

An Introduction to our theme – GOING PUBLIC

Our theme for ROOTS 2008 is Going Public. The success of The Salvation Army was born out of moving the chapel onto the street, mission out of the church hall and into the taverns. In fact there are some that would say that 'The Salvation Army's faith and theology only makes sense in the public square'.

At ROOTS 2008 we are going back to our roots by taking our faith back to the streets, from where we live to where we work, from the church hall to Whitehall, from the prayer room to the chat room.

An introduction to our teaching programme

We will be considering our theme of Going Public in each of our venues, across our event day.

We have chosen four sub-themes to help us shape each day: **Prayer, Peace, Poverty, Presence**

Teaching on each of these subjects will be delivered through five distinct styles which run across the programme: **Proclaim, Push, Provoke, Practice, Prattle**

PROCLAIM

Morning Bible Studies

This year our Bible Studies will focus on the life of Elijah, a prophet who took great risks to Go Public.

As well as emphasising the role of the anointed, the Elijah narrative unpacks our un-welcomed stress whilst living in a new Kingdom.

Saturday

Thinking About Prayer and Peace (1 Kings 17:1-6)

Sunday

Thinking About Poverty (1 Kings 17:2-16)

Monday

Thinking About Presence (1 Kings 17:17-24)

Each of our venues will host a morning Bible study:

Big Top with Jeff Lucas, international speaker and writer, bringing his unique and humorous teaching style to this in-depth Bible study.

See page 12 for more information

Parklife with Andrew Grinnell, speaker, teacher and leader of the NEO Movement. This Bible study is part of our Parklife programme for young adults.

See page 10 for more information

BLAST with Sandjea Clarke, one of ALOVE UK's Strategic Development Officers. This Bible study for those in School Years 7 to 11 is part of the BLAST programme.

See page 9 for more information

Evening Celebrations

Alongside worship, drama and presentations, each session will include a main talk. In each venue we will be focusing on the writings of Luke and his accounts of how first Jesus and then the early church went public with the gospel.

Friday	Prayer (Acts 11:1-18)
Saturday	Peace (Acts 16:11-40)
Sunday	Poverty (Acts 11:19-30)
Monday	Presence (Acts 17:16-34)

Each of our venues will host an evening celebration:

Big Top	see page 12 for more information
Parklife	see page 10 for more information
BLAST	see page 9 for more information
KIDS ROOTS	see page 8 for more information



RESOURCES

Jeff Lucas will be publishing a book, *Going Public – The Life and Times of Elijah*, to accompany the Bible studies at ROOTS 2008.

See page 25 for more information.

PUSH

As we look at what it means to Go Public we will be profiling the work of organisations who are already working out in the community. With promotional slots in the Exhibition and Resource Zone come and hear about the work of:

The Peace Alliance led by Nims Obunge

Praying for your Postcode led by David Robertson

The Forgotten Five led by Andrew Grinnell.

Location, Location, Location

Over the weekend we will be challenging you to choose one location to which you will commit to pray for, to challenge issues of poverty, to consider issues of peace, and to be a presence – to Go Public!

See pages 28-29 for more information on our Push Campaigns.

PROVOKE, PRACTICE, PRATTLE

... are our three distinct seminars styles, each focusing on different aspects of what it means to Go Public. With a wide range of seminars, great speakers, and lots of time for discussion and debate, there is no shortage of options to choose from.

Remember, you can't go to everything, but you can buy a CD recording from the ICC stand located in the Exhibition and Resource Zone, or download the talk after the event from www.essentialchristian.com.

This introduction to our programme is by no means a definitive list of all that's going on in our programme. Read on to find out more about what is going on at ROOTS 2008.