

the philotimes

...a window into the ministry of J. John

SUMMER 50

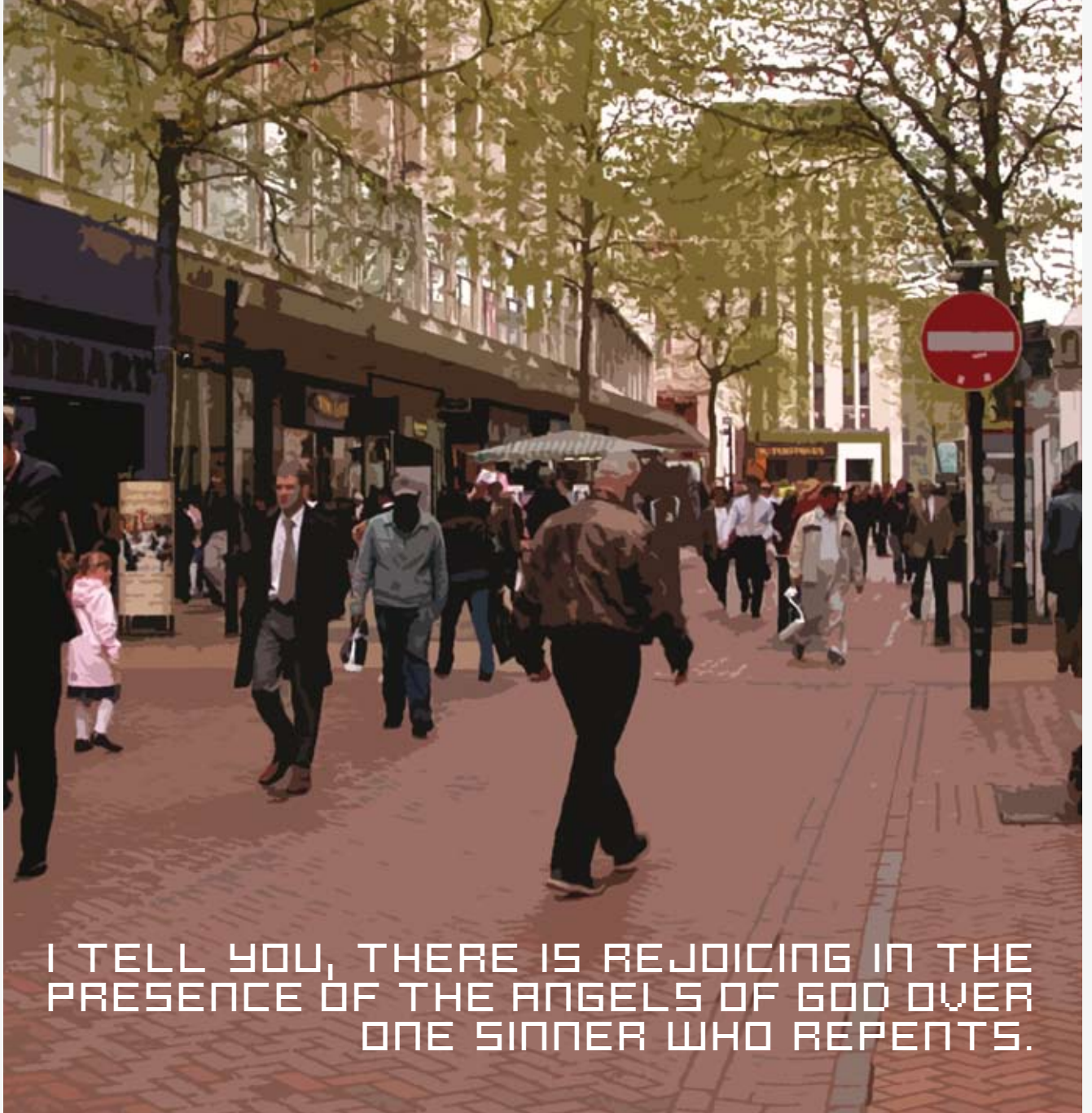
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just10
transform your world

D&P

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
15/05/10



I TELL YOU, THERE IS REJOICING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ANGELS OF GOD OVER ONE SINNER WHO REPENTS.

During a conference on comparative religions, experts from around the world debated what, if any belief was unique to the Christian faith. The debate went on for some time until C.S. Lewis wandered into the room. "What's all the rumpus about?" he asked, and heard in reply that his colleagues were discussing Christianity's unique contribution among world religions. Lewis responded, "Oh, that's easy. It's grace." The people at the conference had to agree.

The idea of God's love coming to us free of charge, no strings attached, seems to go against the grain. The Buddhist eight-fold path, the Hindu doctrine of karma, the Muslim code of

law - all of these endeavour to offer a way to earn approval. Only Christianity shows us that God's love is unconditional. God's grace is often hard for us to fathom, and so Jesus talked to us about it often.

Author Phillip Yancey expressed it well in his book 'What's So Amazing About Grace?' "I have meditated enough on Jesus' stories of grace to let their meaning filter through," writes Yancey. "Still each time I confront their astonishing message I realise how thickly the veil of ungrace obscures my view of God."

A housewife jumping up and down in glee over the discovery of a lost coin is not what naturally comes to mind when I think of God. Yet that is the image Jesus insisted upon. The story of the Prodigal Son, after all, appears in a string of three stories by Jesus - the lost sheep, the lost coin, the lost son - all of which seem to make the same point. Each underscores the loser's sense of loss, tells of the thrill of discovery, and ends with a scene of jubilation.

Jesus says in effect, "Do you want to know what it feels like to be God? When one of those two-legged humans pays attention to Me, it feels like I just reclaimed My most valuable possession, which I had given up for lost."

In Luke, right before the parable of the Prodigal Son, Jesus says in verse 10, "In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

On a recent visit to The Christian Renewal Centre in N.Ireland with Killy, Ben and my assistant Chris - we were all deeply touched by God's creation and a sense of 'sacredness' at

the centre. While we were praying with members of the community, I couldn't stop thinking that:

- God is searching for those who have been deceived
- God is searching for those who don't know they're lost
- God is searching for those who know they're lost and need to admit it.

