



GOSPEL WORKERS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY



APPRENTICE FOR SEPTEMBER 2009

Coley Park Baptist Church, Reading, is looking to appoint a male apprentice for up to two years, starting in September 2009. This is a great opportunity for someone who would like a wide range of experiences in an independent church that is located at the heart of a small, varied, urban community.

What is the church like and what is its vision?

We are a church of about 100 people of all ages, from a cross-section of life, with a mixture of races. We are located at the centre of a self-contained housing area near Reading town centre, called Coley Park, where around 5,000 people live; the housing varies from tower blocks to chic converted farm buildings and there is great contrast of social need and affluence. Our range of activities include Sunday services, Parent & Toddlers, Coley café, FRIDAY Club (ages 7-11), various Bible study/discipleship groups, community events and visiting, and Christianity Explored courses. We are enjoying using an extended and refurbished building that was completed in March 2009. The church is led by a leadership team consisting of the pastor (Steve Scrivener) with three assistant leaders (deacons). We are affiliated to the Fellowship of Independent Churches (FIEC). Our vision is:

By God's grace and for his glory we want to be a growing church that is:

Christ-centred: Being led by our Lord and Saviour through his word (the Bible); The Bible teaches all we need to know about Christian belief and behaviour so we want to get into, teach, apply and live out God's word in today's world, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Contemporary: Being flexible and open to new ideas so as to connect with as many people as possible with the good news of Jesus – including we want our worship services to combine the best of the old and the new.

Cosmopolitan: Having, accepting and involving a mixture of ages, races and backgrounds.

Coley-focused: The church is for all of Reading with our focus being on reaching out to the people of Coley Park and we would like many of the church to be from Coley Park.

Committed: Being committed to the Lord and thus a vibrant church family that prays, witnesses, makes disciples & teaches God's word, supports mission, cares, serves, worships and relates to other gospel churches and Christian organisations.

For more about the church see www.coleychurch.org.uk

Who is the church looking for?

A man who desires to: serve and to learn; grow as a disciple and a minister of the gospel; reach out to lost people; help the church grow (in conversions, Christ-like maturity and service). And we want to develop such a person in their Christian walk and service and so increase the number the number of gospel workers.

What will the apprentice do?

We envisage an apprentice would be involved in practical ministry, outreach / evangelism and discipling (focussing on adults) and, when ready, leading services and teaching / preaching. Guidance will be provided by the pastor. Training would occur at the FIEC *Prepared for Service* (PfS) South Course in Reading (see link <http://www.fiec.org.uk/Portals/2/FIEC%20Training/Pfs%20brochure%20South.pdf>), supplemented by guided reading, plus a conference each year. The exact details will be worked out with the individual.

What about funding?

The church will fund accommodation, basic living costs, the PfS course, an annual conference and ministry expenses. We would ideally like the apprentice to make a contribution over the two years.

What do I do next?

If you would like to know more or simply to talk the idea over, please contact Steve Scrivener (the pastor) on 0118 958 9911 or at steve@coleychurch.org.uk