

## Mike's Testimony

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

I can confidently state to you that the Lord Jesus Christ was telling the truth in both of His following two statements taken from the Holy Bible!

*Jn 14:23 Jesus replied, If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. (NIV holy bible)*

*Mt 7:24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." 28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, (NIV holy bible)*

### "Jesus" and "Suicide"

These two words alone are guaranteed to make you start to become invisible to those around you. With the result that you, the victim, are denied important information and vital social contact necessary for life and growth. Because of this exclusion from society within your community, both religious and secular, you are unable to satisfy your five basic life needs.

1. Physiological: food - water - shelter.
2. Safety: protection from threat and danger.
3. Belonging: love - acceptance - part of a group.
4. Self-esteem: recognition - feeling worthwhile - respected.
5. Self-Actualisation: creative - using full potential - determiner of your own life.

As both disciples of Jesus and Carers of a suicidal wife and mother, we know what it is like to be ostracised by Family, Community, Church and State. However, we overcame our trouble because we had our Lord God to help us by living with us! When they hurt us, they hurt Him! When they forced us into homelessness, they forced Him into homelessness! When they forced us into poverty, they forced Him into poverty! When they defamed us, they defamed Him!

See *Mt 25:31-46*.

It is 54 years since my Lord Jesus first came into my life. From Tolworth Surrey in 1948 to Stirchley Birmingham in 2002. A journey full of excitement, perplexity, pain, and surprise, living with a God who proved that He loved me and could care for me through my union with His only Son, my Saviour and Friend, Jesus.

I was pleased to announce in 2002 the opening of our new Web site on the Internet, [www.disciples-of-jesus.com](http://www.disciples-of-jesus.com).

My Christ-given ministry since 1977 is a genuine ministry to both the Body of Christ and the unsaved throughout the world. A benevolent ministry that is continually being guided and blessed by my Lord Jesus Christ according to the will of His Father God and given to me in public prophecy through an Apostle, Rev.

Ken Newton of Wholeness Ministries International in 1987.

My ministry has, despite efforts to stop me, enabled me to play my part in preparing God's people for works of service. So that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

www.disciples-of-jesus.com will be the place to go in order to obtain and share relevant information that is needed but is not easily obtainable elsewhere. In addition, a place that will help you feel part of a larger community, the Body of Christ world-wide, a group of ardent disciples in love with Jesus, their Lord and Saviour. Christianity is a partnership! Christianity involves the whole Body of Christ not just a few!

### **56 Years of Testimony**

Mine is a true story! It tells how the Lord Jesus Christ first came into my life. How He then saved me from going to hell. How He then helped me cope with my role as a Carer of a suicidal wife. Then to the amazement of others and myself He used me to witness for Him.

### **A Testimony in Three Parts**

#### **From My Birth to the Cross**

The 29 years, 1948 to 1977, it took God the Holy Spirit to bring me to a conviction of my sin towards my creator, my neighbour and me. It took Him this long to win me to Jesus because I was in total rebellion against God, wholly alienated, intensely prejudiced, and committed against Him. Self-gratification was all I desired in my life and how badly I behaved if I did not get satisfaction. My heart was wicked and it took all these years for it to be changed. My enmity was voluntary, and had to be overcome by the Word of God, made effectual by the teaching of the Holy Spirit. I could feel constantly the burden of my sin, the horrors and terrors of remorse, and the sense of condemnation and of being lost. I read the Holy Bible and I did not match up to its description of a Christian.

#### **At the Cross**

That tremendous day in September 1977, when I stood in the De Montfort Hall in Leicester and finally knew in my heart and mind that Jesus was the true answer to all my problems. I could see that God was perfectly benevolent, and infinitely opposed to all my selfishness. The law had found me guilty! However, Jesus had taken my punishment in full so that I could walk free washed clean by His precious blood. I cannot say with all honesty that I understood everything. It took several years for me to see more clearly what a tremendous thing God had done for me. However, prayerfully I responded to His Gospel presented to me through the Witness Christian Musical. There and then, my guilt disappeared as I embraced the Lord Jesus as my Saviour from sin and condemnation.

#### **After The Cross.**

These past 25 years. Years in which God has used me to witness for His only Son, Jesus Christ, through the power of God the Holy Spirit while at the same time maturing me as His child in Christian ways. My gospel teachers did not apply the law to my conscience until all my self-righteousness was annihilated, and I stood speechless and self-condemned before a holy God. In some ways, even my accepting the Gospel was a mite selfish; escape my living hell. Yet, I did love Jesus! Whatever, God certainly testified that He had accepted the death of His Son as a substitute for the death of Me. My whole salvation is in Christ.

Eventually as the years passed, I was more able to prove to many people that Jesus was not only alive, He

was alive in all His other loving and obedient disciples, and me! Many times I have sinned and had to go back to the Cross. In order that public justice was satisfied again. For how could God forgive my sin in the exercise of mercy if that would mean the good of the public being sacrificed to that of the individual? God will never do this! Jesus must die for all my sin!

### **Converted or Unconverted?**

It is important that you hear what God has done for me! As I exercised heart trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit has shown me so much of how His power can help others in so many parts of the world. I feel it is my duty, indeed my call from God, to share it with you as an "Eye-Witness" of Christ's glory and power over evil. Of the grace and peace I have received from God my Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for my sins to rescue me from the present evil age, according to the will of my God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

I tell you no lies! You will not read made-up stories. Nor mystical ramblings of flowery abstract words backed up with selected examples from revival history and the support of like-minded church leaders. No! You will read of truthful happenings that can and have been proven beyond all reasonable doubt. I was there when the Lord Jesus saved, healed, and gave much needed directions to those that God graciously wanted to help. Many rejected His gift and suffered for it, which is so sad. These are true stories of a weak man who with his weak family was chosen by God, not the church, to do those things He desired. A weak man, under the control of the Holy Spirit, achieved that which could only have come from God. A weak man who did those benevolent things towards sinners that only the love of God in his heart could achieve. I have witnessed great miracles, acts of God in which natural laws were set aside. Miracles which were beyond my power to control or understand. I long for more of them to happen!

