Issue No.5



GRANDISON

BISHOP CLAION

SCHOÖLS OUT FOR SÜMMER

Tips, trips & ideas

CONNECTING BACK HOME

Mission trip to Jamaica

MARCIA WALDER THOMAS

Worship, a lived experience

REIMAGINED MINISTRY

How is your church connecting

A CHURCH IN REVIVAL

NTCG National Convention 2025

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AIMS & OBJECTIVES

A Relevant, Relational Church, Reimagining God at work, in our communities and nation.

CONNECT is a quarterly publication from the Office of the Administrative Bishop. This will be published digitally and posted on our website for your viewing.

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- Encouraging Spiritual Growth: Helping each other grow in faith through prayer, sharing the Word, and church activities.
- Improving Communication: Keeping members directly updated about church activities, decisions and personnel changes, so that you are informed about your church.
- Building Community: Strengthening connections between members through this medium.
- Supporting Each Other: Encouraging involvement in and keeping you informed about local and national events.
- Celebrating Together: Recognising and celebrating important moments in the lives of our ministers and members to uplift and encourage each other.

Editor's Note



Mrs Nastassia Holness Commissioning Editor

Dear Reader,

I hope you enjoy reading Issue 5 of the NTCG National Connect Magazine; the aim is to Connect members of the New Testament Church of God to its leadership and to each other.

This edition features our Administrative Bishop's call to reconnect with the Holy Spirit, the 7-Day Prayer Strategy for the National Convention, and Marcia Walder-Thomas highlights worship as a lived experience.

Additionally, you will read about the National Executive Council's visit to Jamaica for the Centennial Celebrations.

As with every issue of the Connect Magazine, we hope you will be inspired and motivated to continue connecting with your church and community.

Enjoy!

Editorial support required

We're looking for volunteers with proofreading experience and an eye for detail. If you are interested, please email: Nastassia.holness@ntcg.org.uk



Take time to reflect

#Inspiration
#StayMotivated

7-Day Prayer Strategy

Overview:

Prayer has been spoken of as the very breath of spiritual life. It is the believers' spiritual connection and contract with heaven. No spiritual life can be maintained without prayer. Prayer and scripture are not an option or merely a privilege, but a command (Luke 18:1). Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not to give up (NIV).

For the New Testament Church of God in England and Wales to effectively connect as a church in revival, prayer serves as the essential foundation.

Aims:

The purpose of 'Connect - A Church in Revival' is to strengthen our relationship with God, value one another, and invite the Holy Spirit to inspire revival and unity in the church, motivating us to share the message of salvation within our communities.



Scripture: 2 Chronicles 7:14: Theme: Seeking Revival

Prayer Focus:

Ask God to conceive a desire for revival in the church, stirring hearts to seek Him.

Prayer points:

- 1. Pray for a fresh encounter with God's presence.
- 2. Ask God to awaken a passion for revival in the church



"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14

DAY 2 IMPLANTATION STAGE

Scripture: Luke 18:1 & 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Theme: Rooting in Prayer

Prayer focus:

Pray for the church to root itself in prayer, seeking God's guidance and direction.

Prayer points:

Pray for a deeper commitment to prayer in the church. Ask God to guide the church's prayer life.



Scripture: John 17:21 & Ephesians 4:3 Theme: Growth - Unity and Harmony

Prayer Focus:

Pray for unity and harmony among church members, that they may grow together in love and purpose.

Prayer points:

Pray for unity and love among church members. Ask God to break down barriers and heal relationships.



Scripture: Matthew 28:19 & Acts 1:8

Theme: Contraction for Birth Outreach and

Evangelism

Prayer focus:

Pray for the church's outreach and evangelism efforts, that they may effectively share the Gospel with the community.

Prayer points:

Pray for opportunities to share the Gospel. Ask God to give the church boldness and confidence.



"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit".

Matthew 28:19

DAY 5 BIRTH STAGE

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:17 & Romans 6:4 Theme: Birth - New Life and Transformation

Prayer focus:

Pray for new life and transformation in the church and community, as people come to faith and grow in their relationship with God.

Prayer points:

Pray for people to come to faith.

Ask God to transform lives and communities.

DAY 6 NURTURING STAGE

Scripture: Hebrews10: 24-2 & Colossians

2:19

Theme: Nurturing - Discipleship and Growth

Prayer focus:

Pray for the nurturing and discipleship of new believers, that they may grow in their faith and become effective witnesses for Christ.

Prayer points:

Pray for effective discipleship and mentoring. Ask God to equip believers for ministry.



Scripture: Psalm 100:4 & Revelation 4:11 **Theme:** Celebration - Revival and Growth

Prayer focus:

Celebrate God's work in the church and community, praying for continued revival and growth.

Prayer points:

Thank God for His faithfulness.

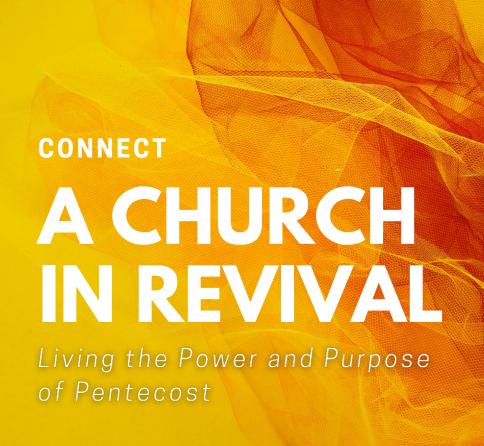
Ask God to continue His work of revival.



"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

Revelation 4:11





As the New Testament Church of God in England gathers under the theme "Connect: A Church in Revival", we are reminded that revival is not merely an emotional moment but a divine movement, rooted in the power of the Holy Spirit and expressed through transformed lives, holy living, and a prophetic witness to the world.

At the heart of Pentecostal identity is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, experienced in Acts 2, where the believers spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. For Pentecostals, speaking in tongues is a cherished and distinctive marker; we believe that it is the initial evidence of Spirit baptism. Yet, we also recognize it is not the proof of a Spirit-filled life. The true measure of Spirit baptism is found in the fruit it bears: a deepened love for God, a burden for holiness, a heart for justice, and a boldness to witness in both word and deed.



"We are reminded that revival is not merely an emotional moment but a divine movement".

Bishop Claion Grandison

Administrative Bishop

New Testament Church of God, England & Wales

"We are called to a Revival of Holiness."