That is why it has been a privilege to speak at 3 TEN series – in Bangor (N. Ireland), Lincolnshire and Birmingham and to know that many people who were lost have been found, and that lives have been transformed. It has been my prayer for thousands to be 'ransomed, healed, restored and forgiven.' Please pray that many more people will be found over this coming season of ministry.

Agape,



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A LITTLE
SOMETHING
EXTRA

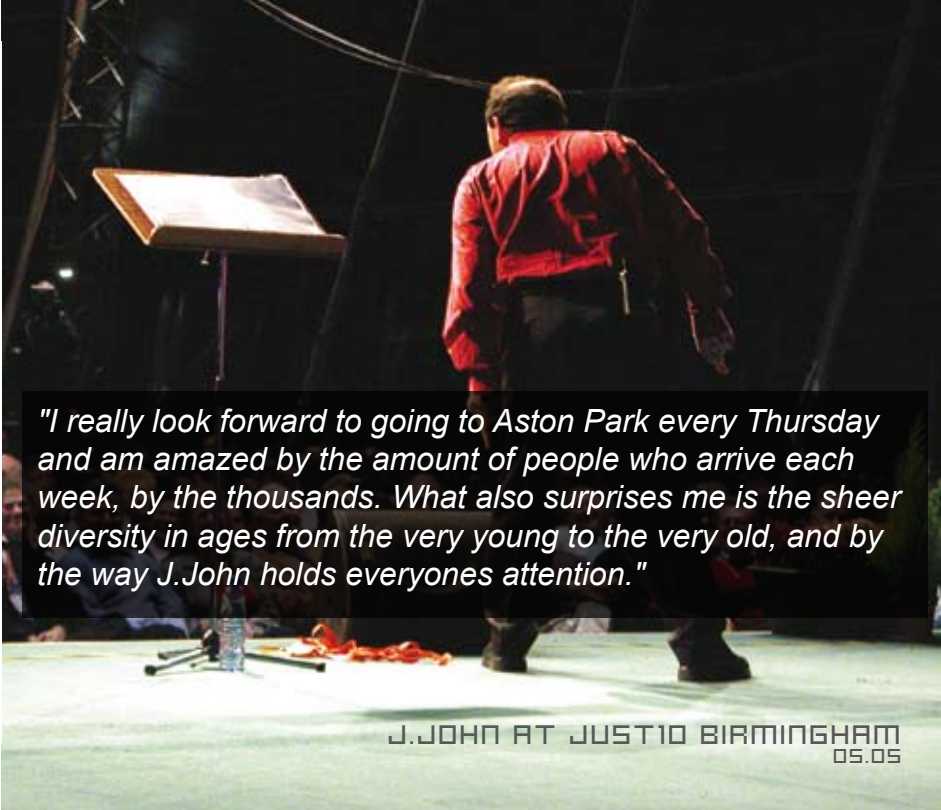
After 25 years of ministry, J. John has been featured in recent editions of 'Faith for Life' magazine and 'Christianity' along with a special 25 year anniversary edition of the philotimes. To get hold of your copies, please fill out the resources slip at the back of this magazine.



CUT & PASTE

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BIRMINGHAM just10 transform your world



"I really look forward to going to Aston Park every Thursday and am amazed by the amount of people who arrive each week, by the thousands. What also surprises me is the sheer diversity in ages from the very young to the very old, and by the way J. John holds everyones attention."

J. JOHN AT JUST10 BIRMINGHAM
05.05

On April 4th, J. John's latest just10 missions to Bangor, N. Ireland, Lincolnshire and Birmingham began, and week by week the series has gone from strength to strength with over 11,000 people listening to J. John's message at the three live venues and at the numerous overflow sites in Bangor, Grimsby, Bourne & Stamford, Boston and Alford, and with 3 HM Prisons. Throughout the weeks, the press coverage has been very positive, and reports that we have received from the many people who have responded each night has been very encouraging.

Below we hear updates from the organisers of each of the three series and stories of lives transformed.

Just10 birmingham has been a story of God's power and grace at work in the lives of so many people across the churches of Birmingham as they have worked together to realise the dream. It's been exciting, although at times a little pressured; rewarding, yet costly to the organising team, but most of all we have seen lives being transformed by personal encounters with Jesus.

Birmingham's just10 site - a large marquee in Aston Park - has been in the centre of the area regularly in the news for gang-related shootings and violence. It's been exciting to hear the gospel proclaimed right in the middle of this troubled area and to see God's love touch the lives of people from many different cultures.

During the evening entitled "How to prosper with a clear conscience" the packed tent heard from Seyed, an asylum seeker from Iran. "Lying was just a piece of cake for me", he told the 4000+ crowd. He shared how he had deceived authorities, claiming religious persecution, in order to reside in the UK. However, after attending church to support his

lie, Seyed was introduced to Jesus for real. "I was looking for peace and freedom and Jesus was offering them to me, freely. I decided to tell the truth, because I was tired of myself and my sins." Seyed confessed his lie to the Home Office and, miraculously, he was given leave to remain in the UK indefinitely.

That meeting came in the same week as around 5000 Birmingham residents received redundancy notices in the post from MG Rover. After encouraging those listening to avoid stealing and to work to provide their income, J. John urged people to respond. "If you have no job" he said, "come forward, and we will pray for you". "If you have a job to offer, come forward, and we will try and match you up". 30 people came forward to ask for prayer for their employment - and the just10 team are still praying for each one by name. Jane Jackman, just10 administrator, said "We passed on the details of a number of jobs - who knows what God may yet do. The man I prayed with that evening got back to me in the office to thank me for praying for him and to let me know he had several possibilities for his work placement next year."

Each person who came forward in response to J. John's message was sent a letter from the response team the following morning, and received a phone call within 36 hours. On one call, the responder wasn't in but a family member answered the phone. "Please tell us what this is all about" they said. "Our son is so different after coming to your meeting - the rest of us want to come and find out for ourselves."

In preparation for the just10 event, churches across the Birmingham area were given training in sharing the gospel, including the very practical skills of how to invite a friend to

an evangelistic meeting. "But I still wasn't sure that people would want to come" reported a co-ordinator from one church. "A neighbour of mine had come to J.John's Carol event in December with me, but I was hesitant to invite him to the meetings in the tent - even though he had enjoyed the Carol evening. Then one day I bumped into him in the street and decided to tell him that the series had started and that I'd been to the first meeting. I didn't want to appear pushy - but he was really interested - he said he wanted to come - even before I asked him. God showed me that people can be even keener to come than we are to ask them!"

