

REPORT OF THE BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL DAY

What a day of blessing we received as we travelled to Birmingham from East Anglia for the 'Hosting His Presence' Regional Day led by the National Board.

From the start of the day (6.30 a.m. for some!) until the end of the day (9.00 p.m.) we were aware of the Lord going before us in every detail. The Lord honoured our prayers by filling the 49 seater coach and we had great fellowship together as we travelled. We were slightly noisier on the way back singing along to Godfrey Birtill! 'Got to get up, got to get out, got to get into the purpose of God'!

As we entered the venue for the day the presence of God hit us as we walked up the stairs to conference room. Nonnie was leading us into worship encouraging us to come boldly into the Lord's presence. There was an awareness of the manifest presence of God as He inhabited the praises and



worship that ascended into the heavenlies.

Liz De Silva taught us from Ex. 24/25. of God's desire for us to have a intimate encounter with Him, and to live out of the awareness and experience of His presence.

Gods desire was to dwell among **all** His people so He instructed the Israelites to make a sanctuary for Him to dwell in. It was all about Israel hosting His presence as they prepared a place for Him to come and abide. God chose to involve all the people, everyone of a willing heart bringing their gifts to Him. He had to know they wanted Him to come and be among them. When the work was completed, the Glory of God filled the place as His presence descended.



The cross was the focal point in the room and as we took Communion together and gazed at that cross, we saw the immense privilege of being able to come right into the presence of God through the blood of Jesus shed for us.

We behold the glory of God in Jesus, He is in the midst of us and we are called to 'host His presence' in our lives and be carriers of His glory. Will we prepare our lives to be a sanctuary, pure and holy for Him to

inhabit? Will we give our all, lay our alabaster box before Him and let the fragrance of our lives arise in worship to our Saviour?

Sarah Whittaker led us in worship and flowed in the Spirit with the National leaders. We experienced a day of being lifted up into the heavenly places.



We were anointed with oil to be set apart and consecrated to the Lord's service that we might be people that would choose to walk in obedience in order to live in the fulness of His presence daily.



An offering was taken in the afternoon and we were challenged by Georgina and Nonnie not just to respond with financial giving but by the giving of our talents and gifts to the work of the Kingdom. The day ended with us standing together as a united body of people with the symbolic act of all holding on the gold tape spread across the room that was flowing from the cross. We are one in Christ Jesus and we owe it all to Him. 'Thank you for the cross' was our final song, we did not want to leave, the presence of God was so powerful.



We had a wonderful journey back rejoicing in the Presence of God, fired up and ready to 'Get up, get out and get into the purpose of God.'