This is what evidenced-based Pentecostalism calls us toward, a faith that is not content with personal spiritual experience alone but seeks the enduring evidence of that experience in daily life. We do not chase manifestations for their own sake. Rather, we pursue the Spirit who empowers us to live, love, serve, and endure. Revival, therefore, is not confined to the altar, it spills into our homes, our workplaces, and our communities. It is a revival that prays in tongues but also speaks truth to power. It is a revival that sings and shouts on Sunday and works for righteousness on Monday.

In this season, we are called to a revival of holiness. Not the kind defined by legalism or separation, but one marked by intimacy with God, Christlike character, and integrity in our relationships. The Holy Spirit sanctifies us, not simply for spiritual experiences, but for holy living, where our desires, attitudes, and actions reflect the heart of Christ. That said we long for a revival of the supernatural, a church alive with miracles, healing, prophecy, and deliverance. Yet, this revival must be firmly grounded in the practical realities of life. The supernatural is not escapism; it is God's supernatural breaking into our natural. It meets us in our grief, our struggle with mental health, our financial pressures, and our fractured communities. A true Pentecostal revival lifts burdens, restores dignity, and breathes hope into broken places.



A call to connect

This is the call of Connect: A Church in Revival, to reconnect with the Spirit, with one another, and with our prophetic mission in the world. May this conference ignite not only our altars, but also our lives, as we live out the full power and purpose of Pentecost in our time.

A Spirit - led Revival

Finally, a Spirit-led revival cannot ignore injustice. From the prophets of old to Jesus Himself, from Whitehall to the White House, the Spirit always seeks to move in defence of the oppressed.

Pentecost birthed a multiethnic, multilingual church, a vision of unity in diversity and justice for all. As a church in revival, we must speak out against racism, economic inequality, and systems that crush the poor. We must be a people of both praise and protest, of both intercession and action.



66

"If I'm not in His presence offstage, I have nothing of value to offer onstage".

orship leader Marcia Walder-Thomas shares her journey with NTCG Connect, giving us an insight into how worship has become her lived experience.

(CONNECT MAGAZINE (CM) How did it all start? When did you know you were called to worship ministry? MARCIA WALDER-THOMAS (MWT) I didn't initially recognise the call to worship ministry. I grew up in church, surrounded by music and a family of musicians. It

wasn't until an evening service, where the worship team hadn't shown up, that I was asked to lead. Though nervous, I said yes. That night, I experienced a deep encounter with God—something shifted. From there, doors began to open, and God began to use me.

Marcia Walder - Thomas

WORSHIP, A LIVED EXPERIENCE

(CM) How does your personal faith connect with your music? (MWT) My faith fuels my music. Songs are born from my personal time with God, His Word, prayer and waiting before Him. If I'm not in His presence offstage, I have nothing of value to offer onstage. Worship is the overflow of a surrendered life. It's not about melodies; it's about magnifying God's unchanging character (Psalm 45:1; Colossians 3:16).



(CM) How do you select songs for worship services, do vou balance traditional contemporary styles? (MWT) Song selection is both spiritual and strategic. I ask, "Lord, what do You want to say today?" I choose songs rooted in Scripture, with singable melodies and messages that stir hearts. Blending traditional contemporary styles builds bridges, hymns carry rich theological depth, often written in times of revival or hardship, and they remind us of God's unchanging faithfulness. Some Contemporary songs carry a fresh, prophetic sound for what God is doing now.

(CM) How do you handle performance anxiety or nerves? (MWT) Performance isn't usually a word I use when it comes to ministry. Performance says, "Look at me"; ministry says, "Look at Him." I still get nervous. I find a quiet space and surrender the moment to God (Psalm 46:10), and remind myself it's not about perfection but obedience.

(CM) How do you ensure that your worship leading aligns with biblical principles?

(MWT) Worship isn't about style or stage presence; it's about spirit and truth (John 4:23-24). I stay aligned by:

- Staying in the Word (Col. 3:16)
- Living a life of worship (Rom. 12:1)
- Filtering songs through theology
- Praying over setlists
- Checking my heart (Micah 6:8)
- Submitting to spiritual authority (Heb. 13:17)
- Relying on the Holy Spirit.

(CM) How do you foster unity and collaboration within a worship team? (MWT) Unity takes intentional discipleship. I focus on:

- Keeping Christ central through prayer and shared purpose
- Open, grace-filled communication
- Building relationships beyond rehearsals
- Celebrating diverse gifts
- Clear vision and expectations
- Handling conflict with humility
- Leading by example

(CM) How do you connect with and engage the congregation or audience during a performance?

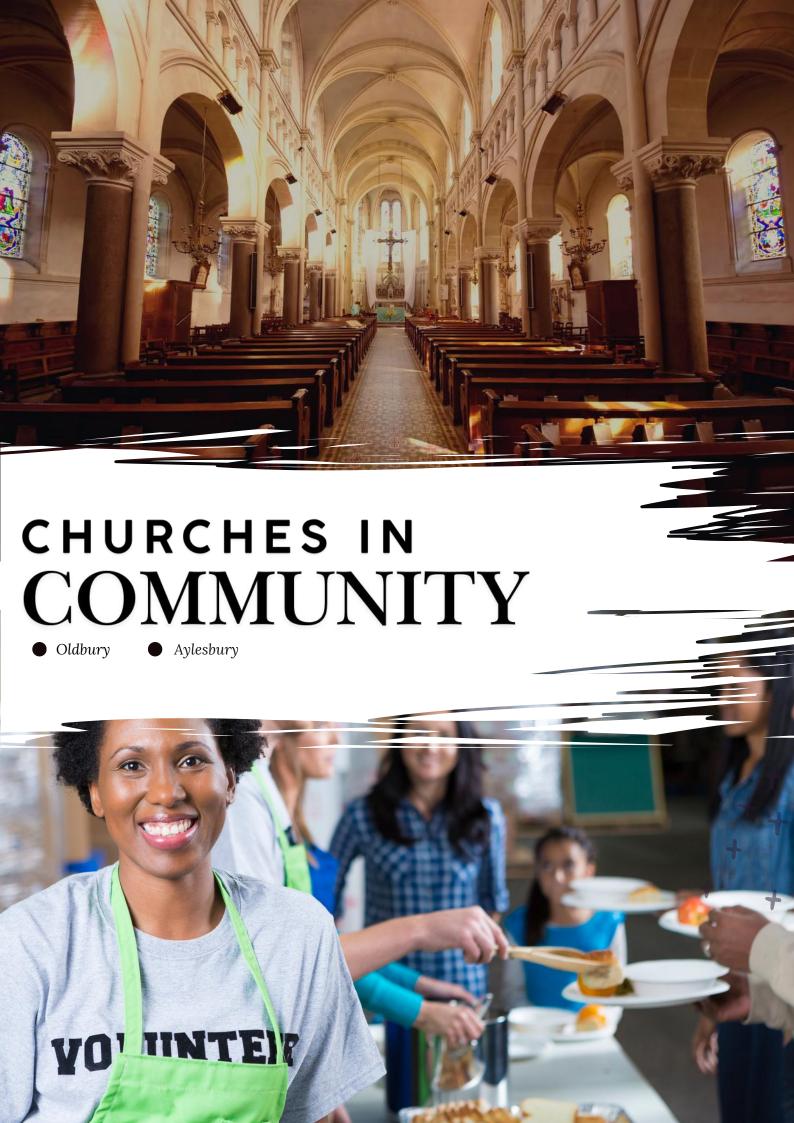
(MWT) Connection comes from vulnerability and intentionality. I see the congregation as fellow worshippers, not an audience. I consider the culture, choose accessible songs, and speak purposefully. If the room feels disconnected, I'll pause, lead a simple chorus, or encourage a response. People follow authenticity. When I'm worshipping and lifting my heart, it creates space for others to do the same. My role isn't to make people feel something, it is to lead them to God.

