1996 I was heading the way many men go in their early forties and we had reached the point where we were ready to split up.

'Keep faith with the wife of your youth'

But my brother Paul, who had become a Christian, had been praying for us. I gave my life to the Lord sitting with Paul in a Range

Rover. Almost as soon as I began to read the Bible, I read '*Do not break faith with the wife of your youth*' in the book of Malachi. It was as if those words were written for me. They jumped off the page and I knew God was speaking to me. I promised the Lord I would stick with my marriage. It was a miracle. Almost as though I had been given back the wife of my youth. I began to understand how my long hours at work had taken so much from my family and that I was responsible for the near breakdown of my marriage. This summer Liz and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary in Krakow. We are as much in love now as we were as teenagers. I am blessed with a beautiful, compassionate wife whose heart is for the disabled, particularly those with learning difficulties whom she teaches. I often now say to men. "Whenever you see something in your wife that you don't like, ask yourself what it is about you that caused it."

Unconditional surrender

After five years of being a Christian business man I felt dissatisfied that business took up so much of my time that I had little time for God. So I decided to give God two days of each week. I had a sense of excitement as I surrendered to God unconditionally in a way I had never

done before. Amazing things began to happen. The Lord brought a stream of people into my life that were either sick, terminally ill, or recently widowed. I had many opportunities to talk to them about Jesus and to pray with them with marvellous results. A man called to ask me to lay hands on him as he had cancer. He had heard I had prayed for a man from Beverley with cancer who had been healed. I explained that it was Jesus continuing his ministry today through those who know him. Later I sold two cars over the telephone. The Lord was looking after the business!

Called to serve

So now I find myself as a business man evangelist, mentor, teacher called to serve those God brings to me. At the end of 2007 my brother Paul and I handed over the running of the vintage car business to my eldest son James. I am now working with John Gaughan, a Christian singer and song writer who has worked with some top bands. We have formed Gilead Music. We work with musicians whose lives have almost been destroyed by alcohol. We make beautiful music and in the process God heals their lives and sets them free. All that matters is to live the life that God has planned for me.

Nick Szkiller lives in Yorkshire and can be contacted at www.gileadmusic.com



Mark Goodwin-Hudson with his wife Alice and children

WINNING the BATTLE

Major Mark Goodwin-Hudson

THE ARROW THAT FLIES BY DAY

*'Thou shall not be afraid of the terror by night
Nor of the arrow that flies by day'. Psalm 91:5*

My father was a School Chaplain. At the age of eleven, at a Scripture Union Camp, I heard the words of Jesus, *'I stand at the door (of your heart) and knock; if any man opens the door I will come in and sup with him.'* I surrendered my life to Christ, confessed my inability to earn my salvation and received the gift of life after death.

My goals as a teenager were, however, not very Godly. I joined the army in the Blues and Royals and was successful, coming top in a

number of courses. But then disaster struck. Training on the Brecon Beacons I drank some contaminated water from a stream and caught a virus which was as unidentifiable as it was incurable. In 1995, after being sick with chronic fatigue for eighteen months, my military career at the age of twenty-six seemed to be finished.

Wrestling with God

During this time God began to work on me as the potter works on the clay. I accepted that the God of the

Bible could and would act the same way today. So at a church one evening I went forward for prayer. I had been reading about Jacob wrestling with God and this is how it felt. I was laid out on the floor for two hours. As I repented of many sins including vainglory, lust and drunkenness it seemed like each one was a battle. At the end I was exhausted but felt liberated. I was baptised with the Holy Spirit and later spoke in the supernatural language of the Spirit known as praying in tongues.

But I was still sick! Despite this I was married in 1996 to a wonder woman called Alice. How she coped with me I will never know. Then on Valentine's Day 1997 an old university friend called to see me. He had been a corrupter of men's souls until he became a Christian. Now he was a missionary. He told me "Ask God to heal you from your heart". Then he gave me a sharp punch in the stomach and said, "You are a warrior. Be violent. Cry out to God. Pray in tongues!" As I did so the Holy Spirit came upon me and I was completely healed. Immediately I ate my heart out, I was so hungry! The doctors were

pleased and amazed. For the next two weeks I was on fire for this great God and no doubt a real pain to everyone.

Ambushed!