### **Evasive Church Leaders**

Since 1977, leaders in the Christian church have avoided me, especially evangelical leaders. For example, we once lived for 10 years in Balsall Heath an inner-city area of Birmingham with 30 Christian churches within a mile of our home. Despite all our efforts, not one leader became a sociable friend. Even living here in Stirchley, after 2 years not one church leader has responded to our communications. It is not that they criticise me. Far from it! They never order me from their churches yet discomfort is always on their faces and in their actions. However, those who benefited from the power of the Lord Jesus Christ in my life gave praise to God for His loving kindness towards them. Now my enemies in the Christian church are ashamed! For when they hurt my family, they hurt God who was living in us and working through us.

### **To Nominal Christians**

My prayer to my Father God is that He will use my Testimony and the Holy Bible to encourage them to take the living Lord Jesus Christ seriously. To venture upon Jesus by a present acceptance of Him as their wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, and see if He will not do for them exceeding abundantly above all that they asked or thought.

### **Jesus can be Trusted**

It is truly wonderful that in this evil world we can have in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ someone living in us who can be trusted. During some of the darkest days of my life, his presence was the most obvious to me. During an eleven year period of being persecuted and ostracised here in Birmingham, I often sat, stood, or walked in meditation feeling myself being gently rocked by the Holy Spirit. These most priceless experiences have enabled me to restore to my mind during times of doubt the positive truths of Gods faithful companionship with me.

So often Jesus has just responded to my crying with the gentle words:

*"I know, Mike, I know!"*

*John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

### **Our Suffering can be Beneficial!**

I am constantly learning to increase my trust in the Lord Jesus! Throughout this testimony, I want to share with you just a few of my remarkable personal experiences that have resulted from my union with Him, my faithful master and friend, all these years. See *Jn 21:24-25*. A living Saviour, whom along with His Father and the Holy Spirit came into my life and made their home with me and my family. A true miracle!

Saving faith is heart trust in Christ; that works by love, it purifies the heart, and overcomes the world; no faith is saving that has not these attributes. My faith is confidence in Jesus as a fact and a person based on my 54 years of experiences and knowledge of His reliableness and consistency; a phenomenon of my will in obeying spiritual enlightenment, given upon repentance of my sins and trusting Christ. My faith does not consist in embracing what I do not understand. For "saving" faith is the life of God in the soul of man resulting from a subjective experience founded upon objective truth. The Holy Bible does not teach "blind" faith.

You will read how with them we went through some truly desperate times of testing and survived, even overcoming our own dismal failures. Whenever I stumbled, which was too often for my liking, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit were kind enough to show me great patience and mercy. They were firm, kind, and compassionate in their treatment of me an offender under their power and grace. Not giving me fully what I deserved for my failings but only that chastisement and rebuke that would keep me on the narrow road that leads to life eternal with them and those also saved in Christ. Because of this, it is profitable for us not to be frightened or put off by afflictions but to fully understand that God often makes many of them beneficial.

### **Afflictions:**

Promote the glory of God.

Exhibit Gods power and faithfulness towards us.

Teach us the will of God.

Turn us to God.

Keep us from again departing from God.

Lead us to seek God in prayer.

Convince us of sin.

Lead us to confession of sin.

Test and exhibit our sincerity.

Try our faith and obedience.

Humble us.

Purify us.

Exercise our patience.

Render us fruitful in good works.

Further the gospel, as we are able to be fruitful witnesses of our living Lords involvement in our past and present circumstances.

### **God Knows**

God always knows what He is doing; it is us who struggle to understand. Therefore, we can place our trust in Jesus! I trust Jesus, my Lord and Saviour, though I still wobble. For without His sacrifice for me on the Cross at Calvary, His resurrection back from the dead, His ability to unite with His disciples, and His 54 years of miraculous patience with me, I would be looking forward to an eternity in Hell. He has proven Himself to me over-and-over again!

### **Towards the Cross**

I was born May 16th 1944 in a hospital on the Middlesex side of the River Thames just along from Hampton Court Palace.

### **Can Children Understand Know Jesus?**

Yes they can! My relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ started way back in 1948. When as a four-year-old I attended Sunday School at a Salvation Army Hall based in Red Lion Road, Tolworth in Surrey. I can still picture the young woman teacher who took our pre-entry class. It has long since closed! I cannot remember making a decision that led me to conversion at that early age, but I do know that since then the Holy Spirit has always been with me. I always remember being attracted to Jesus whenever he appeared in films or I sung hymns that mentioned Him. Often as a child I would sneak into my Dads shed and read the big Holy Bible that was kept there. However, a full understanding of Christ's Gospel teachings came to me much later in life.

### **Sheephatch Boarding School**

In 1957, the Holy Spirit encouraged me during an assembly at Fleetwood; my Secondary School in Chessington, to apply to go to a boarding school called Sheephatch.

It is almost impossible to accurately record the true state of mind of a child. So many things interacted with me that all I can describe are the symptoms. Fleetwood and I were just not getting on and my family life at home was difficult. However, God did know, and He definitely encouraged me to go to Sheephatch.

This was a super move! I loved it so much and came alive again for five of the best school terms ever. We used to sing all the favourite Hymns, and learned the meaning of love, fellowship, and co-operation. My test marks just soared, and I learnt so many interesting things. I dread to think what would have happened to my life if the Holy Spirit had not stirred-up my mind to go. It is now a Muslim training centre. At the Reunions, every ex-pupil speaks of the effect Sheephatch had on them. Here is a photo of us outside our dormitory in 1959.

I was able to share with the Pastor of a new extension fellowship, meeting in what was Fleetwood Secondary School, but is now a Community Centre, how 36 years previous the Holy Spirit was actually helping me in the same school hall they had just started to use. How often we must feel we are breaking new ground when in fact the Holy Spirit has already been working there years before. A very important lesson I believe. This fellowship has now built a new church called the Kings Centre. As I was given a vision of this same Pastor being marked out for Gods service, I am not surprised in the least.