(CM) What is the number one advice you would give to someone interested in leading worship? (MWT)

Fall in love with Jesus before you fall in love with the microphone. Private worship must outweigh public expression. Let your platform be the overflow of your prayer closet.

Skill matters, yes, grow in your musicianship. Practice and be excellent. Anointing doesn't come from talent, it comes from intimacy with God. Stay teachable, find mentors, submit to spiritual authority.

Finally, remember that leading worship is not about being seen, but about helping others see God.





Church's Journey

At NTCG Oldbury, we are passionate about being relevant and relational, creating an atmosphere for intergenerational connection through our vision, H.O.P.E. With Christ as our Chief Shepherd, we believe there is hope for our church and community.

Our Vision: H.O.P.E.

Our vision is built on four pillars:

- · Holding onto God's Word: We prioritise relevance by staying grounded in Scripture.
- · Occupying the mission field: We focus on building relationships and engaging with our community.
- Pursuing souls for God's Kingdom: We strive to reimagine our approach to sharing the Gospel and making disciples.
- Everlasting Life, our goal: We aim to live with an eternal perspective, seeking reward in heaven.

Our Current Focus

Senior Pastor NTCG Oldbury

The past four months the church was engaged in preaching / teaching on:

Connect to Kingdom Assignment - Arise! Come! Go!, emphasising the importance of connecting with our purpose and mission. As we approach the end of the church year, we are exploring:

Hinderances Connecting to Kingdom Assignment, addressing potential obstacles to fulfilling our calling. For additional support I have just completed a book entitled 'Resilience'.

Our Community Services

Our church is actively engaged with the community through various services, including:

- Bi-monthly Kids Club
- Youth Fellowship
- Women's & Men's Meetings
- Food Bank Partnership
- Student Placements

Church Growth

We are grateful for the growth and milestones achieved in the last six months, including:

- Three baptisms
- 22 new members
- Four individuals decided to follow the Lord

New Initiatives

We are excited about new initiatives that will further connect us with our community, including:

- Read, Expound, Pray (REP) mentorship programme (launched in November 2024)
- Allotment project (cultivating healthier food choices)
- Women's and Men's Health Matters(launching in 2025)
- Cleaner Air Environment initiative
- Clean Air Champion and Greener Church Communities Award (presented to 14 young people)

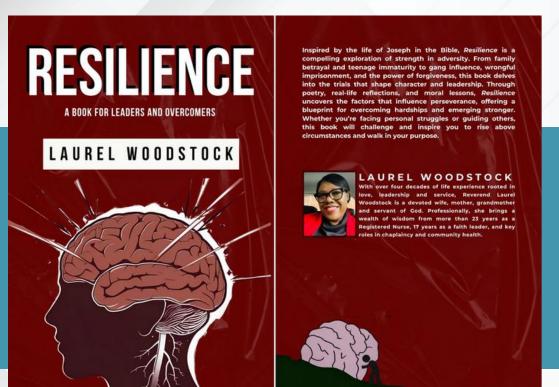
Aspirations

Our aspirations for the future include:

- Training Healthy Weight Coaches
- Promoting healthy weight and heart health
- · Reviving our seniors club
- Launching singles and couples clubs
- Introducing the Children's Health Matters initiative

Conclusion

Through these activities and initiatives, our church is actively connecting with our community, demonstrating the love of Christ, and fulfilling our mission. We are excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to seeing God's work unfold in our midst. We are conscious that: We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us . (Philippians 4:13).







stepping beyond the church walls to meet its community with faith, love, and service.

In recent months, three distinctive efforts—Tabitha Foodbank, Church in the Town, and the Shop on the Cobbles outreach—have shown that gospel ministry isn't confined to Sunday mornings. It's lived out every day, wherever people can be reached.

Tabitha Foodbank – Serving Beyond the Plate

Tabitha Foodbank began in 2021 with just a few volunteers collecting surplus food from local stores like Marks & Spencer and Greggs. What started as simple Tuesday and Saturday deliveries grew into a lifeline for families facing food insecurity. Officially launched in November 2022, Tabitha Foodbank received support from Aylesbury Town Council, Heart of Bucks, Helping Hand, and the Trussell Trust.

But the ministry quickly revealed deeper needs those coming for food often needed prayer, housing guidance, emotional support, and a safe place to talk.

Tabitha has become more than a foodbank; it's become a bridge to hope, drawing people into meaningful connection with church life.

Charmaine Hudson

Senior Pastor NTCG Aylesbury

"People were asking about church, about loneliness, about faith. It wasn't just food—it was the start of something sacred."

Church in the Town – Evangelism on the Square

On Sunday, 1st June 2025, NTCG Aylesbury took a bold step: moving Sunday worship out of the building and into the open air at Market Square. Led by Bishop Hudson and a team of excited members, Church in the Town became a beacon of spiritual courage and public witness.

Tracks were handed out, testimonies shared, and gospel music filled the square. Locals paused, listened, and engaged—some even responding with heartfelt conversations about faith, doubts, and hope.

"God's presence was truly palpable. The boldness of the Holy Spirit led us, and the preached Word touched hearts." The atmosphere was one of celebration and sacred proclamation. Mild apprehension gave way to joy, as the community saw a church deeply committed to being present where it matters most.

Shop on the Cobbles - Marketplace Mission

Inspired by a local networking event in April 2025, church members signed up for Shop on the Cobbles—a business fair held on Sunday 22nd June 2025, right in Aylesbury Town Centre. But while others promoted products, NTCG Aylesbury came to promote the Gospel. Seven volunteers staffed a table of Scripture-themed gifts, children's treats, literature, and gospel tracts. Conversations sparked throughout the day—with mothers, children, seekers, skeptics, and even civic leaders.