During the ten weeks of mission we have seen over 1000 public responses. A number of local church leaders have also commented that members of their congregation have been inspired and renewed in their faith and are now looking forward to engaging in mission with a little more vigour!

Was it worth it? Well at our final co-ordinators meeting there was a real sense of thankfulness for a job well done. There was even talk of maintaining our togetherness in mission activity during the coming year! We have seen churches working effectively together; church leaders praying together for the city of Birmingham, local congregations exploring new partnerships and most importantly many people encountering Jesus for the first time. Was it worth it? Well I believe it was and I would certainly encourage other towns and cities to engage in shared mission.

On a final note, just10 has clearly been a catalyst for mission activity across the Birmingham area. Do please continue to pray for us as we seek to discern how God might be calling us as churches to continue to work together now that just10 has come to an end.

Peter Howell-Jones, just10 Birmingham, Chair



Conversations overheard at supermarket checkouts and other unlikely places from people who have heard J.John indicate that they have been clearly challenged by his message and are still wrestling with the issues raised. Christians are having conversations in the workplace with friends who have gone that encourages them to put into practice all that they have learned from their 'Calling Out' programme. Many churches across Bangor are buzzing with prayer and expectancy. Up to 200 Christians from a wide range of traditions are enjoying the delights of fellowship in a common cause as they lend their support to the prayer, counselling, stewarding, car-parking, technology teams, etc. every week.

As we look beyond the remaining nights of just10 Bangor we sense that the harvest has only just begun. One group of local churches committed to just10 are already planning a thanksgiving celebration immediately afterwards with the title: "Calling Out – Going On". This catches the flavour of the vision now shared by many. Just10 has lit the fire – together we must keep the flame alive. Pray for all those who have made a commitment in the weeks that are past, that as they move into the months of summer that 'going on' will be their experience and that they will each find a nurturing spiritual home to encourage them on the journey they have just begun. Pray that the churches

involved will also 'go on' in evangelising at the grass roots level and building on the relationships they have forged during the weeks of mission. Let us not weary in well doing remembering as J.John would remind us – 'the cause is worth the cost'.

I cannot begin to tell you the difference the just10 series has made to me. As a relatively new Christian, J.John has made a huge impact on the way I think, live my life and my relationship with God. Not only has he had a tremendous effect on me, but through the just10 meetings in Bangor my sister has become a christian and my husband, who was always an unbeliever, is now a man giving serious thought to asking the Lord into his heart. Monday night's meeting (16th May) was absolutely amazing, the atmosphere was electric, I think J.John would agree that the presence of the Holy Spirit was definitely being felt!

I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the valuable work you do, you've made such a difference to so many people and we thank God for you.

God bless you in all your future work

Ray Jones, just10 Bangor, Chair

INSPIRATION: J. John gives one of his Just 10 talks to the large crowd in Lincoln Cathedral.
Pictures: Roy Ealden; Picture reference: 5-2088-3.



just10 IN THE PAPERS

J. John talks are a tonic

Dear Editor

Since J John came to town, Monday nights have never been as challenging, thought-provoking or conscience-stirring.

J John is perspicuous, dynamic and an engrossing and energising Christian communicator. A master of soundbite and pithy phrases, he is also sharp witted, imaginative and with-it. He also manages to appeal to a wide spectrum of ages.

I have been immersed in his modern day interpretation of the commandments. Titled

'Just 10', he looks at each divine rule individually using contemporary language. His approach is refreshing and positive. For example, "Thou shalt not steal" becomes "How to prosper with a clear conscience."

But this chipper chap with the gift of the gab doesn't pull any punches. He is not afraid to challenge and confront. Week by week his message is unequivocal and forceful. It also has deep impact. Given his undoubted gift for speaking, his words

register and resonate long after his talks are finished.

While some of J John's pronouncements may sit uncomfortably with me and others bring out my argumentative side, I must say that his inspiring insight has led to much soul-searching and self-inquisition. I have even had to question my own Christianity comfort zone.

That said, in a world of prevarication and political correctness gone mad I do admire his courage and conviction and give him 10 out of 10 for his straight talking and

uncompromising message. I am not alone as this peripatetic preacher fills the capacious Elim Church every week which is testament to his popularity.

'Just 10' is an invigorating Christian event and thanks must go to J John, our very own Rev John Parkes and to all involved for bringing it to Bangor. Judging by the feedback, I'm sure it will be transforming for many.

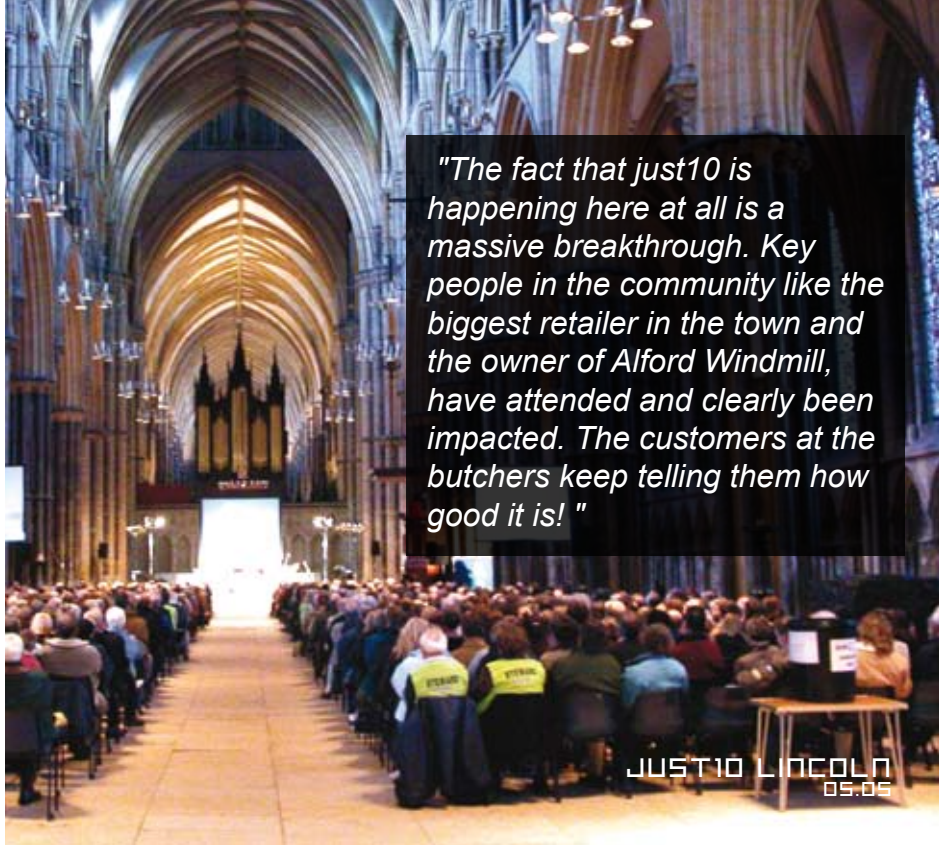
Yours etc.,
KAREN MCENENY
Bryansglen Crescent
Bangor