### **Real Disciples of Jesus**

My life was muddling on amidst the usual problems that it brings. When in 1970/71, while employed by a Water Company, a Christian colleague of mine invited me into his home for lunch. During the meal he asked me what I felt about Jesus, I remember blushing and not really saying anything. After a smashing meal, his wife gave me a jar of home made Jam as a present.

### **The Holy Bible is Important**

A few days later, I felt the Holy Spirit strongly urging me to buy a Holy Bible; I could not get it out of my mind. This went on for several days until I eventually went into Bentalls Bookshop in Kingston on Thames and bought my first Holy Bible.

How the Bible stories came alive again, especially the story of Jesus. I well remember feeling grieved at the unfairness of His trial and how he was treated. From that moment on I felt an inner drive to start looking for a way out of the miserable sinful life I had established for myself. It was to be the start of a very real internal battle to overcome the weaknesses and habits within my heart, while at the same time resisting the efforts of those who wanted me to stay as I was. The ever present ones!

Years later, while studying at a Bible Institute, I sent a postcard to those two hospitable Christians, via an ex-colleague still working for the Water Company, as I did not have their address. He and a few others who knew me back in those days just could not believe it that I was at Bible College.

They wrote back to me and we subsequently visited them in that same little house. They had used my letter to give a testimony talk to their congregation. We never really know what God can do when we share with others that we love Jesus. They only asked me a simple question and that was used mightily by the Holy Spirit to set into motion a chain of events that led to my being blessed by God.

### **The Curse of Suicidal Behaviour**

After one failed marriage I rebounded into another disaster, although I felt at the time it was what God wanted. In human terms, I suppose I was an idiot. However, it may be that God wanted to use two weak humans to do that which only He could achieve living with us. We moved up to Leicester, and then the problems started to appear. We plodded on trying to be creative until our first daughter was born. It was then that the suicidal behaviour of my wife appeared.

*A Christian friend sent me this message, 1 Pet 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (NIV holy bible)*

### **For us, (a little while) lasted for over 24 years!**

The appearance of suicidal mental illness in my wife was a disaster for the whole family, a disaster in which all of us were victims of the event and the complications of the illness. No one and no part of the emotional life of our family escaped unaffected. We all felt the effects of direct involvement, while the grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and more remote relations learnt of the affliction from us. The illness even reached those to whom its existence was never exactly disclosed: kept from direct involvement, they elaborate explanations for my wife's mysterious, erratic inaccessibility, drawing on gossip if not on fact.

The illness touched everyone, affecting attitudes towards self and towards life, producing symptoms in other family members, altering family structure, influencing life choices, and more. This suicidal behaviour blighted our lives for 20+ years. Yet, in it all God used us! To those Christians and members of the public around us, the suicidal mental illness was generally regarded as an undesirable attribute in our family. A family to keep away from. A family to whom you have to pretend friendship while doing all you can to avoid personal and social contact. The church seems to imply that only perfect marriages can be acceptable to God.

Within the medical and counselling arena, professional attention was devoted largely to treating the wife. Family members, especially myself, were relegated to adjunctive roles or regarded as barriers to recovery. Whenever I tried to reveal my own and the children's suffering and injury too extensively, I was seen as unduly self-absorbed. To this day, we have not been told what was causing the suicide attempts. It was impossible for me to protect myself from those who blamed me for the suicides because the experts keep their information from me.

In learning to cope with suicidal mental illness, our relatives, friends, and church leaders had to cope first with those elements of their own experiences evoked by the illness-related behaviour.

In our case, they all failed!

## **The Carers Act**

Thanks to this Act and the new Caring for Carers strategy, Carers can now be assessed regarding the help they need. There are still many deficiencies so we must not let up on the Government, Agencies, and Church Organisations that are involved in the field of Caring.

## **At the Cross - The Gospel Does Work**

After a great deal of thought, I believed that we should seek the help and encouragement of Christians. Knowing in my heart that Jesus was OK, I reckoned that Christians must be, although I could not see the relevance of Church and had never met many good Christians. We decided to join a small C of E Church in our village. We went through the rituals of Church membership and Confirmation, which I had to admit, seemed to be more formal than spiritual.

In 1978, the Church organised an outing to see a Christian Musical called The Witness. Performed at De Montfort Hall by a group of Americans it portrayed the Gospel Story from Peter's perspective. It was through this that the Holy Spirit showed me exactly who the Lord Jesus was and what He had done for me. He was going to get me into this new life that the Holy Spirit had guided me toward all those years. What a night as I went forward at the end to publicly confess my love for Him.

## **Real Christianity**

I was to discover that Christianity is an exciting and fulfilling experience. A consciousness, where personal communication or exchange between a divine God in three persons and a created human being is the secret of the whole of it. *Jn 14:23 Jesus replied, If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. (NIV holy bible)* and *Rev 3:20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. (NIV holy bible)*

When I studied the Holy Bible over a period of time I saw with great clarity that it describes those who are right with the Lord Jesus Christ, as having a living relationship with Him, His Father, the Holy Spirit, and each other. It puzzled me as to why Christians shouted up to God.

Jesus is Lord! God uses us to witness for Jesus! As a desperate husband and father striving to cope with all the social penalties having a suicidal wife and mother to care for brings. I responded to the gospel of Christ with the result that the Lord Jesus, His Father, and the Holy Spirit came and made their home with me, as Jesus had promised.

We have been used, despite our obvious weaknesses, throughout the world in the fight against evil by allowing Christ's light to shine out of us into the darkness of this evil age where even unborn babies are allowed to be killed by doctors who are trained to save life.

If our Leaders cannot protect an unborn child, what protection can we expect?

I provide real testimony that backs up Jesus divine teaching and promises given to us in the Holy Bible.

*As Jesus said: Jn 14:11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. 12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. 15 If you love me, you will obey what I command. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever-- 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. (NIV holy bible)*

## **After the Cross**

### **Real Spiritual Warfare**

The battle begins, and oh what a struggle! The effect of my wife's suicidal behaviour and the social penalties being inflicted on us resulted in our situation worsening. My bad habits and many temptations to sin also worsened. In addition, the evil opposition to my conversion also worsened. In the ensuing battle I would spend many hours in fervent prayer, reading my Holy Bible and listening to the record of the Witness musical in order to lift up my spirit and restore my faith; what a battle!

