

# Beauty For Ashes 2010 – Glasgow Seminars

## 1) Dealing with challenging behaviour

If you work with children and young people whose behaviour you find challenging, this seminar is for you! Come to interact, share stories, swap ideas and pick up suggestions for good practice. We'll delve into social context, conflict behaviour, possible responses, boundary setting, personal survival strategies and God's perspective on reaching out to children and young people.

**Matt Hall** is a trained social worker who has been working with at risk young people for 19 years. For the past decade, Matt and his wife Diane have been involved in a community youth work ministry reaching out to children, young people and families in the Easterhouse area of Glasgow.

## 2) Modeling Forgiveness

This seminar will look at Jesus' take on forgiveness through the story he tells in Matthew 18. We'll see how mercy always triumphs over judgment and explore the freedom that that brings. The main focus of this time will be on how we can forgive those who have hurt us, because it's only in taking this journey ourselves that we can lead others into freedom and fullness of life.

**Gordon and Jenny Cheung** serve in two different Glasgow churches. Gordon is the Pastor of the English Congregation at Glasgow Chinese Christian Church, whilst Jenny is employed in the role of Creative Pastor at St. Silas' Church. Jenny also writes the 5-6 age group material for Urban Saints' website, Energize. Gordon and Jenny have lots of history working with children and young people in different settings, and currently co-lead the children's work at CLAN Gathering. They also have three children of their own who inspire and challenge them on a daily basis!

## 3) Church in gang culture

No this isn't a seminar on how to deal with various cliques on a Sunday morning, but an honest look at how the church responds to many of our young people today who feel more at home in a gang than in any other situation. For them the sense of belonging goes so far that they would lay down their lives and freedom for their friends. Looking at case studies from Neil's work in the East End and accounts from young people in the community we will share our experiences of finding common ground and how we as a church can partner other organisations in our communities to show the young people another way of life.

**Neil Young** has been leading church youthwork for over 16 years, Now youth project manager for a small Church of Scotland in the North East of Glasgow, Neil has witnessed both the horrors of gang culture but the successes that positive church work can have. Neil is director of Bolt FM a youth led radio station, based in St. Paul's Church. Bolt has been showcased by COSLA (Convention Of Scottish Local Authorities) as best practice of community engagement in dealing with antisocial behaviour in young people.

#### **4) Sustaining your spirituality on the frontline**

In this seminar we will be exploring the importance of keeping our own relationship with God alive and vibrant as we serve week in, week out! We will explore a biblical basis for this in leadership, practical tips & pointers and also look at keeping vision & values fresh & relevant to where we are called to be.

**Niall and Pam Fulton** head up Made for Encounter ([www.madeforencounter.org.uk](http://www.madeforencounter.org.uk)), a ministry which aims to help people deepen their relationship with God. They also work as Pastors for Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Care at Queens Park Baptist Church.

#### **5) Building the bonds of attachment: an invitation to share experiences of separation, loss and how love grows**

Come and hear the story of how *The Growth of Love* developed in the context of Mill Grove. Come to share your experiences and listen to others; and learn together that with God's empowering we can help emotionally damaged children to love again.

**Keith and Ruth White** run Mill Grove, which since 1899 has not only been the White family home, but also home to over 1,200 children who have not been able to live in their own families.

#### **6) Back to school (Snow White and the Seven Urban Giants)**

When we consider how to develop church/school partnerships in urban areas, we face seven giants.

- Our theology – how do we understand the Kingdom of God
- Our history – it never ever worked before, it's got to work this time
- Our practice – the place of prayer
- Where do we fit into church?
- Where do we fit into school and the educational system?
- Multi faceted deprivation, poverty and ignorance.
- Finding resources and strategies that work

It's not the first time that giants have been faced. Old Testament Caleb and Joshua had some comment to make on this. This will be a seminar, not a lecture and will include the sharing of ideas and views by those who are still discovering and learning.

#### **Ken Coulter (with the Go Team- David Clipston and Lorraine Henry)**

Does God have a sense of humour? Is the grass at Ibrox green? Ken is from Edinburgh, yet called to live near Paradise. He worked as an asbestos stripper, studied theology in Aberdeen and became the Baptist minister in Rutherglen in 1986. He then became an R.E teacher in Glasgow before developing resources for Religious Observance in Scottish education. He has been Project Leader for Scripture Union's (Glasgow) GO Team since 1998.