One memorable moment included a woman struggling with her husband's unbelief. Volunteers offered time, compassion, and prayer, leaving her encouraged and comforted. Another interaction involved a quiet five-year-old who lit up at the gift of a necklace, wristband, and colouring book, drawing her family closer to spiritual reflection.

"It was the day I always said I'd do—stand in my town and declare God's love. It felt like purpose."

A Church Anchored in Mission

Whether through food parcels, worship in public, or marketplace outreach, NTCG Aylesbury continues to embody the love of Christ through real-world ministry. These efforts reflect a congregation not only aware of its calling, but alive in it—bringing hope, healing, and the Gospel to every corner of Aylesbury.

To God be all the glory.



Tabitha Foodbank







IN ONE ACCORD







COVENANT OF JOINT WORKING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD (JAMAICA)

MISSION STATEMENT

As two branches of one global church, rooted in the Pentecostal revival and united by a Jamaican-British legacy, we covenant together:

"To strengthen our shared witness of the Gospel, deepen fellowship, and collaborate in Kingdom-building initiatives that honour our spiritual heritage and advance God's mission globally."

AFFIRMATIONS

- We affirm that NTCG England & Wales and NTCG
 Jamaica are united as expressions of the One, Holy,
 Apostolic and Pentecostal Church of God.
- 2. We affirm that our churches share a rich spiritual and historical heritage, born of divine calling, migration, and mission, bound together by the Spirit and a shared faith in Jesus Christ.
- 3. We affirm that our ministers and ministries are Godordained instruments of grace, called to serve His people and proclaim His Kingdom in our respective nations and beyond.
- 4. We affirm the unity of our faith, the beauty of our cultural expressions, and the mutual responsibility we share to carry forward the flame of revival entrusted to our forebears.

COMMITMENTS

- We commit to cultivating deeper ties through intentional communication, prayer, and fellowship between our leaders, congregations, and ministries.
- We commit to joint initiatives in evangelism, discipleship, theological education, and social action, sharing our gifts, resources, and experiences for the strengthening of the Church.
- We commit to creating opportunities for youth and emerging leaders to engage cross-culturally, honouring the past while shaping the future together.
- 4. We commit to worship, learn, and reflect together celebrating our distinctives while embracing our shared calling within the global Church of God.
- 5. We commit to be a unified voice for justice, peace, and righteousness in the public square standing for godly values in our societies and advocating for the vulnerable.
- 6. We commit to building and sustaining structures that foster community, consultation, and collaboration in all aspects of ministry locally, nationally, and internationally.

In this Centennial Year of NTCG Jamaica, we joyfully affirm this covenant as a sign of our enduring partnership in the Gospel, our shared roots, and our united future in Christ.

Signed this 14th day of May, 2025 in the presence of God and witnesses.

Bishop Claion B. GrandisonAdministrative Bishop
New Testament Church of God
England & Wales

Bishop Dr. Roy L. Notice Administrative Bishop New Testament Church of God Jamaica

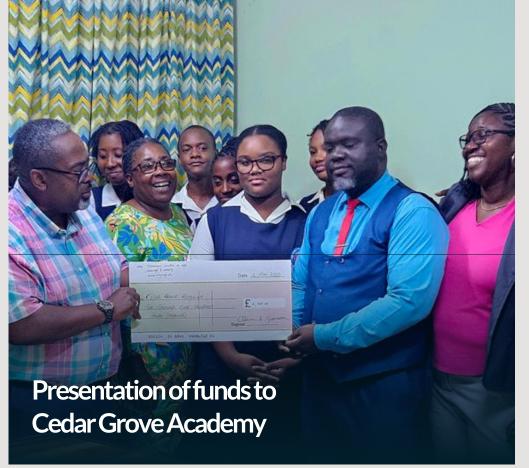


National
Executive
Council of
NTCG England
& Wales Visits
Jamaica for
Centennial
Celebrations.

In a powerful homecoming marked by faith, fellowship, and generosity, the National Executive Council (NEC) of the New Testament Church of God (NTCG), England and Wales, returned to Jamaica—the spiritual birthplace of the UK Church—from May 12–19, 2025. The visit formed a central part of the 100th anniversary celebrations of the New Testament Church of God in Jamaica, officially established in 1925.

Led by Administrative Bishop Claion Grandison, the NEC's journey was more than a ceremonial occasion; it was a heartfelt reunion with the land and the people whose Pentecostal fervour birthed a thriving Church movement across the Atlantic. The visit reflected deep gratitude for Jamaica's spiritual legacy and reaffirmed the UK Church's commitment to shared Kingdom work.

"The story of the New Testament Church of God in England and Wales cannot be told without Jamaica," Bishop Grandison affirmed. "The men and women who journeyed from this island brought with them a vibrant Pentecostal faith, a love for God, and a vision that would birth a movement in the UK."



That movement began in 1953 with pioneers like Dr. Oliver A. Lyseight and has since grown into a dynamic network of over 15,000 members and 40,000 adherents in England and Wales. Their visit back to Jamaica was, in the words of Bishop Dr. Roy Notice, Administrative Bishop of NTCG Jamaica, "a powerful statement of kinship and shared commitment to Kingdombuilding." The delegation's impact was felt far beyond the pulpit. Thanks to the generous donations from local churches across England and Wales, the UK Church was able to sow significantly into vital ministries and institutions in Jamaica:



Waltham Congregation

Throughout the week, the NEC also joined with congregations in worship and fellowship, attending services at Waltham Park, Oracabessa, Ocho Rios, and St. Ann's Bay. These gatherings were rich in praise and spiritual reflection, celebrating God's faithfulness over a century and the unity of the Church across nations.

- Chairs were purchased for Claremont NTCG in St. Ann, enhancing the worship experience for its growing congregation.
- A substantial donation was made toward the purchase of sound equipment for Cedar Grove Academy, the Church's flagship educational institution.
- The Yadel Girls' Home was blessed with computers, tablets, and other gifts, equipping vulnerable young women with the tools to thrive in today's digital world.

Reaffirmation of the enduring bond

This historic visit marks a reaffirmation of the enduring bond between NTCG Jamaica and NTCG England & Wales—a bond forged in faith, refined through resilience, and directed by a shared mission to reach people, transform communities, and glorify God. As the centenary celebrations continue, we echo the words of Lamentations 3:23:

"Great is His faithfulness; His mercies begin afresh each morning." Indeed, this is a new morning for a century-strong Church with a future as rich in promise as its past is in testimony.





n January 1st,1830, Scottish lawyer Charles Lyell published 'The Principles of Geology', promoting an ancient earth, millions of years, and an account of history completely at odds with Scripture. His self-declared aim was to "Free science from Moses."