### **My First Public Testimony**

Within the month, I was giving my first testimony outside a Public House. There were all these people relaxing alongside a canal lock enjoying their drinks. When it came to my turn to speak, what could I say, I asked Jesus for His help and started to share with them how I had found His salvation and friendship such a blessing in my life. Especially the fact that He had removed my guilt. It soon became apparent to me that despite my problems the Lord Jesus was starting to use me in a Spiritual dimension.

### **Those For Jesus - Those Against Jesus**

Difficult were those early days of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and discovering that my family, friends, and even some inside the church did not share my feelings towards Him and the lost living around us. In fact, some of them felt sorry for me. It hurt that Jesus, who had brought me freedom from guilt, was not wanted. I then became even more rejected by those I loved. What a pain! The Lord Jesus Christ an unpopular Saviour.

The temptation to backslide has never left me and was very strong in those early days. Yes, those who hated Him treated us poorly for being His friends. That there are spiritual enemies who would have loved nothing more than to see me reject my dear Lord and Saviour is a lesson I soon learnt. I never did! Their smile as I pleaded for help was especially chilling.

It was as I came to know God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit more through their living with us, that I began to become more confident. However, it did seem to take me a long time. Yes, I became divided from those I loved as a result of their own feelings towards Jesus. Still, no one could ever take away my joy that came from knowing and living with Him with His divine promise of eternal reward should I overcome.

### **Does God Still Do Miracles?**

It is true that some Christians find it hard to believe that miracles can still happen, something I find hard to understand.

Well, one day my daughter picked up what she thought was a metal dish of wobbly yellow jelly. Unfortunately, it was not jelly but melted solid cooking oil. It was hot and burned her hands. As it fell it caught the edge of the work surface and splashed all over her chest and stomach. Did she scream?

I ran into the kitchen, slipped on the oil, and crashed into the sink. What a panic!

She was in shock, so I stripped off her clothes and poured water over her while my wife telephoned for the doctor. I laid her down on her bed; her body was a deep scarlet, what a pitiful sight she made. As I prayed to Jesus for His help, I just stared at her burns, she had gone into a sleep and the colour of her burns just started to fade, in a short time her burns had gone.

I shouted down to my wife, who then told the doctor she was all right. Good old Jesus!

### **Church Work**

In 1979, I felt strongly that the Holy Spirit was calling me to fully examine my family and myself in order to reach those who were where I was. God had opened a way for me into further education in which I was to obtain an HNC in Business Studies.

For the six years following my Spiritual conversion, I was to become deeply involved in the organisation of my local Church.

I became a member of the Parochial Church Council. Spoke at three Family Services, two Sunday school Festivals and in three homes. The Hill Family actually took an entire service at short notice in the absence of the Vicar. I was instrumental in obtaining permission for building a Coffee Bar in the Church Hall. I was invited to be leader of a 'Care to Say Something' study group and the first Nurture Group, both held in our home.

We attended a Vocation & Ministry weekend with CPAS but discovered that the denominational route to Christian service did not fit as no questions were asked of my Spiritual gifts and experiences with Jesus.

Mission England needed counsellors so I enrolled on their training course and was used in the Villa Park Rallies. I also counselled at a University Mission.

So much for suicide in the home restricting Christian service! A common statement made.

### **A Carers Leap of Faith**

Throughout 1984, I spent many long periods struggling in prayer over what to do about our situation. After the birth of our second daughter, my wife tried once more to kill herself. The neighbours who had been helping me to care for the girls while I was at work decided, quite rightly, that due to old age they should retire near to their Son. I could find no replacement. Neither the Social Services nor any other Agency helped.

The Holy Spirit guided me to give up paid employment in order to cope with the pressure of my wife's illness on the children, and the debts it was leading us into as a result of social penalties we were suffering due to the behaviour of others towards us. She would then have the opportunity to go back to work thus relieving her of the pressures that were so damaging to her health.

### **This Holy Spirit counselled decision of mine to cease paid employment was to be the start of the widening gap between the Hill Family and Christian Church Leaders.**

This time was also an opportunity to offer my gifts to the local Christian Churches in order to make a stand for Jesus in our community. Mission England had offered me a voluntary position promoting Growth Groups in the northern half of Leicestershire. I had also enquired about London City Mission, which led to a two and a half hour interview in London followed later by an enquirers weekend in Felixstowe. Both these went well but we all felt that it was right to wait and see what happened in our village first. I even attended an excellent day seminar with Selwynn Hughes on the subject of counselling. As an aid to my decision making about how my ministry was to fit into church life I wrote to several Bible Colleges. It was a desperate time!

### **Real Evangelism**

Giving in my notice at work brought me an unexpected chance to witness for Jesus. My company had employed me for six years, and at my farewell party in a crowded Public House, my colleagues presented me with a five-foot tall wooden cross. I stood there in the middle of the bar sharing how much Jesus meant to me and how that I wished that they would love him also. All the while they were jokingly crying out, Please, no preaching! As I left, a young man standing at the bar said, God bless you. The next day at work some that knew of the pressures I was under shared how much they envied me for my faith and peace.

### **Rejected by the Church**

It was at this time that I began to experience Spiritual Gifts! The Holy Spirit was giving me advanced warnings of several events and visions of future works of the Lord. My prayers suddenly started to be answered although where we were concerned perplexity still reigned. To the point where I became thoroughly dispirited, especially at the way church people were refusing to be open with me. My vicar had also informed me that he held me responsible for my wife's suicidal behaviour, which really upset the girls whom from then on, disliked him immensely.

### **Chosen by Jesus**

Hard as it may be for you to believe, during this very difficult and confusing period in my life, the Lord Jesus actually appeared to me. It was in 1984. I was watching Top of the Pops on a Thursday night and as I sat there in a fog of despondency, I clearly heard a voice tell me to go upstairs to my bedroom.