just10 LINCOLNSHIRE

This has been a very special mission for Lincolnshire. From the start the size of the county and the distance to Lincoln Cathedral for many people was a real issue, but after many months and with much encouragement we finally settled on four additional main centres where J. John's addresses could be shown on big screen each week. As soon as each evening finished at the Cathedral, DVD copies were produced on site and a team of 'DVD angels' winged them on their way to Grimsby in the north, Alford and Boston in the east, and alternately Stamford or Bourne in the south. Around 1,700 came to the Cathedral weekly and a further 1,700 were amazed to find themselves joining in so well 'as if J. John is in the room' in these other centres. In two prisons, Lincoln and Stocken (near Stamford), three groups of prisoners also experienced the whole series week by

week on DVD. One final initiative was an afternoon showing sponsored by one of the partner churches in Lincoln for mainly elderly people, which grew in numbers as the mission progressed.

Another successful feature of just10 in Lincoln was the youth event, attracting well over a hundred 11-18 yr olds to the Chapter House in the Cathedral each week. The Lincoln Youth for Christ team introduced the evening with activities and a lively band before tuning in live to the testimony interview and J. John's address. The atmosphere was contagious, with youth actively inviting their friends, helped by a thousand 'just10' wristbands which were very visible in local schools and youth groups.



"The fact that just10 is happening here at all is a massive breakthrough. Key people in the community like the biggest retailer in the town and the owner of Alford Windmill, have attended and clearly been impacted. The customers at the butchers keep telling them how good it is! "

From the beginning J. John established a wonderful rapport with us in this region. Lincolnshire is not a fast-moving cultural scene, and it took a while for such a uniquely attractive series to 'bite' beyond the churches, but helped by some good media coverage mid-series and persistent prayer and repeat invitations the numbers of 'not-yet Christians' attending in all the centres began to rise. Waves of laughter rippling through the Cathedral at J. John's stories is a phenomenon that will live long in the corporate memory! Similarly, the solemn chiming of the Cathedral bell at 9 o'clock on Week 7 as the appeal was given that none of us knows how much time we have, that responding to Christ's invitation is not something to put off till another day.

Here are some of the personal stories emerging:

A 25-year old electrician from Lincoln: 'over the past five years I somehow felt I'd like to go to church, but I didn't do anything about it. I started going to hear J. John with my girlfriend. It's been just brilliant – J. John is so funny but he makes you think as well. One night I went up and asked someone to pray for me because I wanted to say sorry to God for all the bad stuff I'd done. I've made a commitment to follow Jesus'

A 57-year old lady from a village in Lincolnshire, who had seen her mother die of cancer after nursing her for two years : 'I felt a deep sense of loss and I felt there was something missing in my life. Since attending the talks my grief isn't as strong and I feel I've got a better perspective on life'. After her Confirmation service, which happened during the series, she went out into the market-place and shouted at the top of her voice 'I'm a Christian, I'm happy and I love everyone!'

A young lad aged 16 from one of the toughest estates in Lincoln went forward at the end of the youth meeting and gave his testimony in church the following Sunday. Tears were seen in the eyes of older people as he spoke.

A man from Scunthorpe, with a physical disability, made the long walk up the aisle of Lincoln Cathedral and asked Jesus into his life. Two days later he died.

Two prisoners committed their lives to Christ and have asked to be baptised.

A new lady came to a church fellowship group for the first time expecting to be bored, but really enjoyed it, was invited to just10 and gave her life to Christ.

A young person: 'Thank you J. John for opening my eyes and the experience with God and helping me get closer to him'.

From Alford, the smallest DVD link venue, near Skegness: *'The fact that just10 is happening here at all is a massive breakthrough. Key people in the community like the biggest retailer in the town and the owner of Alford Windmill, have attended and clearly been impacted. The customers at the butchers keep telling them how good it is! People are surprised that the car parks are so full every Tuesday night for something at church...'*

Ian Silk, just10 Lincolnshire, Chair

Evangelists Day, Oxford, September 20th

J. John will be speaking along with Amy Orr-Ewing and Michael Ramsden of The Zacharias Trust at a motivational training day for evangelists on September 20th. This day is primarily aimed at evangelists who seek to confidently, enthusiastically and persuasively share the gospel through preaching. It is intended to feed and equip those in their preaching ministry, and provide spiritual refreshment and encouragement. This inspirational day starts at 09:00 am at St Aldate's Church, Oxford, and costs £22.00 per person or £17.00 for students. (This includes coffee, doughnuts, lunch, tea and cookies!)

For more information, or to book your place, please contact evangelistsday@zactrust.org, or telephone 01865 203951.

Celebration event, Ashford, Kent, September 28th

J. John will be speaking at a celebration event in Ashford, Kent on September 28th. J. John will also speak at an afternoon session for those in positions of Church Leadership, from 3:30 – 5pm at Elm Tree Farm in Mersham, Ashford. The evening celebration starts at 7:30pm, and will be an evangelistic event, infused with teaching. The celebration will be held at Ashford Baptist Church, Station Road, Ashford. This is an ideal opportunity to come and listen to J. John, and to invite friends, family, neighbours and colleagues to hear his message.

