

Preaching Dates

8th April. 2018

Jonathan Groves (am) at Lighthouse Baptist Church, Forres. Preaching and Kerasso Trust update

George Sprott (am) at Peebles Baptist Church

Phil Laver (am) at Lerwick Baptist Church

Hugh Tannock (am) at Maryhill Evangelical Church

Kenneth Forrest (am) at Cathcart Baptist Church

Adam Renberg (am) at St. Andrews Baptist Church, St. Andrews

David Rathel (am) at Abbeyhill Baptist Church, Edinburgh

Stephen Ilett (am) at Alness Baptist Church

Irene Campbell (am) at Hillhead Baptist Church

Ian Stephen (am) at Borders General Hospital

Willie Henry (am) at Kings Park Baptist Church

Chris Townsend (am) at Strathendrick Baptist Church

James MacKenzie (am) at Aberdeen Christian Fellowship;

James MacKenzie (pm) at Portlethen Christian Fellowship

Douglas Inglis (pm) at "Meal with a Message", Larkhall Baptist Church

Marilyn MacArthur (pm) at Westwood Baptist Church

David Mitchell (pm) at Airdrie Baptist Church

Hazel Brooks (pm) at Calvary Christian Fellowship, Whitburn

Riaz Mohammed (pm) at Miller Evangelical Hall, Falkirk

Charles Sommerville (am + pm) at PWMI, North Berwick Baptist Church

John Mark Donaldson (am + pm) at Ellon Baptist Church

Richard MacPhee (am + pm) at Shettleston Baptist Church

Tony Walters (am + pm) at Fort William Baptist Church

Gordon Dickey (am + pm) at Longhorsley

Jim McNulty (am + pm) at Islay Baptist Church

12 April 2018

Stan Paliwoda (pm) at Antonine House care home, Bearsden.

14 April 2018

Charles Sommerville (pm) at PWMI at Barnards Court Mission, Greenock



"UN-TAPPING POTENTIAL"

By Glen Cartwright

Feeding 5,000 people with just 5 loaves and 2 fishes is more than an incredible challenge against unbelievable odds - it's an impossible one! Yet it's an amazing insight into how Andrew's influence and how his 'un-tapping the potential' changed a situation and the needs of many hungry people that day. A little boy's lunch Andrew spotted, tapped into and brought to Jesus. The little boy didn't have a lot, but what he did have, Andrew saw. In proportion to the number of people what was in the little boy's picnic basket was insufficient, but what appeared to be insufficient and insignificant became sufficient and significant when un-tapped by Andrew and places in the hands of Jesus.

Andrew was a people-person. He brought people to Jesus, so it was just like him to notice the small boy. He was probably the type of person a little boy could approach. Andrew un-taps the potential and takes the initiative. It was Nigel Wright who said:

"The starting point is always to bring what there is to the attention of Jesus. You can never tell what he's going to do with it"

Are we like Andrew in that we're tapping into what's in the spiritual picnic baskets of others, not least the picnic baskets that are the lives of the next generation of lay preachers? Who are we encouraging? Who are we intentionally investing in? What potential are we un-tapping?

Looking back to when I was a little boy, I'll always be grateful to those - my parents, a godly grandmother and an amazing Sunday School teacher - who spotted and un-tapped the meagre amount I had in my picnic basket and encouraged me to hand that to Jesus, so that like Andrew, others could be blessed. When Andrew spotted the potential and encouraged the little boy to give what he had to Jesus, not only were there 5,000 fish burgers to go round, but more than what the little boy or Andrew could have ever imagined!

The tale is told of an old German school-master who over 500 years ago when he entered his class of boys every morning, would remove his cap and bow to them. When asked one day why he did it, he said *"you never know what one day one of these boys may become"*. And he was right, because one of the boys in his class was Martin Luther!

Put simply, we may never know what possibilities we're releasing and the potential we're un-tapping when we see the potential in the spiritual picnic baskets of others. So many times we can write people off and fail to tap into the potential others have, yet God can use the most unlikely people for his purposes, just like He used Andrew to un-tap the potential of a little boy's picnic basket.

Let's be those who are acting in 'un-tapping potential' for when we do and when God's in the equation, He will do 'immeasurably more' than we could ever ask or imagine!