



Positive change

Turnaround

Wilfred's life has changed completely since coming to our Bible study for people from overseas.

Finding community

Sarah's family has been making the most of all the Child and Family Centre has to offer.

News and prayer

All of our latest news and prayer requests.

Do not fear

Apparently, there are 365 Fear Nots in the Bible. Do you hide, put off, defer, pretend, arrogantly posture, dismiss, or in other ways rationalise not doing the right thing? These are manifestations of fear, holding us back.

The easier fear to deal with is the fear we can name. It is the fear we carry, but which we do not know we possess, that is the real problem.

1 John 4:18 reads, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love." To me this is the most complete summary I know of when it comes to diagnosing and prescribing the cure for all human brokenness. None of us has been loved perfectly and so fear is in us all to some degree. Whether by our parents, spouses, friends or colleagues, we need to cope with imperfect connection from the earliest age. Our fears emerge out of our responses to these imperfect yet crucial bonding relationships. The more extreme the imperfection of the bonding, the stronger the role of fear.

The antidote is perfect love, which can only come from a perfect heavenly Father. When we can trust the Father to love us wholly, then when we can learn to examine our inner lives for places where fear is hiding, bring it out into the light and begin to rest in God's love. We can dare to love God, then to love ourselves, and then we will love others – without fear.

Amen



Charles Maasz
Chief Executive

Finding community

Sarah and her two sons have been making the most of all the services at our Child and Family Centre. They have been making new friends, learning at Messy Science, growing in confidence and inviting other friends along.

"I was dreading the summer," admits Sarah. "It would have been the first summer of having both boys at home." Instead, the three of them came to our family holiday club nearly every day and went on some of the trips we organised. Her oldest son Jack is eight and his little brother Scott is one. Sarah was able to spend time with other adults while Jack had people his own age to play with. Sarah says, "The Holiday Club saved us. The adults had fun as well and it was nice being there with the children. At other clubs you just drop the children off. I invited my friend to come too, as she has twin boys."

"We believe that parents are children's prime educators and that it is a privilege to be able to support the whole family in their role to give children the best possible start in life," says Anne, Child and Family Centre Manager.

Sarah started coming to the Parent and Toddler group with Scott at the start of last year, because one of her friends was coming. Around the same time, she and Jack were taking part in an eight-week block of Messy Science, which we run in Jack's Primary School. Messy Science is based on the popular Messy Church concept and allows families to explore faith through science.

Building relationships

Coming to Messy Science with his mum and getting to know the Centre staff gave Jack confidence to come to Mini Heros, our after-school club. The family had previously received a flyer through the door but Jack didn't want to come as he didn't know what to expect and the family didn't know any of the people running it. Now he really enjoys the class and has been making friends with boys from his school but who are in different classes. After the summer he'll move up to Soul, the after-school club for older children.

During the holidays, the family arranged play dates with friends Jack has made through the Centre. Sarah has been enjoying getting to know other mums who she had previously only seen in passing on the school run. She says, "I've lived here all my life but I didn't know other people who had lived here all that time. I regret not coming with Jack when he was younger. We've had a year and a half of greatness but it could have been eight years if I had come when Jack was a baby."

Please pray: Pray for the Child and Family Centre as we get stuck into a new term. Pray that existing relationships would be strengthened, new friendships formed and that everyone who comes through our doors would have the opportunity to flourish.

"We've had a year and a half of greatness but it could have been eight years if I had come when Jack was a baby."

Sarah



Turnaround

Wilfred, from Rwanda, has a full-time job as a Health Care Support Worker, a Certificate in Criminal Law and volunteers regularly with us at Glasgow City Mission. It is hard to believe that when he first came to our Bible study for overseas guests he was distressed, lonely and on the verge of taking his own life.

Project Worker Adam leads our New Glaswegians Bible Discovery Group each Tuesday afternoon. Along with Wilfred who is from Rwanda, there are guests from countries including Pakistan, Iran and Zimbabwe. Each guest brings different insights and viewpoints depending on their experience and cultural background. Guests are able to pray for one another, support each other through difficult times and celebrate together.

Samson and Claudine, from Pakistan, were seeking asylum when they first came to the Bible study some nine years ago. The group prayed with them and then celebrated with them when they received their indefinite leave to remain in the UK and more recently, British citizenship. Samson says, "This feels like family when I come here. We share our good news and our problems."

Someone to listen

When Wilfred first started coming to our Bible study, he says that he was a Christian and had been baptised, but didn't want anything to do with God because of all he had been through. He appreciated the chance to be able to ask questions of the other guests and of staff. He says, "They are willing to listen and understand me and answer my questions, or refer me to someone else who can help like Marion the Chaplain." He also comes to the Gathering, our weekly informal, interactive church service, saying, "I love the worship and sharing the word of God. You understand who God is."