For more information about either event, or to notify the organisers of your attendance at the leaders afternoon, please contact Revd Alan Dinnie on 01233 628693.

just10 Devon Launch Event, September 21st

On September 21st, J. John will be speaking at the launch night for just10 Devon, in Exeter Cathedral. This is an ideal opportunity to come and catch the vision, and to hear J. John speak. There will be worship, words from the organisers about what just10 will involve and the potential impact for lives to be transformed in that area, and much more.

Elliott Mizen, Project Co-Ordinator for just10 Devon writes, 'Preparation for just10 Devon 2006 is well under way with churches county-wide being mobilised to prayer and prepare. With 95 churches so far partnered in, Exeter Cathedral is hosting the launch on 21st September 2005. Expectations are high for an inspiring and significant evening, with J. John sharing and senior Devon church

leaders such as the Bishop of Exeter involved. Please join with Christians around Devon in praying for the impact of just10 on this county. This presents such an exciting opportunity in Devon to see the Church enriched; the gift of God's values understood and lives transformed for eternity.'

just10 Devon will be taking place every Wednesday evening from 26th April to 28th June 2006.

Launch event, Exeter Cathedral, starts 7:30pm. The Just 10 series will begin on April 26th, 2006 and will be held at Crealy Adventure Park, near Exeter.

For more information, please contact just10 project manager Elliott Mizen, just10 Devon Office, Belmont Chapel, Western Way, Exeter, EX1 2DB. Tel: 01392 683387 or 07796 694772. Email: office@just10devon.org.uk

Web: www.just10devon.org.uk

Retreat To Advance Leaders Days

Retreat to Advance is a new series of Leaders Days hosted by J. John in association with Highmoor Hall. These Leaders days will inspire, encourage, equip and challenge those in positions of Church and Christian leadership. Each day will include teaching from J. John and other speakers, worship led by Dave Edwards, opportunities for questions and sharing, along with morning coffee and danishes, lunch and afternoon tea.

In the beautiful setting of Highmoor Hall, with its spacious gardens and tranquil surroundings, near Henley on Thames in Oxfordshire, Retreat to Advance will be an opportunity to 'retreat' for a day from the stresses and strains of ministry and gain fresh insights, and 'advance' refreshed and re-focused for the challenge of ministry.

Cost – £45.00 per day to include coffee, lunch and tea. 10am – 4pm.

Dates are as follows:

Wednesday 23rd November :

Evangelism with J. John & Andy Economides

Wednesday 25th January :

Prophetic Evangelism with J. John and Mark Stibbe

Wednesday 22nd February :

Evangelistic Preaching with J. John & Greg Downes

Wednesday 19th April :

Evangelism and Healing with J. John & Don Egan

To book, please contact Bernadette Ocampo.

Email: admin@philotruster.com Call: 01923 772288.

Please note: places are limited.

Christian teaching changes lives

For the past two years J. John and the Philo Trust have been partnering with the Christian child development charity Compassion, to bring help to some of the poorest children around the world. In addition to providing children with practical help, Compassion gives children the opportunity to meet with Jesus and learn of their eternal value in Christ. Last year over 80,000 sponsored children decided to accept Christ into their lives. Compassion's Christ centred, child focused and church based programmes are making an incredible difference around the world.

When Kalaivani, a seven-year-old Indian girl, was found, her condition was dreadful, both physically and emotionally. She was living in a slum near Bangalore, surviving on liquid starch taken from people who could afford to cook rice.

When Compassion staff asked Kalaivani's parents whether she could join the project in the area, they readily agreed. All they wanted at that point was for the child to be fed. They could not have imagined the change that was going to take place.

Today Kalaivani is a lively and healthy child; she goes to church regularly and has an excellent knowledge of the Bible. "I was unknown, but now I feel I am someone," she says. As Kalaivani has shared her experience with her family, they too have come to know Christ and have expressed a desire to be baptised.

Kalaivani's story is remarkable but not unusual. Many sponsored children have become Christians on learning about God's love for them. Last year alone, an estimated 80,000 children made the life-changing decision to follow Christ in Compassion projects.

One reason why Compassion's ministry is having such an impact on children's lives is that Compassion specifically partners with local churches who know the area and the children in need. The programmes are seen as a long-term commitment, which means that children attend the projects until their late teens. During this time, many children receive enough Christian training to become effective Christian leaders.

One Compassion project in the province of Pattalung, Thailand, is located in an area where people are known to be unreceptive to the gospel, but the project manager, Nulek Kamtongsuk, and her husband did not mind the challenge. Now the parents and other members of the community accept the project as they have seen it benefit the children's lives. This is beginning to pave the way for the gospel which is normally difficult to share directly.

Compassion, through its one-to-one child sponsorship programme, gives individuals the opportunity to reach out with the love of Christ. In 2003 J. John travelled to Brazil to visit his sponsored child Andresa, and to see the impact his sponsorship was having in her life. "I think the uniqueness of Compassion as I have seen myself is that it combines both the message of Jesus Christ, that he is both the way and the truth and the life, but at the same time does not ignore the needs of these people and the needs of the children. The needs they have in terms of hygiene and health and education and welfare. And that is absolutely wonderful - they're almost like two wings of a bird being brought together to enable these children to rise and to fly and to reach their potential." J. John will be travelling to Kenya with Compassion in July to see how individual sponsors are transforming lives out there.



"Compassion has encouraged me to sense a concern for others, outweighing my concern for myself. We are not primarily put on this earth to see through one another, but to see one another through. Compassion helps me to do this, and I am grateful"

J. John

To find out more about becoming a Compassion child sponsor visit www.compassionuk.org, email info@compassionuk.org or call 01932 836490.



J. JOHN & JOE BOOT

WITH NO APOLOGY

Does Christianity add up? What is truth? Can we trust the Bible? Who is Jesus, anyway? Doesn't science disprove Christianity? And how can a good God allow so much suffering?

We all have questions. We wouldn't be human without them. But how do we set about answering them – instead of sweeping them under the carpet?