Ten years later in the summer of 2007 I was commanding a squadron of the Blues and Royals posted to Iraq. One evening at Basra I was boarding a transport plane with sixty-eight others. At this point the Holy Spirit punched me almost physically in the stomach with the urgent command, "PRAY!". So I walked up the length of the fuselage to a seat at the far end praying loudly in tongues with the authority of Almighty God to annihilate whatever the powers of darkness had planned for us.

Some time later, as we touched down at a remote northern desert strip, there was a series of very loud bangs and the plane veered off sharply to the left. A wing of the plane had been torn off and the side

of the fuselage was on fire. We had been ambushed! The immediate threat was that we would meet a storm of machine gun fire and that the fuel tanks would explode. Inexplicably there



was no machine gun fire, the plane did not blow up, and we all escaped without casualties.

Deliverance on the Third Day

One of the worst crimes a soldier can commit in the battlefield is to lose his weapon. One of my men came to report that he had lost his 9mm pistol. I told him that God knew where it was and that I would ask God to help him. He scowled back at me in unbelief. I sent him off with a Land Rover and driver to look for it, but it

The enemy could be expected to attack us with mines, sniper fire, rockets and anti-tank weapons.

was like looking for a needle in a haystack. Three days later we were on the move. The desert was littered with camel dung and other debris. Suddenly a Fijian trooper called Guan Ebeci, a believer, called out to his driver to stop. He had seen something. He got out and picked up the missing pistol. Throughout the Bible there are over thirty instances of deliverance coming on the third day. This was another one!

God is our Shield

Shortly afterwards my squadron had to drive through a town known to be a hotbed of insurgents. The Australian commander of that

section told me that they did not dare enter the town because of the casualties they had sustained. The enemy were well armed and could be expected to attack us with mines, sniper fire, rockets and anti-tank weapons. For our protection we had only un-armoured soft bottomed Land Rovers with a helicopter gun ship on either side. But more

importantly, fervent prayer to the God who is our shield!

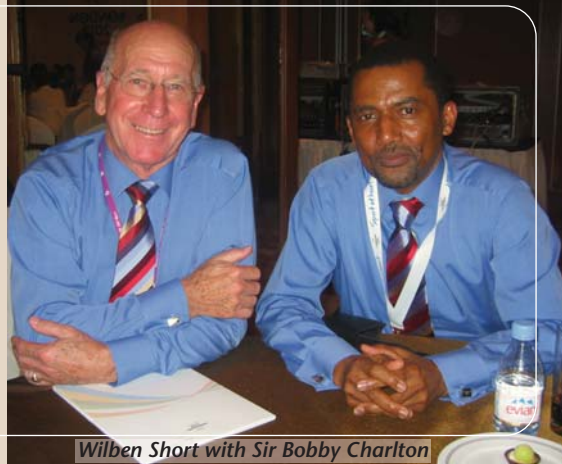
As we approached six police cars erupted from the city gate tearing towards us like demonic hornets as if to scare us off. We drove four kilometres through the town. It was eerie. Not a soul on the streets. Not a dog barked. Not a shot fired. We came through unscathed. A staff officer at Divisional HQ told me later that he could not get out of bed the next morning because he dreaded hearing the news of the massacre that must have taken place. The commander of the insurgents was, we heard, summarily sacked. The Lord had put fear into the hearts of the enemy just as He did to win battles in Old Testament times.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

Major Mark Goodwin-Hudson lives in Wiltshire with his wife Alice and children. He is a regular soldier in the Blues and Royals.

On the right tracks

Wilben Short



Wilben Short with Sir Bobby Charlton

I t was just after 8pm when my mobile rang. My former colleagues from the London Underground Northern Line had joined me at a farewell dinner to celebrate my move to Florida to take up my dream job. I stepped out of the restaurant to take the call. The voice at the other end told me that the board of the company I was going to work for had decided to pull out of the United States and my job was no more!

God will see me through

Numb with the shock of the news, I mumbled "I am a Christian and I believe God will see me through this". Back home I called Claire, my wife, who was in Berlin visiting a friend. She calmly told me that all we had to do was to trust in God.

