

Mike writes...

Every day God invites us on the same kind of adventure. It's not a trip where He sends us a rigid itinerary, He simply invites us. God asks what it is He's made us to love, what it is that captures our attention, what feeds that deep indescribable need of our soul to experience the richness of the world He made. And then, leaning over us, He whispers, "Let's go do that together."

I currently have this quote from Bob Goff on my office wall and it is inspiring me daily.

I think when we find 'our thing' it is hugely significant and can

release an individual into a more purposeful life. I agree

that God doesn't have a rigid 'plan' for us, but He

does have an adventure waiting for, and longs

to embark on it with us.

I always want the 267 community to be a place where kids, young people, leaders, anyone, can find what God has made them for, what God has given

them to do. It is often a messy, less-than-straightforward

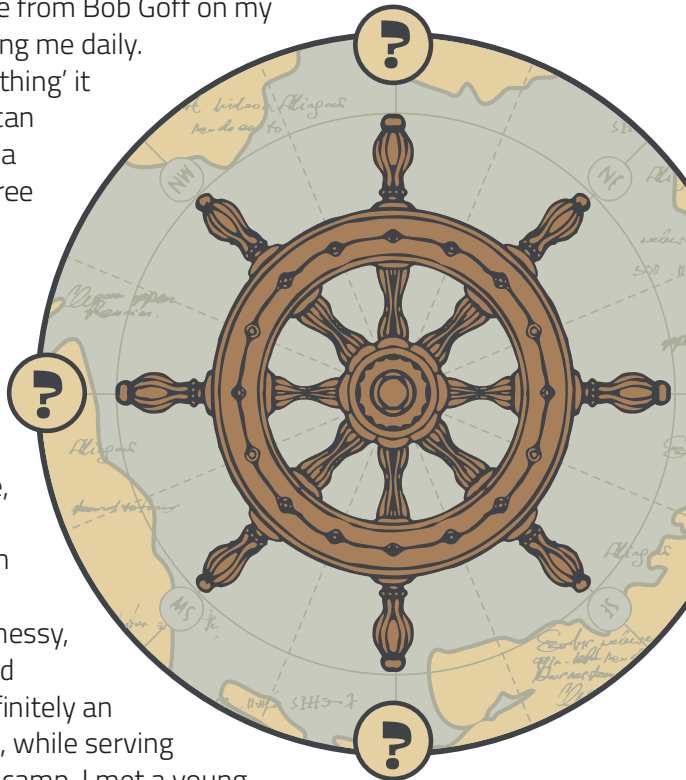
journey, but it is most definitely an adventure. Last weekend, while serving

at an Urban Saints Spree camp, I met a young person called Mighty – what a name! Mighty prayed for us during three

of the gatherings and I have to say his prayers were, well Mighty! He'd never had this opportunity to use his voice before, so it was great to see

how it encouraged the 200 young people present as well as awakened something in his own faith journey. My prayer for all of us is that God will

help us find 'that deep indescribable need of our soul' and we will use it to serve people, love people, bless people and release people.



Thanks...

- Lizzy P has joined the 267 family and will be working for 15hrs a week helping The Haven grow. Pray she settles in well and gets to know everyone, we are also praying that Lizzy would find somewhere to live, and some people to live with, in the St Albans area.



Lizzy started working for The Haven and is helping Claire grow the ministry

- 10 young people, many part of the 267 family, are getting baptized at St Marks Colney Heath on 10th July. There is much to celebrate and give thanks about this.

- We've just come back from our residential with the year 678 group. What a treat it was; we discovered the joys of 'balcony dodgeball', 'living in the margins', double ice cream, climbing giant chairs, frisbee golf and so much more. It was such a great time.



We've just returned from our phenomenal Year 678 weekend.

- The Haven has been chosen as part of the 'Cinnamon Network Incubator Program' which will give great opportunity for growth with access to business and funding support. Well done Claire for articulating The Haven mission so clearly that it got noticed amongst all the other entrants!

- In June we had our final Fuel of the academic year at Vineyard Church and it was a huge encouragement. A whole bunch of young people from different churches, quality donuts, a stunning preach from Ellie and some great community.

- We've had a couple of excellent podcast recordings. With Michael Hunter from YoungLife we spoke about 'longevity in youth ministry'. With Calum from St Albans Cathedral we spoke about 'wanting to follow Jesus but struggling with church!' Do check both of them out on Spotify or iTunes. Just search '267 Podcast'

Some scripture that is encouraging us at the moment:

Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain. In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat – for he grants sleep to those he loves. *Psalm 127*



Please...

- Haven continues to grow and there are some exciting developments on the horizon. Pray for Claire, Mike and the trustees as we explore these next steps and future partnerships.
- After the success of BackToLife last year we thought it would work well to run another event, but sadly we haven't had enough sign ups to make it viable. Instead we are going to run a 'Mini Summer Houseparty' on the 4th-6th August. Get in touch if you'd like to join us, it's for all those starting Year 7 in September right up to Year 13. It will be a mix of fun, community, food, a 'random acts of kindness' event in St Albans and loads more of the Houseparty-style fun.
- Continue to pray for the team at 267. We have some changes happening over the coming months and we want seek God for the right decisions and plans. We are going to hopefully be giving some additional hours to Ben so he can really help our websites (Haven and 267) to look slick and be up to date. Pray for the team as they take some well-earned rest over August.
- On Monday 11th we have our 267 trustees gathering. Pray for our time as we are having 4 potential new trustees joining us. Pray also for us all as we talk about growth for Haven, the team and for new ministry in the autumn.
- Pray for our 15th Birthday celebrations on Thursday 1st September. We have so much to give thanks for over the 267 journey but we still feel called to keep going. Come join us as we celebrate and share stories.
- On Friday 22nd July we have our annual 267 Golf Day. Pray for great weather, great conversations and for some great fundraising for our ministry as we head into the next season.
- We are currently in the process of getting hold of a single decker bus that we hope to use in a whole variety of ways for youth ministry across the area. We are partnering with 3 other youth organisations and 4 churches to consider ways in which we could have the greatest impact with our bus project. Our hope is to use the bus as a mobile youth venue, a leader training venue, a mobile mental health space (to go with our already running Haven ministry), and so much more. We are seeking to fundraise and apply for grants to raise £7-£10k to be able to start the project and run it for 3 years.



Diary

Some important upcoming dates to pray for...

● Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd July – Mike serving at Urban Saints Spree Camp. Pray as Mike is giving 5 talks over the weekend on Micah 6:8

● Monday 4th July – A young person called Ellie is joining us for a week of work experience. Pray we don't just feed her breakfast every day!!

● Monday 4th July – Claire is filming Haven videos to help with the growth of Haven in Schools

● Thursday 7th July – Mike and Ellie (work experience) are joining STEP for the day

● Monday 11th July – A young person called Grace is joining us for a few days of work experience.

● Monday 11th July – 267 Trustees and Team meet

● Wednesday 13th July – 267 tribe Breakfast

● Friday 22nd July – 267 Fundraising Golf Day at Porters Park

● 4th – 6th August – Mini Summer Houseparty (this replaces BackToLife as not enough people signed up!)

If you would like to volunteer with the267project then drop us an email – director@the267project.com or pa@the267project.com Thanks

Upcoming Dates!

Thursday 1st September – 267's 15th Birthday Celebration.

5pm at The Dutch Nursery, Great North Road, Brookmans Park, AL9 6ND.

Join us for food, entertainment, hear encouraging stories from our ministry, take part in fundraising opportunities and spend time with the 267 tribe.



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