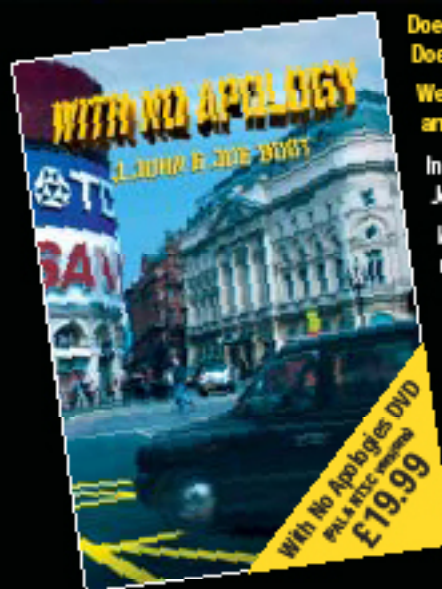
In a series of five intriguing taxi rides around London, available on DVD, J. John talks to his friend Joe Boot, a Christian 'apologist' who has spent over a decade answering life's toughest questions.

With No Apology, is ideal to watch in groups or on your own. It will raise tough issues, confront nagging questions, and provide the tools with which you can set about developing your own responses.

Our easy-to-use booklet, included with the DVD, offers a helpful summary of each of the 5 sessions – plus questions for further discussion, a comprehensive glossary of definitions and suggestions for further reading.

J. John and Joe Boot find that the Christian faith has the potency, relevance, wisdom and power to face life head on – and transform it in the process. This is one cab ride we're sure you won't forget in a hurry.

To place your order of this new DVD at only £19.99, please complete and return the order form in this copy of Philo Times.



For many years J. John and his Associate Joe Boot have debated and grappled with various challenging issues, ranging from creation, evolution, science, suffering, the historical reliability of the Bible and much more. J. John and Joe Boot thought they would record some of these discussions for a DVD to enable people to think more deeply about their faith, and confront some of life's harder questions.

Filming took place across London last November, and much of J. John and Joe Boot's dialogue took place in a black taxi cab. Filmed whilst travelling between London landmarks, but also in cafés and on location in special sites in the capital, the pace is fast, yet the discussion is thorough, and the city buzz provides a colourful backdrop to the lively debate that

ensued. J. John's questions are direct and topical, and he ensures that no stone is left unturned as he challenges Joe for relevant and convincing answers.

J. John wrote, 'Believe it or not, ministers like me don't always have a readymade answer for every question we are asked, or indeed, that we ask for ourselves. It is my hope that this record of my conversations with Joe will provide new tools, and much encouragement for people's journey of life and faith. Our beliefs can make sense. We can trust in our God. And we have the most wonderful good news to share with others.'



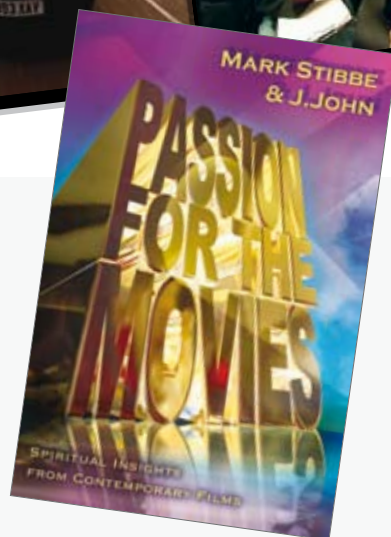
Passion for the Movies

This new book & study guide by J. John and Mark Stibbe explores the spiritual message in modern movies. With an engaging analysis of each movie, along with an accompanying study guide for each film, this book offers an exciting read with scope for further thought and application.

Movies included within the book are: The Passion of the Christ, Billy Elliot, Castaway, Bridget Jones Diary, Seabiscuit, The Godfather Trilogy, Titanic, Fargo, Saving Private Ryan, The Matrix, The Lord of the Rings (Fellowship of the Ring & Two Towers), Finding Nemo, The Green Mile, Unfaithful, Shrek, Bruce Almighty, My Big Fat Greek Wedding, Signs, Changing Lanes and Phone Booth.

In this book J. John and Mark Stibbe aim to encourage people in the church to engage in a discerning interaction with modern movies, and those outside the church to consider how God might be addressing them directly or indirectly through contemporary films. Our prayer is that this book will help all readers to engage more critically with contemporary films.

Passion for the Movies includes some of the films featured in J. John and Mark Stibbe's previous books, Big Picture 1 and 2, but with many more movies covered, along with a detailed analysis of The Passion of the Christ, and engaging discussion notes for study groups. The study guides are specific to each movie and include ideas for personal reflection, bible readings, discussion questions, prayers and ideas for how individuals can appropriately respond.



Passion For The Movies £8.99

Ideas for use:

- >> Ideal for personal use for anyone with a passion for the movies.
- >> Perfect for use in small groups. Why not consider showing the film one week, and meeting together the following week to discuss the implications of the film. This book is a user-friendly tool for inviting friends along to an evening of film, discussion and fun.
- >> Ideal for Church leaders as inspiration for a series of guest services (J. John and Mark Stibbe have now led 3 Movie series at their Church for guests, with great success.)

Available for £8.99. To order your copy, please complete the tear-off slip, or visit www.philotrust.com



associate profile >>

MARK RITCHIE

[HTTP://WWW.PHILOTTRUST.COM/ASSOCIATES.PHP](http://www.philotrust.com/associates.php)

Theatre audiences across Britain have been entertained recently by a show developed by J. John's Associate Evangelist Mark Ritchie.

Mark, a passionate Scotsman based in Nottingham, has been developing the 'Tale of Three Journeys' show over the last 24 months. It mixes his unique humour with a clear gospel message.

Mark is taking the show to different towns and cities – always working with a mixture of different denominations. He will visit the area before the show for a training event for Christians.

The show sees Mark weaving together three different stories about journeys – with photographs, illustrating the tales, projected on stage. It culminates with the audience being urged to journey towards God.

With Mark's gift of storytelling, the audience are taken on a participatory journey of humour, inspiration and challenge.

The evening creates a neutral setting for unchurched people to think about their dreams, what they are investing their life in and, ultimately, what they will do in the light of the Cross.

Roy Crowne, the National Director of Youth for Christ says it's a brilliant production: 'It takes Mark's gift of communication creativity and energy and presents the gospel in a dynamic way'

Mark Ritchie wrote, 'It's been fantastic to be able to devise a production that sees churches coming together, and transforming lives. News of the event is certainly spreading – with bookings already coming in for 2006. I want to see more and more theatres filled with people watching the show.'