The whole family had already booked a holiday to Freetown in Sierra Leone and we decided to go ahead with the holiday. Whilst on holiday I spoke at the annual Full Gospel Business Men's banquet. My theme was 'God is no man's debtor'. I said that God was faithful and would see me and my family

through the difficult times we were going through.

On our return, I went back on the job market, not exactly easy at 51. I was offered a job by a major engineering firm only to be told a few weeks later that the job offer had been withdrawn. The same thing happened a second time. After that experience I decided to set up my own company offering consultancy services to the rail industry.

Within two days I won my first contract. A few weeks later, I won my second contract to provide advisory services for the London

2012 Olympic bid. The rest, as they say, is history. I was in Singapore as part of the London 2012 delegation when London was awarded the Games. A few months after my return, I took on my current role as Head of Transport on a full time basis.

Help from above

This was not the first time I had seen God actively at work in my business life. In 1993, I had been appointed General Manager of the Northern Line. One newspaper article said that “Mr Short has drawn the short straw and inherited one of the toughest transport jobs in London”. The article ended by saying “Mr Short is a committed Christian; he will need all the help from above”.

That newspaper did not realise how prophetic it was! In my six years as General Manager, the Northern Line received more investment than in the previous two decades! A fleet of new trains was introduced and all the stations on the southern end of the line underwent major refurbishment. At last the press stopped referring to us as the “Misery Line”.

Searching for the true meaning of life

It has not always been like this. I was born into a prominent, well-respected, church going family and

grew up in Ghana and Sierra Leone feeling very much loved by my parents. I did well at school. However during my teenage years I began to question everything I had been taught in church and started searching for the true meaning of life. As a teenager I developed an interest in the supernatural and started reading books on eastern mysticism. I also started practising yoga. In my second year at University I gave up going to

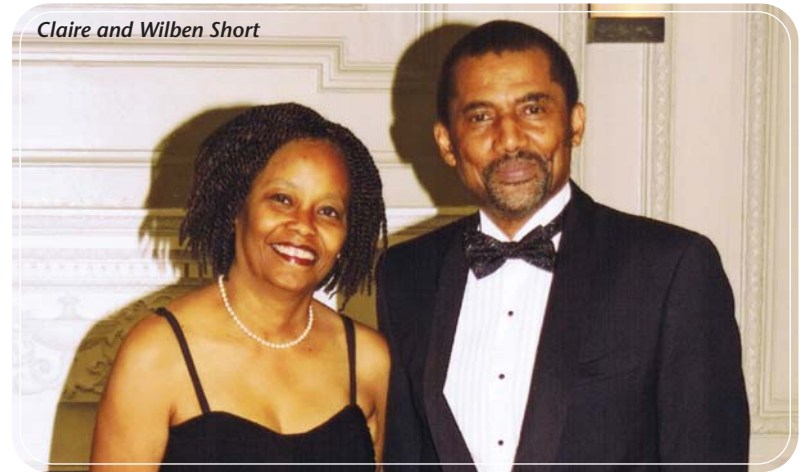
church completely. I did not think much of the Christian faith because I never heard of supernatural experiences.

But one evening I was in my bedroom reading one of those books on eastern mysticism. At the end of the book a list of recommended reading included the Bible. The thought occurred to me that even though I had rejected Christianity, I had never read the Bible!

So I started reading John’s gospel and soon came across Jesus’ claim that he was the Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14:6). At this point I believed that all religions contained the same core truth and were equally valid. To accept Jesus’ claim as “the Way”, not one of many ways, was to reject everything I believed in at that time. Yet the

Looking back I can see how, time and time again, He has made a way where there seemed to be no way.

Claire and Wilben Short



more I read of John’s gospel the more I realised that Jesus was either who he said he was or a liar. So, despite many questions unanswered, I took a leap of faith and asked Jesus to become the Lord of my life and to take the driving seat.

God makes a way where there is no way

As a Christian I know God is interested in every aspect of my life, including my job. I constantly face difficult situations for which, humanly speaking, I have no answers. I am so grateful I have a God I can speak to who intervenes in the affairs of ordinary people. Looking back, I can see how, time and time again, He has made a way where there seemed to be no way.

If anything, I should trust God a lot more than I do because He has been so faithful.