There, in a bright ghostly image, Jesus asked me, "**Mike, are you really serious?**"

What a shock, I sank to my knees and did not know what to do, so I just answered, Yes, Lord!

Afterwards I rang the vicar to share what had happened.

I waited for the Church of England to summon me for questioning. They never did, and the vicar was never to mention it again!

This experience has kept me going during these past years of spiritual opposition and social isolation. I know that my Lord Jesus is alive today, and no amount of cold water poured over me by false teachers will ever stop me testifying to that fact.

### **My Faith is in Him Alone**

Can you be confident of the truth that Jesus is alive today? Yes, you can! The Holy Bible certainly gives us plenty of evidence of the most important truth that we must believe and experience with all our heart if we are to overcome our sin and the sin of others.

*Ac 1:3a After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive...(NIV holy bible) Mk 16:9; Mt 28:9; Lk 24:15; Lk 24:36; 1 Co 15:5; Jn 20:19; Jn 20:26; Jn 21:1; 1 Co 15:6; Mt 28:17-18; 1 Co 15:7; Lk 24:50; Ac 9:5-6; Ac 26:14-18; Ac 18:9-10; Ac 22:17-21; Ac 23:11; Ac 26:19, 22-23.*

### **A New Adventure Starts**

We joined a Bible Institute in the autumn of 1985 on the invitation of the Principle. For several months, God had brought into my life several people who were or had been connected to them. I was given a vision of ex-students spread out around the world being prepared for revival. After an intense period of panic and prayer we held on tight as the Holy Spirit took control of our situation. Some call it living by faith; I just call it living by amazement. Bible College is more than just studying and many things were to happen to us as a family that were spiritually enriching and extraordinary; some were just horrible as several people held the same view as our vicar had regarding the cause of my wife's behaviour. Whatever, God had a purpose for us to go, and it bore fruit.

### **True Help at Last from a Real Apostle!**

In June 1986, the Holy Spirit was to use an ardent disciple of the Lord who was based in Australia, to help me in a way that was truly remarkable. The Holy Spirit had told me that we were to go to Switzerland in the middle summer of our two years at College. I thought it must be for a holiday as we were all very tired.

Representatives of a child evangelism agency came to talk about their work. They showed us a picture of a

ship with no crew. While I sat there, the Holy Spirit confirmed that this was the reason he wanted me to go.

At Chapel Prayers the minister had called people out front to give them teaching and guidance, some were laying on the floor under the power of the Holy Spirit. With sweaty palms I sat there and prayed for them not quite sure what was going on. I mistakenly thought they were being punished but this was obviously not the case. This was all new to me!

I knew that I needed some help so we went to see the minister at the Principals home. The queue was down the hall and up the stairs, but we took our place and waited.

When it came to our turn, he came out from behind his table and told us to have faith, he touched me on the shoulder and down I went. I lay there in a sort of red cloud not quite sure of why I could not feel any pain from the fall. It was certainly an exhilarating experience. However, why no advice about us?

Shortly after this meeting with him I noticed that my faith in Jesus had increased and the over acidic stomach that affected me during times of ministry preparation had gone.

### **Mission to Switzerland**

Make Way! Make Way! To Switzerland. God organised everything for us as usual and we made our way by car to Switzerland, playing Make Way tapes for all to hear. We got lost and it took us 30 hours to get there. So much for spiritual guidance, could have done with a navigator!

### **An Important Message**

During our first week I was elected head student, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit gave a message to everyone based on Nehemiah and his rebuilding of the wall surrounding Jerusalem. I spoke about Gods desire to save the children in Birmingham from hell by building a spiritual wall, and the opposition that would rise up against such a work of Christ from various sources. Everyone was challenged and encouraged. However, they failed to respond.

These past years have shown my prophecy come true! Clearly, God had called me to take a message to Switzerland. One young lad gave his heart to Jesus after a week of patient Bible Study by me concerning the Gospel. How God got me to him is another miracle to be told.

### **God Strengthens My Faith in Jesus' Power**

I am no Moses, but I had in my role as Head Student entered a period of fasting in order to resolve certain difficulties. One evening I wanted to get away for some quiet meditation but found the dark woods surrounding the Institute a bit scary.

The following morning I was awakened by the Holy Spirit and told to go to the top of a nearby Mountain. It was 2.0am and very dark with gusty winds, as I walked through the forest I noticed that my life-long fear of the dark had gone.

As I stood alone on the high observation platform looking at the storm clouds and wondering why I was not getting wet, the Holy Spirit told me to look up into the night sky. I saw an opening in the clouds and the stars were shining clear and bright.

Then I clearly heard a voice say, I can do anything! I am sure God was talking about Himself as able to do anything, not me.

It was a tremendous experience for me at a time of immense pressure. God blessed several of the students because of my going to Switzerland, and with some, the blessings are only now becoming visible to them. Please pray for the evangelism of children here in Birmingham.

## **God Knows the Future**

The minister from Australia was to be a blessing to me for a second time with a message unexpectedly. In the years since, I have seen how marvellously God has worked through him!

His help this time came during a lesson when he called me and my wife out to the front and gave us a message that is hard to believe: God had given him a picture of my wife and I bound together with elastic bands. These were because we would become separated, but the bands would stretch and not allow us to be parted. Then the bands would bring us back together again. I was to give God first claim on my time - to be obedient - to allow Jesus complete ownership of me - to widen my vision of ourselves, which was too narrow - I was to use my Gifts - Then God would raise us up nearer to Him. He placed his hand on my shoulder and I fell to the floor.

As I made my way back to my seat, I was staggering as if drunk.

We are still waiting on God to fully fulfil this prophecy and we certainly need to pray for those who encouraged her to divorce herself from the family, for in many cases they did not know what they were doing, not that that excuses them. She once shared with me her regret at taking their advice. If only those Charismatic Evangelical Counsellors and others could realise the damage they have done and the financial cost to us as an innocent family through their gossip and false ministry.