To find out more about the Tale of Three Journeys you can contact Mark's organisation, the 73rd Trust, on 0115 9474038 – or email mark@73rdtrust.com.

office news >>

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to Katharine but so pleased for her and Brian as they await the birth of their second child, a sibling, for Eden. We look forward to the safe arrival of their baby and to Katharine's return to Philo when her maternity leave finishes next year.

We are delighted to welcome Bernadette Ocampo as PA to J. John. Bernadette has joined us from a City PR company and has quickly settled in – she joined Philo during the final week of the just10 Missions so was able to visit two of the sites to see J. John speaking and gain an immediate insight into this ministry.

We also welcomed Chris Gledhill as Philo's new Chief of Staff and Finance Officer (J. John says "Hallelujah"). This is a key management role and Chris brings with him a wealth of IT, financial and management experience.



Bernadette Ocampo



Chris Gledhill

DEAR FRIENDS

I hope you have found our Summer Newsletter informative and encouraging. We are humbled by God's Grace and Goodness which has abounded through our ministry over the last 25 years. We have sown and reaped and seen literally hundreds of thousands of lives touched by the Lord. The opportunities ahead of us are numerous and the fields continue to be "ripe for harvest". Please PRAY

PRAY

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest, to send our workers into his harvest field". Matthew 9:37-38

John Wesley wrote "All of God's works are done through believing prayer". During the nineteenth century revivals, Charles Finney increasingly stressed the primacy of prayer. He knew no other way. A man of prayer himself, he would take an intercessor with him when he was invited to a city. Prayer is so important that the evangelist D.L. Moody remarked that "every work of God can be traced to some kneeling form."

Please pray for me. Please pray for the ministry of the Philo Trust. Please pray for our protection, for God's provision and for a bountiful season of reaping.

PLANT

"Give generously, for your gifts will return to you later. If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done." Ecclesiastes 11:1-4

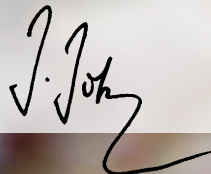
The Bible talks about sowing and planting seed. But as verse 4 says, "If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done." Please sow financial seed into this ministry. We always appreciate one-off gifts but we depend on partners who give each month, whether £10, £20, £50, £100 or more. Partners help to undergird the ministry and enable us to budget. Please become a monthly partner. I read the following sign at a garden centre, "The best time to plant a tree was 25 years ago. The second best time is today!" Please plant into this ministry TODAY.

PURCHASE

We meet people frequently who tell us that reading one of our books or listening to one of our tapes brought them to faith in Jesus Christ. We believe our resources are "Classic" and "Contemporary". They are ideal to send as gifts and to give to those who show interest in the Christian faith. This is another way of sowing seed into the lives of others. I am convinced that the cause is worth the cost.

Please pray, please plant, and please purchase resources so the Kingdom of Jesus Christ can be extended.

Yours sincerely,



Game of Life

The Game of Life is a new evangelistic resource by J. John expressing the Christian message with reference to sport. This booklet is an ideal gift for reaching those outside of the Church with the true meaning of Christianity, explained in a way that is not only refreshing and relevant, but reasonable too.

This booklet challenges its reader to consider how life is often like a game or a race. With many current sporting examples, as well as metaphors from sports ranging from tennis and golf to rugby, athletics, and football, this booklet makes reference to winning, losing, times of progress and times of effort and strain.

This book is user-friendly, and leads the reader to a point of decision. J. John writes, 'We need to hang up our boots from the old game, and let God manage us in his one.'

Game of Life

£1.99 each

For bulk prices see carrier sheet or call our office.



philotimes exclusive offer

Wit & Wisdom pick 'n' mix



This best selling series has the perfect mix of witty and poignant stories, quotes and one-liners. We are delighted to offer you the opportunity to select any three books from the Wit and Wisdom series at a discount price of £19.95. These are the ideal gift for Father's/Mother's Day, Birthdays and Christmas.

Choose from...

A Box of Delights, A Bucket of Surprises, A Barrel of Fun, A Bundle of Laughs (NEW 2005) and Bursting at the Seams (wit & wisdom for women)

Wit & Wisdom pick 'n' mix

£19.95 or £8.99 each

all our resources are available online at www.philotrust.com

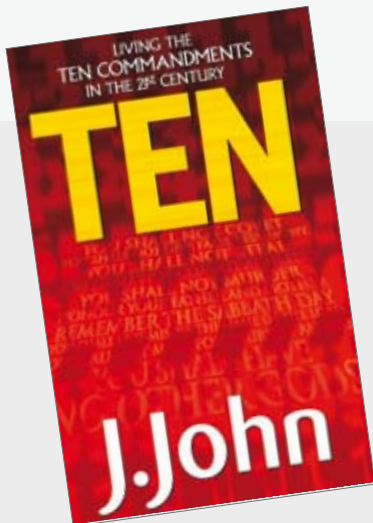
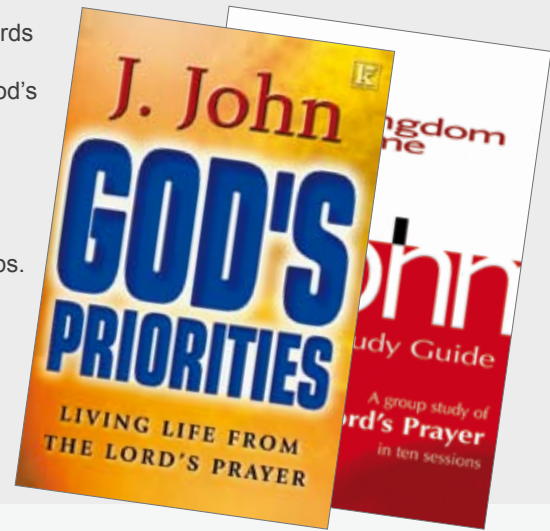
God's Priorities & Your Kingdom Come

The Lord's Prayer is probably the best known prayer ever. The sixty-five words within it sum up God's Priorities, such as knowing God as father, seeking God's will, resisting temptation and forgiving others whilst also accepting God's forgiveness of us. This book unpacks the Lord's Prayer phrase by phrase, encouraging us to live it out.