It is now nearly six years since that fateful telephone call. In the course of doing my job I have met with royalty, several famous businessmen and sports personalities. I have been privileged to observe three Olympic Games in Athens, Turin and Beijing and the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne – not bad for someone who loves sport and travelling

I have a God-fearing wife, without whose prayers and support I know I would not be where I am today. Life continues to be full of difficult challenges but I know that God will see me through the good times as well as the bad.

Wilben Short is now Head of Transport for the London Olympics.

Escape from Hell

John Dawson



John and Jenny Dawson

I am an only child, born in Hull in 1962. My life must have seemed very pleasant as my dad was a builder and so we had an affluent lifestyle. Unfortunately, all was not as it seemed as my parents were not well suited and from an early age I remember vicious arguments and violence from both parents on each other. Gradually their marriage deteriorated so that when I reached about the age of 8, my dad stopped talking to my mum. As a result she would often take it out on me with physical abuse.

As I grew older I began to fight back. Frequent arguments with my mum quickly became violent. After school I started an apprenticeship as a vehicle mechanic. In my twenties my dad met another woman and decided to go and live with her. They said I could come with them if I wanted. I jumped at the chance. We moved in the spring of 1984

into a house a few miles away from where my mum continued to live.

Charged with murder

My parents now began divorce proceedings. My dad was served with an injunction freezing all his assets. When I went to get my money from my building society I was told that my account had been

frozen by my mum as she claimed my money was my dad's. I went to see her and as usual it became a slanging match. We started fighting and all of the past seemed to come at me. I totally lost control and killed her. I was duly arrested and remanded in custody charged with murder.

Nine months later I was found guilty and began my time in prison as a convicted murderer with a life sentence. I had no release date and at the time no hope. After a few months I began to get more and more depressed as I had no hope of release. The weight of what I had done made me wonder if I should take my own life but I didn't have the courage to do it.

In the winter of 1988 I was that desperate I saw a psychotherapist. He let me unload myself and tell him how I felt. On my second visit he asked if I believed in Jesus. This was like a red rag to a bull – what had God done for me in my life apart from letting me be abused as a child and now letting me languish for the rest of my life in prison. He never mentioned Jesus again, but he did teach me about repentance from the bible. After that life for me began to get better.

At the end of 1989, to my amaze-

ment, I was transferred to a semi-open category C prison after only 4½ years of serving a life sentence. I was elated to be transferred and found myself at my new home in April 1990. How strange it was to be able to walk about on my own and to have a key to my own room. If heaven was a prison then this was it.

Destined for hell and not for heaven

I quickly settled in to my new surroundings. I had a good friend called Norman who asked if I wanted to go and hear a Gospel group on Sunday night. He persuaded me to go and help him put the chairs out and somehow got me to stay and listen to Margaret Boler and the Hosanna singers.

As the group performed one of the men, Ivor Heaton, took the role of the Apostle Peter and began to speak about what Jesus said. He spoke of the evil of men's hearts and their need to repent. If they refused then they were destined for hell and not for heaven. All the time that he spoke his eyes never left me and it was as though he was speaking directly to me. I decided that instead of listening to his rubbish that I would get up and leave. As I tried to get up I felt as though something was pressing down on my

We started fighting and all of the past seemed to come at me. I totally lost control and killed her.

shoulders. I couldn't stand! The only thing I could do was to listen, and what I heard I found totally offensive – it was the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pride ruled my will

At the end of the meeting there was the opportunity to ask Jesus into your life but I wasn't going to do that. I didn't need a religious crutch like those weak people who become Christians. No, I could live my own life thank you very much. The reality, however, was that my life was now turned upside down. I knew deep down that what Ivor Heaton had

My life was a mess and I needed to turn the other way because I was destined for hell.

said was true. My life was a mess and I needed to turn the other way because I was destined for hell. Over the next few weeks I kept coming across people I had never seen before who said the same thing, "John, you need Jesus in your life." But pride ruled my will. I was determined that Jesus was not coming into my life.

The next couple of weeks were just a daze. One night I lay on my bed staring at the ceiling, mulling things over. I decided that I had to make a decision. I began talking out loud, "Jesus, if you are real, will you please come into my life as they say you

will because I cannot go on like this. It is tearing me apart." I began to list all the things I had done wrong in my life, starting with my mother, and asking Jesus to forgive me. After that I had one of the best nights sleep I've ever had.