## **Real Evangelism**

Sometimes I am asked by God to help those who in the past have helped me. We had been truly blessed by the help, in caring for the girls, of an elderly couple who had lived near us before they had to move away in order to be near their Son.

One day I received a message to telephone them, the husband told me that his wife had developed cancer and would I come over. I had only been to their new home once and never from the direction of Birmingham. As we drove over to visit them, I felt a fog cloud over my mind. At one point, I had to stop driving. Quite amazingly, we arrived safely and without getting lost. Sitting together in her bedroom, I did not know what to do, as I had never been with a dying person before. As I prayed quietly to myself she held my hand and asked me to pray. Gently and with great desire, she gave herself into Jesus care as she prepared to cross the river of death.

Three days later she passed through.

My children and I really did love them both for their loving care and I really believe that God rewarded them; as He does to everyone who helps us. This has been proven the case time-after-time.

## **Nothing too Small for God**

You will not believe this! God does some strange things in order to work out His purposes.

One evening, I was sitting in our College flat, when the doorbell rung. A fellow student's car had broken down with fuel pump trouble and was parked in a local supermarket car park. He certainly needed help.

On arriving at the car park I noticed that he had taken the pump apart, so we stood there looking at it while he related to me the past events that had led him to become stuck there. I told him to get into the car and on my instruction, he was to start the engine. I put my hand on the base of the pump and told him to start the engine, off it went with a roar. He jumped out asking me how I did it. I said he had better get the pump put back together. As he did this he kept saying, "Wait till my wife hears about this!" Not bad for Birmingham 1986!

## **The Horror of Homelessness Avoided**

Facing homelessness and destitution is a horrible dilemma! It was the day before I was to be presented with my College Diploma at the Valedictory Service. I was feeling pretty miserable, as I had no one from my 'Home Church' coming to support me; many of the Christians around us were very unfriendly and not communicating with me. Our money had run out, and I had no work in the pipeline. My wife was very ill, again, and had been interfered with by Charismatic Evangelical Counsellors behind my back. We had nowhere to live and College had said they were unable to help us. This after inviting us to Birmingham!

That night, I received a telephone call from a local Housing Association; they had a house in Birmingham that no one wanted. The four of us positively galloped through the rain in order to get the key before anyone else. Despite it being in poor condition and situated in a known black-spot for civil crime. First the gas and electricity men, and finally the telephone man all wanted to know why we were moving into Balsall Heath. The next 10 years were to prove them all right. 10 years of living hell, however, God used us to put things right to the point where a police officer informed me that we were a legend in his force. God had his reasons!

God is quite amazing! During my last term, I had been doing door-to-door work around the area of this house. It was during this evangelism that a young woman student with whom I was doing the evangelism with shared with me a picture in her mind of me in an upstairs room in this same area. We were standing at the end of the Avenue where our new home was to be.

I do not think she knows how she was used, and I often would like to tell her, but I do not know where she lives.

### **Vital Support**

At my Valedictory, it was announced that I would be helping the Churches of Birmingham. I was quite amazed, as I had no one to support me here in Birmingham; I accepted my Diploma and walked to my place on the stage. As I turned around the Holy Spirit told me to look out towards the congregation, there, as if illuminated, were my Brothers and Sisters in Christ from a Church near Oldbury that I had preached at on several occasions. Oh how my spirit lifted up in praise.

Several years later the Girls and I were to take a Service at their Church based on our testimony entitled 'Jesus is Alive Today'.

### **Jesus, Lord of the Sea**

Do I always understand why God uses our family as He does? No, I do not, well, not that often. Here is one very good example of how he works through us.

It was Sunday, February 25, 1990, the day after the College Student Reunion at which an ex-student had told me I was about to be used by God. We had hired a new Rover 1600 for the weekend as I had planned to take the four of us to the Malvern Hills. The weather was foul, with high winds and heavy rain. As we drove down the M5, the Holy Spirit told me to go to Dawlish 170 miles away. The wind blew and the rain poured down, but when we stopped for dinner at a service area the sun came out. We drove into Dawlish just as the sun was starting to peer out from behind the clouds.

This often happens whenever I am out serving the Lord or having a holiday as I often control the weather through prayer.

We went onto the sea wall and watched the large waves spray up and over it. As I stood there, I noticed a young man with his two small dogs. He seemed in deep thought and unaware of the danger he was in from these high waves. I started to pray in the spirit for this young mans safety as between us the waves were crashing over the wall and people were running away, yet where he was they were small and gently lapping over his feet. He picked his dogs up and carried on walking past us. The sea had gone so calm that I noticed our children were paddling in the sea where I stood.

As we left the beach and climbed up onto the sea wall, a massive wave came in. I grabbed the girls as it came over the sea wall, up over the railway platform above our heads, and straight down the back of my neck; or so it seemed. I was soaked! The people around us were looking on in amazement.

I drove out that afternoon in my underpants with my wife drying my trousers with the car heater. I asked the Holy Spirit, "Why did I have to get wet?"

He replied, "So that you would remember, Mike".

All the way back up the M5 the car radio sounded out gale warnings of 60 mph, but where we were it was steady as a rock.

### **Does God Desert Us When We Crack?**

Thankfully, He who told us about a Good Samaritan as an example of how to love our neighbour does not! For He is always faithful though firm in his relationships.

Shortly after we left College, my Father was to pass away; I was to see him for only a few minutes during his last 16 weeks. The grieving came on top of severe exhaustion following two years of hard study and coping from the unreal pressures of College Community. The fear that years of opposition to my ministry had brought on us. The cumulative effects of my wife's illness on me as her primary care giver and the conflict, isolation, discrimination, and poverty this role had led us into. The strain of dealing with the painful and frightened reaction of my daughters who were being bullied did not help. I became very tired and finally broke down.

Every time I prayed, the Lord gave me a picture of His suffering face, and just saying:

**"You, Mike!"**

Then my wife started to act suicidal again. In the end I just broke down and desperately tried to rid myself of the problem. It was either that or else die, for the mind of an exhausted Carer could be somewhat confused! Whatever, my enemies had a field day and they even started to frighten our children.