A young Charles Darwin took a copy of this book with him on the famous Beagle voyage, having become a faithful follower of Lyell. The result was the publication of, "On the Origin of Species", and a declaration that the Bible was "To be no more trusted than the sacred writings of the Hindoos."

Together, these two men changed the way that people viewed the Earth, rejecting the Creator, and worshipping the creation (Romans 1), promoting a naturalistic anti-God philosophy, and ultimately, leading to a mass exodus from the Church. For over 50 years, Creation Research has been fighting back! Founded by Australian geologist, John Mackay, the ministry of Creation Research exists to seek evidence for the Biblical account of Creation, Noah's Flood, Tower of Babel and related subjects. We investigate and promote such evidence in order to glorify Christ and build His church.

Our aim is to show people that there are many ideas, opinions, and theories that contradict every single part of the Bible – but the facts never do! The creation message has become essential in a world where God is rejected. If people can accept Jesus Christ as creator (Col 1:16), then Jesus Christ as Saviour (John 3:16) is the next logical step. We spread the message of Christ through research, presentations, museums and resources.



In the UK, Creation Research is headed up by international speaker, writer and researcher, Joseph Hubbard, aided by a faithful team who keep the ministry running. Steve Chedgzoy acts as museum manager and curator, overseeing the UK museum ministry. The UK museum project is a vital part of the ministry. Our world class exhibits show that God's Word is true from the very beginning (Psa 119:160), and that the lie of evolution and millions of years does not hold up to reality.



SUPPORT THE WORK OF PREATION RESEARCH

- Visit the Creation Research Centre in Oswestry
- Invite a speaker to your church
- Subscribe to our evidence-filled research-based magazine
- Donate through the Creation Research Trust

Make use of the resources available at creationresearchstore.com, the QnA site askjohnmackay.com, and the work we do at creationresearchuk.com.





Just one of the many pieces of evidence on display is found in the 'After their Kind' exhibition — based on the Biblical command given 10 times in Genesis 1. Living fossils are example of creatures that have not evolved but have instead reproduced after their kind — just like the Bible said they should.

From jellyfish to squid, coelacanths to pine trees, the evidence is clear – creatures haven't evolved! The museum network brings together churches around the UK, displaying this real-world evidence for the real God of the real world!

Creation Research UK Team





"A great time to show your children how faith can travel, literally and spiritually."

As the school gates close and summer begins, families across the country breathe a collective sigh of relief—and maybe a little panic. With six weeks of free time ahead, how do we keep our children engaged, rested, and spiritually nourished? Whether you're planning a big getaway or staying closer to home, this summer can be more than just a break—it can be a blessing.



01.

Rest is Holy

First things first: rest is not a luxury, it's biblical. In a world that glorifies busyness, summer offers a divine pause. Encourage your family to embrace slower mornings, digital detoxes, and the beauty of Sabbath rest. Create space for your children to reconnect with God outside the routine of school life—morning devotionals, quiet times in nature, or evening gratitude prayers around the dinner table can make a big impact.



02.

Budget-Friendly Day Trips

You don't need a passport to make memories. From picnics in the park to local museums, nature trails, and beach days, there's so much to explore. Make it fun: try a "mystery day" where your kids don't know the destination until you get there! Look out for free community events, church youth activities, or even volunteer opportunities to serve together.

03.

Faith-Filled Fun

Summer camps, youth conferences, and VBS (Vacation Bible School) are fantastic ways for children and teens to stay connected spiritually while having fun. If you're part of a local NTCG church, consider hosting a family fun day or holiday club to bless your community and create outreach opportunities.

04.

Travel with Purpose

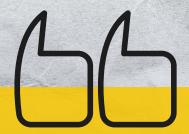
If you're heading abroad, take your faith with you! Pack a family devotional, stream worship music for the road, or learn a phrase or two in the local language to connect with people. Holidays are a great time to show your children how faith can travel—literally and spiritually.



05.

Capture the Moments

Finally, encourage your family to journal or scrapbook their summer highlights. Reflect on where they saw God, what made them laugh, or what they learned. It's a meaningful way to mark the moments and head into the new school year with hearts full of gratitude.



This summer, let's not just "pass the time"—let's purpose the time. With a little planning and a whole lot of prayer, the weeks ahead can be a powerful season of rest, reconnection, and joyful memories for your family and your faith.

Happy Summer!

Rachelle Morris Travel Business Owner







Sharing Good News and Great Joy





LAST YEAR, NEARLY 12 MILLION OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES WERE COLLECTED AND DISTRIBUTED GLOBALLY.

New Testament Church of God (NTCG) churches in the UK and Caribbean are partnering with Samaritan's Purse to see Gospel breakthrough among children in hard-to-reach communities around the world. It all begins with simple shoebox gifts that bring joy to children who need to know the love of Jesus Christ. Last year, nearly 12 million Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were collected and distributed globally—including more than 200,000 shared by local churches across the Caribbean, with nearly 30,000 reaching children in Jamaica alone.

Churches in Jamaica also taught The Greatest Journey a 12-lesson discipleship programme—to over 9,000 of the children who had received shoebox gifts. Led by trained local volunteers, The Greatest Journey guides boys and girls through foundational biblical truths, helping them grow in their faith and understand what it means to follow Jesus. During the course, they are given the opportunity to give their lives to the Lord, and upon graduation, each child receives their very own New Testament—often the first Bible their family has ever owned. As a result of this outreach in Jamaica, more than 2,000 children have made personal decisions to follow Jesus and share Him with others. At Waltham Park NTCG in Kingston, a young girl named Abrianna bravely shared what she had learned from The Greatest Journey during Girls Day in church. You can watch what she shared here. Will you prayerfully consider joining this mission and packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child in 2025? Through the simple act of filling a shoebox with toys,

school supplies, and other fun gifts, you and your church can become part of a profound missional movement—demonstrating God's tangible care and opening doors for the Gospel in communities all around the world. To learn more about how to pack shoeboxes and get your church involved, visit: <u>SamaritansPurse.org.uk/occ</u>. National Collection Week is 10–17 November 2025.

In recent years, Samaritan's Purse has prioritised reaching children who are often overlooked, or live in marginalised communities. One such group is the deaf community. At Cedar Grove Academy in Portmore, St. Catherine—an NTCG-sponsored school—Waltham Park NTCG shared the Gospel in sign language with deaf students as part of The Greatest Journey. A local volunteer shared how one young boy, often seen as disruptive, was deeply moved by the Gospel during the second lesson, which simply explains the concept of sin. We thank God for stories like these.