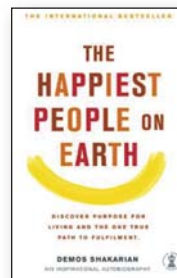
All that I could have wished for

I woke next morning feeling as though a heavy weight had been lifted from my shoulders. The day was 17th July 1990. It was a wonderful summer morning as I went to the dining hall for my breakfast. On the way a guy I knew said "Yo, John boy

how ya doin'?" To my amazement I leapt in the air with raised hand and said "I believe in Jesus." He never spoke to me again! A new chapter had started, I was now born again and real life was just beginning.

Since my release in 1997, I have married Jenny who is my joy and daily delight. In the past year Jesus has begun to take me into an evangelistic ministry that started with a trip to Romania in 2006 – a miracle in itself, as I am not technically allowed to travel abroad. At last I have all that I could ever have wished for and I know where I am going. All thanks to Jesus.

John has started his own business as a Toastmaster and Master of Ceremonies and can be contacted on 01768 341077.



The Happiest People On Earth

This book contains the remarkable story of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International and its founder Demos Shakarian.

What began as a vision given to Demos, a business man, has spread to over 160 countries with almost 5,000 Chapters meeting in every continent of the world.

The most challenging feature is how God put His seal on the Fellowship, after early efforts to launch it failed.

It is a story to make you both laugh and cry but above all, build your faith in God and all He can do through dedicated men who love and serve Him. You will see God really does use ordinary men in the most surprising ways. To obtain a copy please contact the Office at Knutsford, address on the back cover.

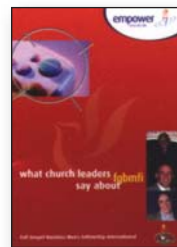


empower
men for life

What Church Leaders say about FGBMFI

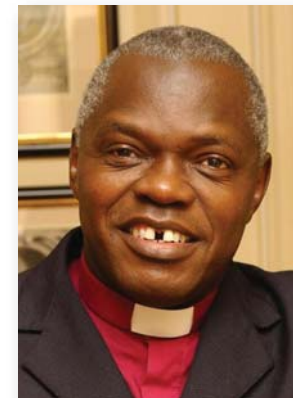
In this booklet church leaders, from a wide range of Christian denominations, affirm their support for Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International. They highlight its effectiveness in reaching men, usually outside the church, with the message of God's love.

The Fellowship works as an arm of the church, revealing the power of Christ to men. The result is that God changes even the roughest diamonds into men of God.



"Here are men who take seriously Christ's command to preach the good news. They have found the will and the words to witness to God's deeds of power, Acts 2.11. We need more men like them who not only share what Jesus has done for them, but also practice what they preach in their work places."

The Most Rev and Rt Hon Dr John Sentamu, Archbishop of York



Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International

Your Local Chapter contact telephone numbers

IRELAND

Ballymena 028 9447 3227
Belfast 028 9186 1535
Craigavon 028 3834 2033
Donegal 00 353 74 9175951
Enniskillen 028 6773 8346
Killarney 00 353 66 7147327
Limerick 00 353 61 312924
Tralee 00 353 66 9767366

ENGLAND – NORTH WEST

Ashton in Makerfield 01942 730334
Blackburn 01254 726630
Bolton 01204 417804
Chester 01244 675892
Douglas, Isle of Man 01624 677051
Eden Valley 01833 637035
Liverpool City 0151 289 2715
Liverpool University 0151 709 4663
Manchester 0161 684 7486
North Cheshire, Northwich 01606 781882
Salford 0161 794 5916
South Cheshire, Nantwich 01270 650424
Standish 01942 245266
Stockport 0161 427 5029
Warrington 01925 490731

ENGLAND – NORTH EAST

Doncaster 01302 560789
East Riding 01482 860043
Grimsby 01472 884311
Halifax 07812 939336
Hope Valley/Sheffield 0114 242 4004
Hull & District 01482 879066
Morpeth 01670 737311
Newcastle upon Tyne 0191 257 0369
Ripon 01765 606133
Selby & District 01757 291489
Stamford 01780 753557
Stokesley 01609 775134