I then believed that I must have been doing something wrong to be suffering and reacting as I was. Therefore, in desperation, I knelt down on the floor and cried out for Jesus to forgive me for whatever it was that I had done wrong. I told him I was not going to get up until I felt in my spirit that I was right with God. As I prayed, He gave me His peace and joy.

Later that week I drove a group from our church to a healing seminar led by David Pytches. As we stood in prayer I felt a pressure on my forehead, and I fell back into my seat, I could clearly hear the minister telling people not to worry. I rested there for a while and listened to God telling me about His love for me and that I was all right.

Just to be sure, I went up the front to seek confirmation. As they prayed for me the same thing happened again, but this time those around me informed me that, they had heard God stating his approval of me. In addition, they said that I was going to be used to heal someone that day. It happened, and I knew that I was indeed right with God.

### **God Interested in Sparkbrook?**

In 1992/93, God used the minister from Australia who had helped me twice while at Bible College and I to guide and encourage Christians in an inner-city church in Sparkbrook without each of us knowing the other was being used; God does work in mysterious ways.

I had received an encouraging letter from this minister that was used by the Holy Spirit to get me to start using my gifts again. One day while in prayer I was told to go to this small church which I had not been to

before. I shared with the pastor what I believed the Lord wanted me to do and offered him my services, which he was grateful to have.

One day the pastor called unexpectedly to my home, we did not know each other, so we discussed my testimony for a couple of hours. Indeed, he was very encouraging and the Holy Spirit helped a few of the congregation through my ministry including himself and his wife for whom I was given an important message regarding their future ministry.

Several months later the Holy Spirit told me to go back to them. As we walked towards the church one of my daughters commented on how God works unexpectedly. I certainly was not aware of the unexpected events that were to follow. During the service, it was announced that the minister from Australia was to be at the church on the next Tuesday evening.

On that evening he arrived and ministered to many people in the congregation, informing them of what God wanted them to do. He especially helped the pastor and his wife; giving them a message that confirmed the one, I had given them.

Afterwards he sat down and looked extremely tired commenting on how he had attended 110 meetings in 111 days. The leaders prayed for him with no effect.

I went over and took his hand telling him who I was. He thought for a moment, and then remembering who I was he jumped up full of life once more. He was very happy to see us, especially the girls whom he had never met.

Over the next few weeks, I tried to encourage those who had been helped, but was not able to.

Never the less, at one service I was filled with the Holy Spirit in a way I had not been before and the Lord Jesus Himself spoke through me of their need to get right with Him in order for Gods will to be done in helping their local community.

### **Revival may not be Beautiful!**

On the 1st March 1996, I was led by the Lord to give a message to a leader of the Birmingham revival team at a meeting held in a city-centre church in Birmingham. I heard about the meeting when a notice was delivered to a prayer meeting I was at in Balsall Heath.

On the morning of the Prayer Meeting, the Holy Spirit awoke me at 4.00am and I fell into prayer for the Leaders until 8.00am. It was obvious to me that Jesus was going to do something important for the Team.

We were invited to gather in the middle of the ring of leaders in order to pray for them. Four of us prayed for a man who was co-leading the meeting. The Holy Spirit stirred us with vigour, and with strong praying, he was given three pictures:

The first was of a sun that was getting brighter. The second was of a valley with bones in it [of which he was given a copy in writing]. The third was of a desert with a flower that was beautiful, and water that was able to give life. The Lord described how they were looking for beauty instead of the water!

That God revealed Himself to us in the person of His dear Son, Jesus Christ, there is no doubt. The messages were clear; get right with Jesus - be right with each other - confront those who do not want to - get out into the community of Birmingham where the Holy Spirit of Jesus is, and has been for quite a number of years.

After the meeting everyone went into the coffee shop, it was packed with people and the only table with empty chairs was mine.

### **A Testimony to Encourage not to Condemn**

I do hope that you have been encouraged by the few extracts from my ministry that I have selected for you. I could have filled a thousand pages! I could share so much more with you but space is limited.

It is truly amazing, the answers to prayer I have seen these past years. We have seen lives altered; faith increased; times of testing entered; revolutions ended, and some started; despondent spirits lifted; ministries enriched; demons scattered. At times, I have often felt the devil, and other evil influences very close to me, even to the point of making the room darken. Nevertheless, my Lord Jesus has always kept us safe and in His loving care. I do hope that you have been encouraged by the few extracts I have selected for you.

### **Am I Right?**

My work is not that easy to explain as most of what I do I have to keep confidential. I know what it is like to suffer as a result of ministerial gossip amongst church leaders! The Lord sends me to give messages to people or, to do something for people often supported by signs and wonders. Not when I want to, but when the Holy Spirit empowers me according to God's will. The times, places, and people involved have never ceased to amaze me.

### **Standing Against Defamers**

I try to give a positive mental picture of Jesus' true disciples whom make up the body of Christ world-wide. Disciples whom many, even in the churches, defame as wrong people just as our perfect Lord said they would in *Mt 10:24 A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebub, how much more the members of his household!* (NIV holy bible)

### **Lost Souls Need Saving**

Today, as ever, the Lord is sad and angry that many are rushing headlong through the wide gate and onto the broad road to destruction, *Mt 7:13*. Even some whom call Jesus Lord but are not known by him, *Mt 7:21*. And many people are driving them onward, *Mt 7:15, 26, 27*. However, few are those whom are rushing headlong through the small gate that leads onto the narrow road to life, *Mt 7:14*. And few people are driving them onward, *Mt 7:24, 25*.

### **The Holy Bible Alone is Not Enough**

Today you have the Holy Bible as a tremendous source of testimony to the truth of Jesus Christ and his resurrection. All I can do is support it with my testimony. That the good Lord Jesus Christ never deserted us in our need but used us to achieve things according to his Father's divine purposes. I am part of today's proof that he is alive and able to bring those whom love him through to safety no matter how blind, powerful, or obsessive opponents are.