Your Kingdom Come is an essential study guide for home-groups to work through the Lord's Prayer and its practical implications for Christians today. Running over 7 weeks, it is ideal for any Church to run within its small groups.

God's Priorities & Your Kingdom Come

Buy together for £9.95
and save more than £2.00.



TEN Living the Ten Commandments

J. John explores an ancient code of behaviour that provides a window on life as it should be - life as it could be - where respect for others and for God determines everything we do. The name that code normally goes by is the Ten Commandments. But be prepared for a few surprises.

'Dear J. John, Our home group would like you to know that we have thoroughly enjoyed and been really blessed by your book on the Ten Commandments. We also followed your plans for Sunday morning services, with drama and puppet shows. With our love, and thanks.'

TEN
£7.99

J. John at the Birmingham NEC

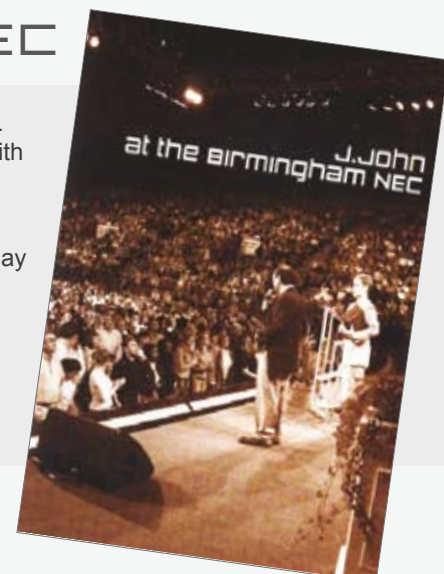
This is a live recording of J. John speaking at the Joyce Meyer conference at the NEC. J. John offers principles to motivate, enthuse and encourage Christians in their walk with God.

J. John's appeal transcends age, culture, occupation and gender. He helps people to see the spiritual dimension of life and enables people to find a purpose to their everyday lives.

J. John at the Birmingham NEC

£7.99

Region 2 (UK PAL) ONLY



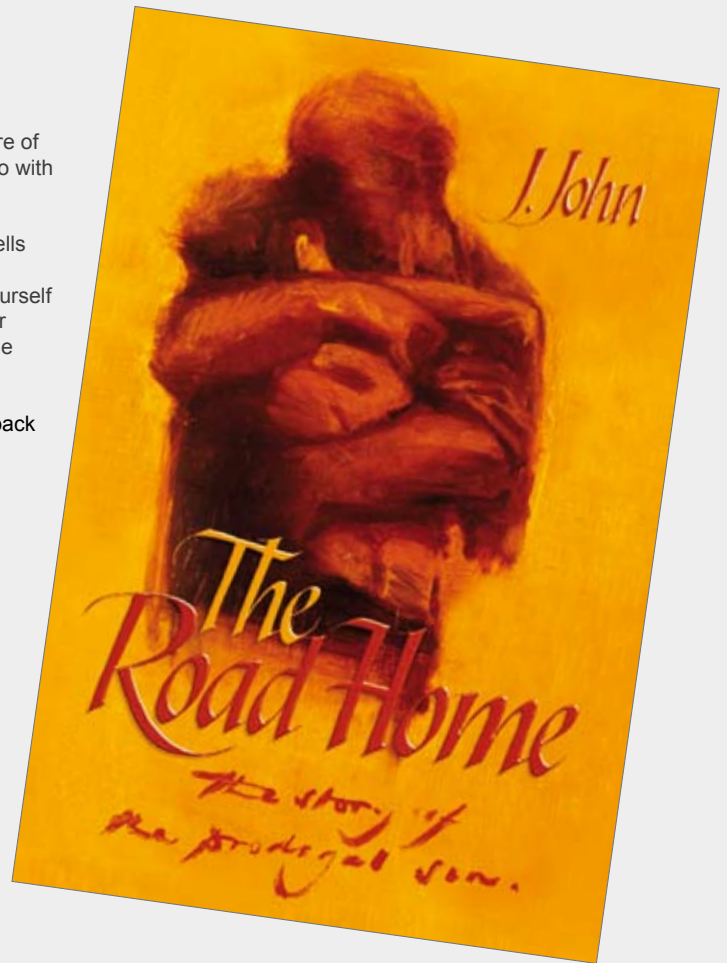
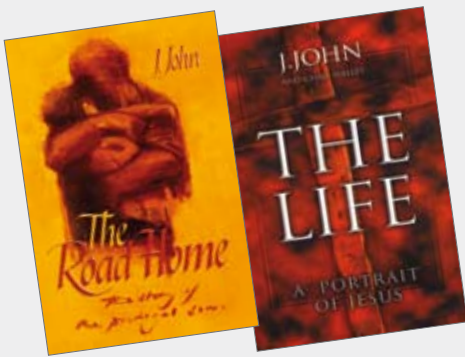
fifteen

The Road Home [cushioned hardback]

An incredulous steward retells his story, painting a moving picture of the heart of a father; one who often leaves him shocked, but also with an outlook he would never have dreamed of...

The Road Home, a creative and compelling story by J. John, retells the parable of The Prodigal Son. This beautiful hardback, with original cover artwork by Charlie Mackesy, is an ideal gift (for yourself or others) with a gripping story and powerful ending. Inspiring for Christians and challenging for those who have yet to return to the Father.

Until July 31st 2005 all purchases will also include a free paperback copy of J. John's book 'The Life: A Portrait of Jesus'.
£10.00 plus £2.00 P&P



The Road Home £10.00 each

Plus £2.00 P&P (UK ONLY).

'The Life' book recommendation

[Hillsong Church London]

We have found 'The Life' to have a great impact with what we do at Hillsong Church London.

As part of our Easter service this year we gave the book as a gift to everyone who attended (4500 people) as it explained the Easter message.

Since then, we now give the book to people who put their life right with God every Sunday and so far this year, this has been given to just over 1,000 people who have made decisions - knowing that it will give them greater insight into who Jesus is and what he did for them.

We also have 'The Life' as one of our recommended books at our monthly Discovery course as it's able to help people who don't have a personal relationship with Jesus gain a greater understanding of who he is and what he did for us.

The Life [paperback]

£5.99 each or £2.00 [plus P&P] for orders of 10 or more. Please contact our office for more information on bulk orders.