In a world often marked by despair, Samaritan's Purse and local church partners see Operation Christmas Child as a testament to the transformative power of God's love. It reminds us that even the smallest acts of generosity, coupled with the power of the Gospel, can have an immeasurable and eternal missional impact.

Over a quarter of NTCG churches in the UK have packed shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child in recent years—and Samaritan's Purse is deeply grateful to every one of you who has partnered in this amazing project. Thank you for helping to bring light and life to children across the globe.



Nick Cole Director of Operation Christmas Child (OCC) UK

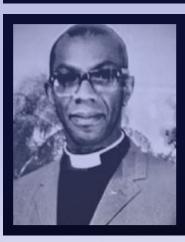














CELEBRATING OUR HERITAGE
EMBRACING THE FUTURE

PIONEERS















"Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power".

Psalm 145:4



"The flame could not be doused, and the worldwide growth and development through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit bears witness"

eritage is defined as something handed down from the past, as a tradition, a national legacy of honour and cultural values worthy of preservation.

The New Testament Church of God (NTCG), as a branch of a worldwide movement, has survived and expanded exponentially over 72 years, since the feet of early Caribbean immigrants first landed on the shores of the then "Great Britain" in the early 1950s.

The UK establishment is attributed to Dr Oliver A Lyseight, who in November 1951 arrived in England and settled in Wolverhampton, where he pioneered and planted the NTCG in Great Britain and as said, 'the rest is history'. NTCG's early years under Dr Lyseight are available from various documented sources of NTCG history,

We owe much gratitude to Rev Phyllis Thompson, who, appointed as NTCG Education Director in 2007 during the Tenure of Bishop Eric Brown, initiated an important shift in the focus of education by including the Heritage Centre to:-

"Identify, preserve and interpret our Pentecostal heritage, make it accessible to others, within and beyond our denomination and enable all to engage with our mission and ministry in a new way"

NTCG Education transitioned from EBI to Overstone, the Leadership Training Centre at Horseshoe Street, Northampton, then alongside the National Office at Cheyne Walk, where the Heritage Centre was officially opened in 2013. Heritage preservation necessitates dedication and commitment collect and document valuable stories relevant materials contribute to the historical record of an organisation. Those stories should be categorised and archived (Safely preserved and stored, enabling retrievability for future use).

Early Pioneers

Many early pioneers experienced open racism in a hostile terrain reminiscent of the Israelites' emotional turmoil through their exile from their homeland (Psalm 137). Though met with hostility, our pioneers held onto their Pentecostal heritage with strong determination which could not be thwarted.

As the inflow of immigrants increased, many found the indigenous churches unreceptive, so although the intention was to spend no more than five years in England, such was the environment that many succumbed to the realisation that there were no streets of gold in England; therefore, they began bringing their spouses, families & Pentecostal worship into the country.

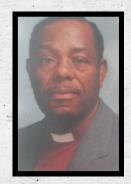
As the indigenous churches marginalised the "Lively Pentecostals", the flame could not be doused, and the worldwide growth and development through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit bear witness to Matthew 28: 19-20. Initially, London worshippers were unaware of the Midlanders. The Wolverhampton church was officially organised in 1953, led by Bishop Lyseight. When the office of National Overseer was conferred on Bishop Lyseight, the Midlands and southern churches became centralised under his leadership.

In 1953, Ena Beccan said goodbye to her home in Manchester, Jamaica and arrived in London. Following her conversion at the age of 22, she felt the call to ministry, and after she arrived in England, she connected with Sidney U Thompson, Brother Tomlin, who, along with a faithful group, were holding prayer meetings in the home of



Uriah Swaby in Kilburn, where Willesden NTCG church was birthed. Mother Beccan's determination for evangelism was evident in her tireless work alongside the men contributing to the planting, and development of churches in the southern region such as Willesden, Hammersmith, Clapton, Brixton and Aldershot Against the odds she was instrumental in the purchase of the Mile End church where she served as Pastor for 18 years earning great respect as a woman of integrity and the Word.

In 1955, another Pioneer landing in London was Cyril Hastings from Caledonia, Jamaica. He made a full commitment to the Lord when he attended a Billy Graham Crusade at Wembley Arena in June 1955. Cyril worshipped with the Kilburn group, but following a disagreement, he was prepared to join the AoG. However, after



paying a deposit on a home in Kensall Green, he went to check if the Sold sign had been erected and hearing lively worship nearby, he discovered they were the same group of Church of God people he had been trying to avoid.

Following on from Willesden, Cyril commuted from London to Reading for 3 years to establish a Sunday school. Eventually, he moved to Reading, where numeric growth necessitated the need for a place of worship. Attempts to buy a 'for sale' cinema building met with opposition from a pop group (The Sex Pistols) who wanted the property, but God intervened and its neon lighting changed from flashing movie titles to flashing 'New Testament Church of God'. After 18 years in Reading, he moved to Leeds, where he was instrumental in the purchase of the Leeds building in Easterly Road. God granted them favour, and the move from Chapeltown Road to Easterly Road was celebrated by a march from the old to the new. Rev Hastings also served on the NEC, as well as teaching students, one of his favourite subjects being eschatology.

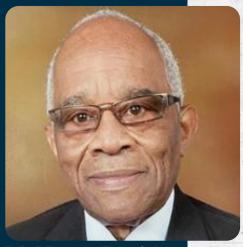
Stories from some immigrants settling in the UK are preserved in the NTCG Heritage Centre, Northampton. Undoubtedly, numerous rich contributions are boxed or strewn away in lofts or cellars, undisturbed treasures of our heritage gathering dust, and even word-of-mouth stories waiting to be recorded can add richness to our legacy.

Such donations to the NTCG Heritage Centre would be greatly welcomed because the ultimate aim for our legacy is a publication of researched documentation covering our heritage up to the current period.

In his capacity as NTCG Director of Education and Heritage, Bishop Henry urges all with access to any valuable stories, programs, documents or pictures, not to allow the following quote from Dr Miles Munroe to be true of NTCG "The richest places on earth is the graveyards" (filled with stories never told, books never written)"



Rev. Sadie Brooks
Heritage Administrator



Mr Newton Lyseight

"Our heritage is our identity.
Respect it, protect it,"
NTCG Connect





"Relational theology arises from the very nature of our triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—dwelling in perfect communion."