### **Selfish or Benevolent**

Selfishness is evil! Those in the Christian church who oppose the Gospel of Christ are still selfish when they should be benevolent; therefore revealing themselves as unconverted Christians.

### **Lack of Church Testimony About a Living Jesus**

I am continually astonished by the alarming lack of testimony from church leaders regarding their own union with Christ. For the past 25 years, I have been attempting to communicate with church leaders on the subject of my experiences with God the Father, God the Son and the God the Holy Spirit, with almost no responses at all.

Since my salvation in 1977, I have spent my life ministering to many churches as the Holy Spirit has led me. In all this time, and the years before, not one church leader has sat down with me and spoken of their

own union with a living Christ or questioned mine.

As I read Christian literature, I am constantly amazed at the underlying denial throughout the writers teaching of Christ's promise to the world in the Gospel that he lives with his disciples. They even teach that you can be saved from hell and not feel anything.

I write down this testimony in the hope that it will help fill the dangerously large gap I have noticed in the Christian knowledge of many Churchgoers and their Leaders. Whether in their worship, writing, or speech, they clearly speak and act as if God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit do not actually live in those people who love and obey the Lord Jesus. In fact, unconsciously or not, they actually imply that in *Jn 14:23* the Lord Jesus was lying.

Liars can say the right things, but they never can do them.

### **A Worthy Mission**

Our call to help these deluded Christians is clear! *Mt 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (NIV holy bible)*

### **A Tough Mission Field**

The worlds toughest mission field is that place where unsaved people call Jesus, Lord. A people who do apparently great and powerful things in Christ's Name, yet He does not know them and will not let them into Heaven. Even more disturbing is the fact that they do not seem to realise the extreme danger they are in by not only ignoring moral law but also removing union with Christ from the rules of Church membership! It is as if they do not know of the grave warning given to all of us by the Lord. *Mt 7:21-23. Not everyone who says to me, `Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, `Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles? Then I will tell them plainly, `I never knew you. Away from me, you evil-doers! (NIV holy bible)*

### **God is Gracious**

Even early Christians got it wrong! *Rev 3:14 To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of Gods creation. 15 I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! 16 So, because you are lukewarm--neither hot nor cold--I am about to spit you out of my mouth. 17 You say, `I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing. But you do not realise that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. 19 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. 20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. 21 To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. 22 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. (NIV holy bible)*

Is it not wonderful that even when we get our Christian life so wrong that the Lord is on the verge of removing us from His presence, we can still be saved?

He not only offered these deluded Christians a way out of their predicament. He also offered them subject to their repentance, a seat on His throne, which is Gods throne. That to me sums up my living Lord, who has given me so many chances over these past 54 years.

## **Moral Law and Justice**

Both of them demand that no one should be allowed to entertain the hope of heaven, if we can prevent it, who lives in the indulgence of known sin in any form, and that includes me. Our constant demand and persuasion especially to anyone, who calls himself Christian is, *be holy, for God is holy. Be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.*

At the end of His Sermon on the Mount (*Mt 5:1 to 7:29*) Jesus concludes by assuring His listeners that no one could be saved who did not receive and obey His teachings. Instead of attempting to please people in their sins, the Christian church should continually endeavour to hunt and persuade them out of their sins.

As other disciples of Jesus have helped me over the years, I am also to help. Open your Holy Bible read the words spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ. Take up His challenge. Obey His teachings and see what happens. I did, and you have seen what He did.

God always knows what He is doing, therefore place your trust in Jesus!

## **Despite it All**

My eldest daughter is now 25, happily married and with a good job thanks to her B. Eng. Electronics Engineering Degree.

My other daughter is 22 and has her Degree in Business Studies with German.

My ex-wife is still alive and doing well. In fact, she has never looked better!

Our two daughters are a living reference to my ex-wife and I. Despite all we have gone through here in Birmingham they are outshining many of their age group. The sacrifices we both have made, and are still making although we are divorced, are nothing to what we have received watching them mature into two lovely adults. They are living proof that if Jesus is living in you life's problems can be overcome in a creative way that brings good where once was bad.

## **The Christian Signpost**

This was our first venture onto the Internet and it took us 10 years to get it going. With nearly 40 million people expected to grow to 550 million people having access to the Internet by the year 2000, it was clear to us that here was the place for us to be. Since the 1st November 1998, The Christian Signpost had over 180,000 visitors from over 100 different location around the world. During this time, we had only three bad emails!

When in 1987, the Rev. Ken Newton of Wholeness Ministries International called me out to the front of a Birmingham Bible Institute class and prophesied that my ministry would be far wider than I could ever imagine, I never believed in would be this wide.

An hour does not pass when someone in the world kills himself or herself! An hour does not pass when at least 6 people are deeply affected by a loved one who kills themselves! It can be safely assumed that hundreds of thousands of people each year are affected by successful suicide, how many more are affected by unsuccessful suicide?

September 97 saw me make the long journey down to London for the Carers National Association AGM and Open Day. God was with me during my many friendly conversations with other Carers and members of the CNA team. The Guest Speaker was Paul Boateng MP, Under Secretary of State for Health, responsible for Community Care. I was able to ask him, Will the Government help the Carers of suicidal relatives in the home? His reply was very encouraging and rounded off what was a truly excellent and productive day although my testimony regarding Jesus caused many to move away from me. Since then,

the Government has implemented a new strategy to help Carers.

**What will the next years hold for us?**

It is right to celebrate these past 54 years of walking with the Lord Jesus and His Father God. If not at times exactly in step with Him. It is also right to remember that it is but a small step in the total walk of our dear Lord from the tomb to His return in person. Our goal is always to be used by Him under the power of the Holy Spirit to make disciples of Him. That is what we want to see in Birmingham and elsewhere throughout the world. Ardent disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ 100% in love with Him and in union with Him according to *Jn 14:23*. Our hope for the new Millennium is to see all Denominations and Organisations that call themselves "Christian" recognise and implement the doctrine of Union with Christ. To be saved from their folly and remove their religious grave clothes.

With our help they may do just that!

May God bless you with every blessing in Christ Jesus.

Yours truly,

Mike Hill