

LOUISA LOCKWOOD



1 Peter 1:8–9

“Rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.”

First I'd like to say a big 'thank you' to you all at LSBC for having me on placement for these seven months. You have a very warm welcome and a lively fun atmosphere in the congregation and community times that I've experienced. There is an atmosphere of being open to doing serious business with the Lord through appreciating His Bible and through experiencing His Spirit.

I will finish a three-year Ministerial Formation programme and a Theology Diploma at Bristol Baptist College in June and am beginning to investigate the next stage as a Newly Accredited Minister (NAM). My journey from baptism to ministry has been fairly steady as my believer's baptism was December 2016 and the Lord has given me increasingly more responsibility in church roles since then. Growing up in a small corner of the Anglican church gave me a healthy respect for God, a sense that Jesus was too good to approach, and not much idea about the Holy Spirit. Wotton Baptist Church (WBC) played a large part in bringing me to a born again faith. WBC has Bible-based preaching and I learnt that Jesus was very interested in what I chose to do each and every day. Going to visit one Friday night at New Wine turned into an annual week of volunteering on hosting/prayer teams; attending Saturday teaching at Bristol Baptist College led to a calling to ministry; interviewing a minister at Stonehouse BC led to a calling into preaching; the Lord has opened so many doors while others have quietly closed behind me. I aim to orientate my time around what He sets out for me to do and there has been a lot of painful pruning in His care, and some wonderful fruitfulness in others that He has shown me.

For those who don't know much about me: I've been a single parent for the last 10 years, my three children are now in their early 20s and beginning to fledge. I also live with two dogs and three badly-behaved rescue cats. It's wonderful now to be here at Little Stoke to be learning from Tania and from all of you.

You should be able to find me at LSBC on Mondays, Thursdays and most Sundays.