Anchored in the NTCG Vision: Relevant, Relational, Reimagining

In John 15:5, Jesus reminds us, "apart from me you can do nothing." This profound truth underlines relational theology—connection before action. It is seen vividly in Acts 2:42–47, where believers shared life and leadership. The New Testament Church of God's Leadership Training Centre (LTC) aims to live out this relational dynamic, shaping leaders who are theologically sound, spiritually mature, and deeply connected in Christ.

Theological Foundation

Relational theology arises from the very nature of our triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—dwelling in perfect communion (Genesis 1:26–27). The Incarnation exemplifies this divine connectedness. In John 17:21, Jesus prays for believers to be one; Ephesians 4:11–16 teaches that leadership gifts serve the Body through relational discipleship. In God's Kingdom, leadership flows from relationship—heart to heart—before function.

This foundation shapes mentoring networks, spiritual accountability, and the journey of theological growth. It is within this relational framework that our LTC leadership training seeks to develop theologically robust, Spirit-led individuals who are equipped not just with knowledge, but with character formed in community.

Vision and Growth of the NTCG-LTC

Since its founding in 1963, the LTC has grown through the conviction that leadership is forged in relationship. With six accomplished principals and directors guiding its journey, the LTC has expanded from modest classroom gatherings to a thriving online-centre for theological and ministerial training —delivering CIMS, CAMS, MIP, CMDP and other programmes and courses across both physical and virtual platforms.

In alignment with NTCG's vision to be Relevant, Relational, and Reimagining, the LTC's embrace of digital tools—such as the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and cutting edge tech bbl-supported online assessments—demonstrates innovation without compromising theological depth. The Centre continues to support leadership that is biblically rooted, practically equipped, and relationally shaped.

A key example of this is the growing Relational Discipleship Programme, currently led by Bishop Darryl Gidharry, Reverend Veronica Patmore, and a dynamic national team. Drawing on discipleship materials developed by Randy Ballard, this initiative has begun forming a strong within relational culture our leadership communities—fostering intentional growth, mutual accountability, and pastoral development that is rooted in sound theology and lived-out faith.

Testimonies are plentiful: youth leaders strengthened through peer mentoring; ministers growing in spiritual maturity through relational cohorts; programme coordinators and facilitators—such as Bishops Jonathan Jackson, Albert Watson, Tony Parry, and others—empowered by training that blends face-to-face learning with online engagement. This is theological leadership—not abstract, but lived in community, guided by the Spirit, and anchored in the heart of the Church's mission.

A Personal Word of Encouragement

Dear friends and fellow labourers, as the seventh National Education Director, I thank you for your dedication to Spirit-led leadership. You are part of a divine movement, not merely an institution. I urge you—go deeper into relational formation: invite someone to walk alongside you, join an LTC cohort, or become a mentor to the next generation. As we pursue the NTCG's vision to be theologically sound and relationally grounded, may God continue to form Christlike leaders through genuine fellowship, spiritual depth, and prayerful humility. Let us lead together in step with the Spirit.

In Closing

The growth of the Leadership Training Centre is not simply organisational—it is spiritual, relational, and visionary. May we raise leaders in the love of God, rooted in theological soundness. Come—pray, partner, participate—and help shape a generation of relevant, relational, and reimagined leadership for the Kingdom.

Bishop Delroy Henry

National Education Director New Testament Church of God, England & Wales







Sip of Goodness

Fuel your body with nutritious goodness.

Green smoothies offer a range of health benefits due to their high concentration of vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants from leafy greens and fruits.

4 Benefits of green smoothies

01. Improved Digestive Health

Helps food move through the digestive system, which prevents constipation and bloating.

02. Increases energy

Filled with vital nutrients and minerals to help you feel energised,

03. Promotes Healthy Skin

Getting your daily intake of fruits and veggies is not only beneficial for the inside of your body, but it also does wonders for the outside.

04. Packed with antioxidants

Antioxidants are vital substances that are needed to protect cells against free radicals, which can play a role in the development of chronic conditions such as heart disease, certain cancers and other inflammatory disorders.

SMOOTHE

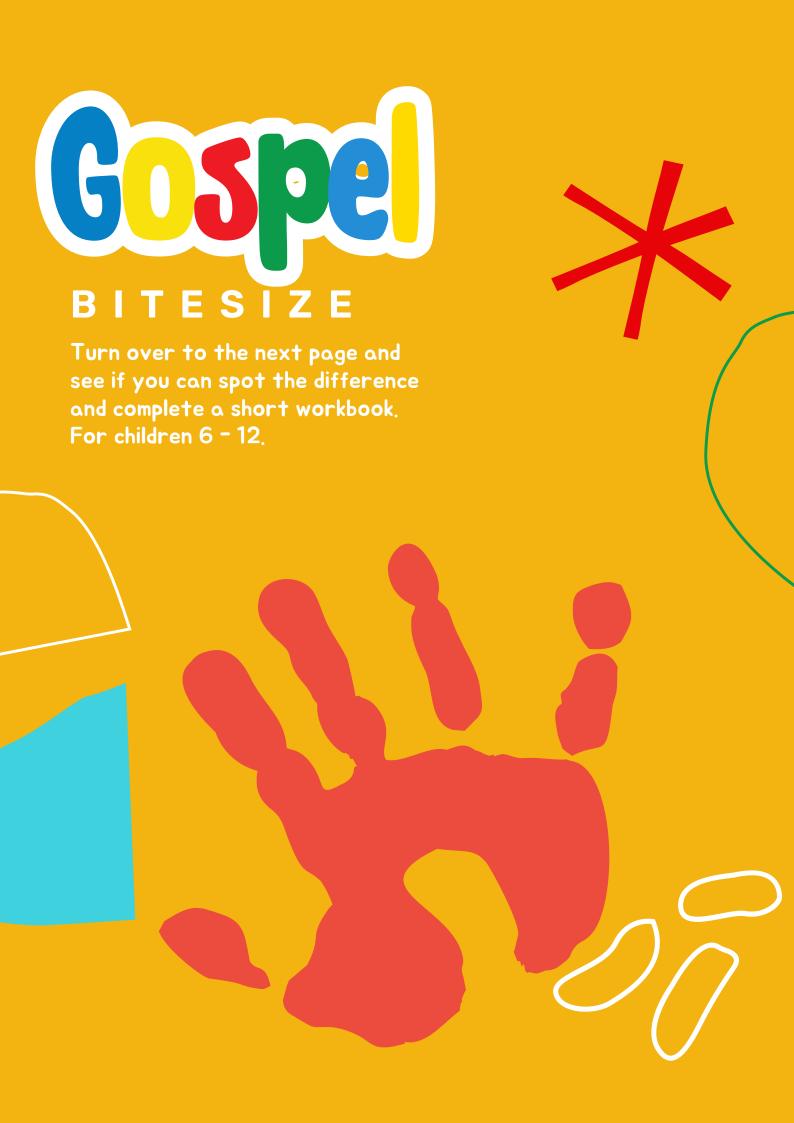
Ingredients:

2 cups spinach 1 ripe banana 1 apple 1/2 cucumber 1/2 lemon, juiced 1/2 cup Greek yogurt 1/2 cup almond milk 1 tbsp honey (optional)

Method:

- Put spinach, banana, apple, cucumber, and lemon juice to a blender.
- Add the Greek yogurt and almond milk. If desired, add a tablespoon of honey for sweetness.
- Blend all the ingredients until the mixture is smooth and creamy.





