



Dear friends

Warm greetings and thank you for your ongoing support and interest in the work of GenR8. How I dislike change and challenging questions! But I suspect I am not alone. I think it's fair to say that over the last few months several things have prompted me to think about change, the only problem is I don't really know what - if anything - that means for me or indeed for GenR8. I am aware that change within GenR8 is, or at least feels, constant. Whether it's a change in circumstances for a school, church, supporter or volunteer, or in the prevailing culture, attitudes and legislation. Change is not of itself bad or wrong, but it can leave one feeling uncomfortable, shaken, worried and with the challenge of finding God afresh in the midst. But I am confident that God will continue to be present wherever I and GenR8 are. I am confident because God has always proved faithful in the past and promises to do so in the present and future.

Does your ministry currently serve God or does God serve your ministry? That was a challenging question I faced one Wednesday morning reading Steve Maltz's book *The Bishop's New Clothes*. It prompted me sit up and consider that question for GenR8 and myself. Clearly I would like to think that the ministry of GenR8 serves God: indeed I am confident that it does, but my confidence is placed in the fact that GenR8 is made up of so many volunteers, supporters, prayer warriors that it doesn't rely on me! I am less confident that I don't at times fall into the second category: asking God to fulfil what I consider is the right thing to do, the right way to go. Being an active 'doer' I can be prone to barging on ahead and find it harder to stop and listen and ultimately to change, but like I said at the beginning, I suspect I'm not alone in this! But it's a good question to ask ourselves because we all have a ministry, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant. It's a question that is challenging me to find the time to immerse myself in God's presence and to make sure He is the focus for all that I and we do in GenR8.

The family are well; Rachel continues to be the glue that holds us all together despite us often being in different locations. I write not long after spending a few rainy but enjoyable days in Belfast (Rachel, Alfie and myself), which was a good time to have a slightly different pace and emphasis to life. Having not been to Northern Ireland before, we found it a beautiful and welcoming place.

GenR8 News - Sadly due to personal reasons Lucy Mann stepped down from her role in GenR8 at the end of March. Do pray for Lucy as she considers her future and what's next. Do also pray for the trustees as they evaluate the role and how we move forward.

Volunteer? - Thank you for being part of the 'GenR8 jigsaw' that enables us to reach out to so many children and adults. We do currently face volunteer challenges particularly with our assembly teams, so if you know of someone who might be interested do let them know about our need (i.e. forward our flier, put them in touch with us) and of the opportunity to be part of a brilliant local mission to share the Good News of Jesus.

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop." - Mother Teresa

- 🌸 For more volunteers to join our assembly teams.
- 🌸 For the trustees as they consider the way forward with our vacancy.
- 🌸 For God's strength and discernment in the midst of changes and challenges.
- 🌸 For all the activity this term – GYL (Growing Young Leaders), It's Your Move week, Inspire Permanent, Children's Worker Network and our summer assembly 'God's Masterpiece' presentations.
- 🌸 For GenR8 team members facing life changing situations.

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit - 2 Corinthians 3:17-18