He wanted to be able to give something back, so started volunteering as one of our Guest Helpers. He helps in the kitchen, serves tables at the Drop-in and talks with guests. He says, "I love cooking. I've learnt a lot and can now cook a meal for myself. It is the best thing that has happened to me – I'm giving back to the place that has given so much to me."

Wilfred has the same attitude in his job as a Health Care Assistant, and enjoys being able to help the patients he sees. "How I was treated here, I treat others the same." Susan, our Project Worker with a focus on employability, helped him get on the access course for the job and helped him find funding. She had also previously helped him to successfully apply to study a college course in Criminal Law.

One to one support is an important part of our work and Wilfred has appreciated all the help he receives. "Adam guides me and is there for me. When I was waiting on the decision from the Home Office [about his asylum application] Adam prayed with me."

We go on regular hillwalks with our international guests. Wilfred explains some of the benefit of these walks, "When I was stressed and struggling, being out for a whole day makes a difference. You see nature and beautiful Scotland. I can have one to ones with Adam and we can have discussions and they think of ways to offer practical help.

"When I got my positive decision (that he had Leave to Remain in the UK) I was with Adam. I told everyone in the building. Now the whole world is in front of me. I'm happy, I've learnt to trust God. I thank God for Glasgow City Mission and everyone in it."

|| They are willing to listen and understand me.

Wilfred



News round-up

> Child and Family Centre refurbishment

Our Child and Family Centre refurb has been completed – giving us an excellent environment for our work with children and families in Govan!



> Summer in the City

Thank you to everyone who generously donated to our Summer in the City appeal, which we launched in response to the rising costs of running our services. We're very grateful to everyone who donated, and to those who bravely took part in the Clyde zip slide. Your response has given our income a much-needed boost. If you would still like to contribute to the appeal you can use this online link: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/23921>.

> The Gathering

If you're free on Friday afternoons and are interested in volunteering with us, why not join us at the Gathering? We start with our lunchtime Drop-in at 1pm before moving into an informal church service which can include worship, prayer, games and discussion. Volunteers are an essential part of the afternoon, chatting and praying with guests, building relationships and taking part in the service. Email Heath, our Volunteer Coordinator: heath@glasgowcitymission.com for more information.



Pray with us

- > Pray for the planning work going on for this season's Overnight Welcome Centre. Pray that Glasgow City Council give full support and that our regular partners work well with us again this winter.
- > Pray that the cost of living crisis eases and takes the pressure off of our guests who are already at the bottom of the economic pyramid. Also, pray for Glasgow City Mission's financial stewardship as we try to raise more money and cut costs while still providing our lifeline services.
- > Pray for those affected by addiction. Pray for our Rehab Pathways Team as they seek the best individual solutions for these guests and support them as they move forward with their lives.
- > Please pray for our restoration ministry with women in Glasgow. We are now fully up and running at a city centre church and another church in the north of Glasgow. Support groups and classes are helping women to deal with their past issues as they heal and move forward positively.

More online

Stay up to date with our latest news and plans on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

www.glasgowcitymission.com



Respond

"I want to transform lives in Glasgow"

1 I'd like to set up a monthly donation

The sum of £10 £25 £50 Other £ _____ every month

On the 1st 15th of every month, starting in _____ MONTH _____

Account holder: _____

Account number: _____ Sort code: _____

Charities Aid Foundation processes donations on our behalf and will send you a Direct Debit Guarantee and advanced notice letter before your first donation.



I'd like to give a one off gift of £ _____

I enclose a cheque (payable to Glasgow City Mission) Or Please debit my card

Card No: _____ Expiry: _____ Start: _____

Security code (last 3 digits on the reverse of your card): _____

Please tick here if you do **not** require a receipt and please be assured of our thanks.

2 Title: _____ First name: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Tel: _____

I want to make my gift worth 25% more at no extra cost.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

We'll not share your details with any third parties for the purposes of their marketing or phone you to ask for more money. We'd like to let you know the impact of your support but if you don't want to hear from Glasgow City Mission in the future, tick here .

3 Please send me more information about:

volunteering booking someone to speak at my church/group

fundraising I want to receive prayer news by email

leaving a gift in my will

Email: _____

Completed forms can be posted to: 'Freepost, Glasgow City Mission'

Reg Charity SC001499

WIN23

Open Morning

Saturday 30 September 2023

10.00 - 12.00

This September Glasgow City Mission is throwing open the doors and inviting you to join us to hear first-hand about the work of the Mission from our amazing staff and volunteers, working to support those affected by homelessness, addiction, and poverty.

We will have a short time of worship and an opportunity to pray for the Mission and the guests we aim to serve. Light refreshments will be served, and our staff will be available to chat about all aspects of our work.



Please
sign up
using this
QR code

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