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ENGLAND – MIDLANDS

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Bedford 01234 824112
Birmingham 0121 351 3288
Coventry 02476 720041
Derby 0115 928 4869
Hitchin 01462 616185
Milton Keynes 01908 521751
Northampton/Kettering 01604 700521
Oxford 01869 350272
Shrewsbury 01691 653008
Stafford 01543 422268
Tamworth 01530 832291
Worcester 01905 641742

ENGLAND – EAST ANGLIA

Broadlands 01493 700396
Cromer 01263 824550
Norwich 01603 250003
Southend on Sea 01702 482363
Waveney Valley 01502 518973

ENGLAND – GREATER LONDON

Croydon 0208 660 9172
Central London 0207 937 8668
Lambeth & Southwark 0208 653 5294
North London 0208 441 9895
West London 01932 706502

ENGLAND – SOUTH CENTRAL

Basingstoke 01256 853040
Bournemouth 01202 814514
Chichester/Petersfield 01243 542222
Isle of Wight 01983 840313
Guernsey 01481 247582
Jersey 01534 855202
Southampton 023 8045 6069
Weymouth 01305 826864
Wincanton 01963 31333

ENGLAND – SOUTH EAST

Crawley 01293 882411
Eastbourne 01323 729786
Gravesend 01474 356427
Maidstone 01622 743134
Medway 01634 377965
New Ash Green 01322 863171
Sevenoaks/Weald 01732 353049

ENGLAND – SOUTH WEST

Barnstaple 01271 373388
Callington & Launceston 07870 603321
Exeter 01395 222240
Newton Abbot/Torbay 01803 409840
St Austell 01726 883610
Street/Glastonbury 01458 210367
Truro 01872 241680
West Cornwall 01326 574450

ENGLAND – SEVERNSIDE

Bath 01225 405021
Chippenham 01249 651599
Keynsham 0117 904 3447
Weston Super Mare 07737 977418

WALES

Abergavenny 01495 306568
Anglesey 01407 760331
Brecon 01497 847416
Cardiff 02920 593470
Carmarthen 01267 220234
Conwy Valley 01492 572924
Hereford 01432 840254
Llanelli 01792 893445
Newtown (Powys) 01686 626438
Port Talbot/Bridgend 01639 897993
Presteigne 01544 267378
Swansea 01792 893445

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If you have been challenged by the life stories in this Voice you may be asking, "How can I become a Christian?"

A Christian is a person who has a personal relationship with God by inviting Jesus to become their Lord and Saviour.

God loves and accepts you just as you are. He is able to turn any mess into something marvellous! To become a Christian and to receive the gift of Eternal Life there are three steps to take:

Step 1 **Admit** that you have sinned and need a Saviour to deal with your past and assure your future.

Step 2 **Believe** that Jesus is the Son of God who died on the Cross to pay the penalty for your sins.

Step 3 **Receive** Jesus as Saviour and Lord of your life by personal invitation and ask His forgiveness for your sins.

Why not pray this simple prayer NOW to invite Jesus into your life

Heavenly Father, I confess that I have sinned and am separated from you. But I believe you showed your love for me by sending your Son Jesus to die on the Cross for my sins. So I turn to you, Lord Jesus, with great thankfulness. I surrender my life to you.

I ask you to forgive me for all my sins, to cleanse me from all unrighteousness and to send the Holy Spirit to live in me as my friend, my teacher and my comforter.

I reject Satan and every evil spirit in the name of Jesus Christ and I declare the Word of God, "If the Son has set you free, you are free indeed". I declare that Jesus has set me free from all my sins and from every bondage of Satan. I have been born again, I am a child of God, I am a new creation, I have eternal life, in Jesus' mighty name.

Please let us know of your decision so that we can send you helpful information to "empower you for Life".

Please send me details of Chapter meetings in my area.

Please send me "New Life in Christ" booklet.

First Name:

Surname:

Address:

.....

Postcode: Tel:

E-mail:

Data information will only be used to send you details of Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International and "empower Men for Life" information. (Full address details overleaf.)

If you have a testimony please send it to the Editor with jpeg photos at info@branchpress.com

**All work
and no play**

Nick Szkiller



**Winning
the battle**

Major Mark Goodwin-Hudson

**On the
right tracks**

Wilben Short



**Released
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John Dawson

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For your local Chapter contact:



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