SHORT HISTORY

THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Instructions: Read the following passage and answer the questions in your workbooks.

Today, many churches celebrate a special day called Pentecost. It was on the day of Pentecost that God sent his Holy Spirit to the church.



The Bible tells us that the apostles were all gathered together when suddenly there was a sound like a mighty, rushing wind. Then, it says, they were filled with the Holy Spirit. God's Holy Spirit is like the wind, we can't see him, but we can know that he is there because he speaks to our hearts. Another way we can know that the Holy Spirit is there is that we can see him moving people to do God's will.

Acts 2:1-8

"When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested_[a] on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. 7 And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language."

Questions

- 1. What special celebration was taking place in our story?
- 2. When the believers were gathered together what sound did they hear?
- 3. What did the believers see?
- 4. Who filled each of the believers on the Day of Pentecost?
- 5. Why were the people in Jerusalem confused?
- 6. Which prophet wrote about God's promise to send the Holy Spirit?

ON THE BEACH

Look at the pictures below and spot the differences.







NTCG BIBLE IN A YEAR CHALLENGE

Devoted



Most Christians never completely read the whole Bible. Many people start reading the Bible but then become overwhelmed by the number of chapters (1,189) and verses (31,102) there are. What we don't realize is that we can read the Bible in a year by reading fewer than four chapters a day. By dividing the Bible into 365 daily readings, your goal of reading the Bible in a year can easily be accomplished, so let us do this together! Click here to read Bible Society's online bible.

May	2025
iviay	2025

- 1 II Samuel 5-9
- 2 Psalms 51-53
- 3 Job 35-36
- 4 Jeremiah 27-31
- 5 Mark 15-16
- 6 II Corinthians 4-5
- 7 Exodus 21-24
- 8 II Samuel 10-14
- 9 Psalms 54-56
- 10 Job 37-38
- 11 Jeremiah 32-36
- 12 Luke 1-2
- 13 II Corinthians 6-8
- 14 Exodus 25-28
- 15 II Samuel 15-19
- 16 Psalms 57-59
- 17 Job 39-40
- 18 Jeremiah 37-41
- 19 Luke 3-4
- 20 II Corinthians 9-10
- 21 Exodus 29-32
- 22 II Samuel 20-24
- 23 Psalms 60-62
- 24 Job 41-42
- 25 Jeremiah 42-46
- 26 Luke 5-6
- 27 II Corinthians 11-13
- 28 Exodus 33-36
- 29 I Kings 1-4
- 30 Psalms 63-65
- 31 Proverbs 1

June 2025

- 1 Jeremiah 47-52
- 2 Luke 7-8
- 3 Galatians 1-3
- 4 Exodus 37-40
- 5 1 Kinas 5-9
- 6 Psalms 66-68
- 7 Proverbs 2-3
- 8 Lamentations
- 9 Luke 9-10
- 10 Galatians 4-6
- 11 Leviticus 1-3
- 12 I Kings 10-13
- 13 Psalms 69-71
- 14 Proverbs 4
- 15 Ezekiel 1-6
- 16 Luke 11-12
- 17 Ephesians 1-3
- 18 Leviticus 4-6
- 19 I Kings 14-18
- 20 Psalms 72-74
- 21 Proverbs 5-6
- 22 Fzekiel 7-12
- 23 Luke 13-14
- 24 Ephesians 4-6
- 25 Leviticus 7-9
- 26 I Kinas 19-22
- 27 Psalms 75-77
- 28 Proverbs 7
- 29 Ezekiel 13-18
- 30 Luke 15-16

July 2025

- 1 Philippians 1-2
- 2 Leviticus 10-12
- 3 II Kings 1-5
- 4 Psalms 78-80
- 5 Proverbs 8-9
- 6 Ezekiel 19-24
- 7 Luke 17-18
- 8 Philippians 3-4
- 9 Leviticus 13-15
- 10 II Kings 6-10
- 11 Psalms 81-83
- 12 Proverbs 10
- 13 Ezekiel 25-30
- 14 Luke 19-20
- 15 Colossians 1-2
- 16 Leviticus 16-18
- 17 II Kings 11-15
- 18 Psalms 84-86
- 19 Proverbs 11-12
- 20 Ezekiel 31-36
- 21 Luke 21-22
- 22 Colossians 3-4
- 23 Leviticus 19-21
- 24 II Kings 16-20
- 25 Psalms 87-89
- 26 Proverbs 13
- 27 Ezekiel 37-42
- 28 Luke 23-24
- 29 I Thessalonians 1-3
- 30 Leviticus 22-24
- 31 II Kings 21-25

August 2025

- 1 Psalms 90-92 2 - Proverbs 14-15
- 3 Ezekiel 43-48
- 4 John 1-2
- 5 I Thessalonians 4-5
- 6 Leviticus 25-27
- 7 I Chronicles 1-4
- 8 Psalms 93-95
- 9 Proverbs 16
- 10 Daniel 1-6
- 11 John 3-4
- 12 II Thessalonians
- 13 Numbers 1-4
- 14 I Chronicles 5-9
- 15 Psalms 96-98
- 16 Proverbs 17-18
- 17 Daniel 7-12
- 18 John 5-6
- 19 I Timothy 1-3
- 20 Numbers 5-8
- 21 I Chronicles 10-14
- 22 Psalms 99-101
- 23 Proverbs 19
- 24 Hosea 1-7
- 25 John 7-9
- 26 I Timothy 4-6
- 27 Numbers 9-12
- 28 I Chronicles 15-19
- 29 Psalms 102-104
- 30 Proverbs 20-21
- 31 Hosea 8-14

The reading plan from September to December will be featured in the next issue.

CHURCH LIXS

www.ntcg.org.uk/connect | contact@ntcg.org.uk

Connecting members of the New Testament Church of God to its leadership and to each other.







