

# RACHAEL IN LONDON

## Preparing for Ministry: Term 4

### Walk with Jesus

I've been encouraged by the portrait of blind Bartimaeus in Mark 10. Of all the people healed in Mark, only Bartimaeus is named. Despite being blind, he is the one who 'sees' that Jesus is God's chosen king, comes to him, has faith in him, receives his mercy and follows him leaving possessions and livelihood behind. I pray that in my life, as with Bartimaeus, Jesus would become more and everything else less!

### Answers to Prayer

- \* Learning to rely more deeply on the Lord
- \* Lots of opportunities to talk of Jesus
- \* St. Helen's church: RML and cross-cultural course
- \* Time with family and St. Lens family
- \* Finances pretty much there now! (£25 a month left to go)
- \* Sorted practicalities: documentation, visa, flights, freighting, housing in Kampala, car for the summer



### Family

'Family' is the word that sums up these last 4 months. It was good to finish well with the school family, particularly that of my classroom. Amid the sad goodbyes there was oodles of fun and many

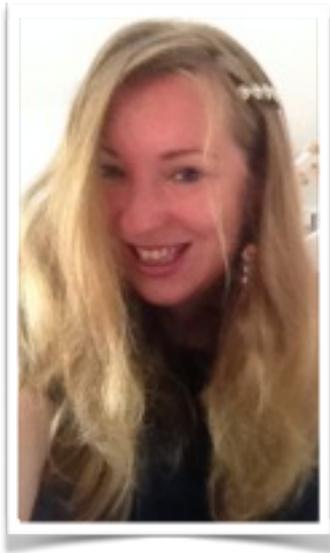
opportunities to talk of Jesus.

The final weeks with the St. Helen's Church family (see pic above) saw our RML group thinking through the biblical principle of the 'weaker brother' along with a great exploration on the cross-cultural course about mission and the church.

Despite there being many jobs to accomplish - paperwork, finances, packing, orientation course - there has, wonderfully, been much time spent resting with family: time with the London family (see pic below) in London and in France, time in my own family home (see pic on pg 2) and with St. Leonard's families at the Kewick Convention and in Cornwall and Exeter. Parties, hot tubs, saunas, camping, hours spent outside, rowing, cycling, climbing mountains, early morning swimming in the harbour, fishing, eating, drinking good



french wine and ricard, are some of the many things I've been blessed with this summer and for which I am very thankful!



## Prayer Requests

- **Walk with Jesus:** pray I would remember that God's plan for my time is better than mine! Pray for a willingness to be used by Him however He sees fit!
- **Transition:** it's not all that easy. There's a long list of jobs to be done and it's hard saying goodbye.
- **Final practicalities:** insurance, medical checks, packing...
- **Church:** meaningful gospel partnerships to be maintained and enjoyed!

## SEPTEMBER DIARY

- **15th - 25th:** based in Exeter
- **25th Sept:** 9.15am and 11am commissioning service at St. Leonard's Church followed by a bring 'n' share lunch.
- **26th Sept:** stay with London family. (see pic on pg 1)
- **27th Sept:** 06.50: leave Heathrow, London. 19.35: arrive in Entebbe, Uganda!

## Transition

Over the last 8 weeks, I've lived in 8 different locations, slept in 13 different beds, driven 1.5 thousand miles, packed and unpacked more times than I care to remember and lost my phone, keys and charger on countless occasions. Having no fixed abode has been an active reminder of the cost of following Jesus. Matthew 8:18-22 tells of a teacher of the law vocalising his willingness to follow Jesus wherever he may go and Jesus replying, 'foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' Sometimes, I've begrudged not having a place to call 'home' but it's good for me to remember that my real home is in Christ seated in the heavenly realms. It's a great reminder to fix my eyes there and concentrate on seeking first the kingdom of God trusting that He will provide for all my needs.

Inevitably, times of transition bring forth a multitude of emotions: excitement about the unknown; sadness about leaving the familiar; the stress of packing up and moving around; the gut-wrenching saying of goodbyes; the joy of precious time with dearly loved people; the delight in time spent with church family; the pleasure of fun days out - (there's a great river in Bramford Speke I recommend floating down in rubber rings!); shared experiences and heaps of laughter; the privilege of living real lives in fellowship together. It can be a wonder and a joy but it can also be draining, tiring, exhausting even. I would value your prayers to finish well and prepare well knowing that each day is the day that the Lord has made so we should rejoice and be glad in it.

Thank you so much for your partnership this past year. It has been a great encouragement to share prayer requests and pray for one another (do update me with prayer request/answers!), exchange texts, emails, letters, enjoy visits in London and around the country. I thank God for your loving care.

With love in Christ, Rachael.

### Contact Details in Uganda:

Rachael Holyome \* [rholyome@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rholyome@yahoo.co.uk) \* 07966531612 \* PO Box 4008, Kampala, Uganda. (If you send a parcel then bubble envelopes are best to use, apparently!)

