

# GLO DIGITAL

BEING A DIGITAL COMMUNITY - CHURCH UPDATE #MAY2020



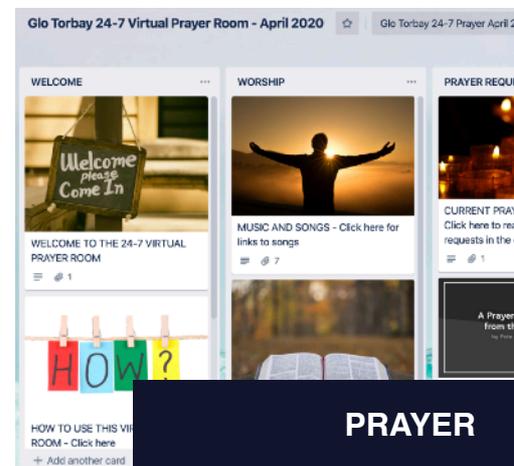
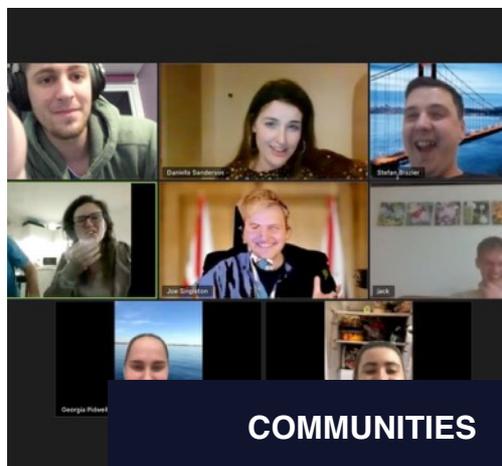
## SUNDAYS

LIVE ●

10:15 for 10:30

[www.facebook.com/groups/glotorbay](http://www.facebook.com/groups/glotorbay)

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# 01 THE SAME RULES APPLY

*For those of you that know me well, you won't be surprised that ideas, vision, plans and relentless positivity have been whirring around my head since the very first moment of this crisis.*

My battle is not with dark thoughts or anxieties about the future... quite the opposite. My battle is the temptation of bypassing altogether the reality of grief, confusion and processing loss. Put simply I can miss the reality of the present by jumping into the potential of the future too soon.

I don't apologise for this and recognise that these attributes will serve us both in this season and the one to come, but I do want to recognise that within this strength lies a weakness.

In all that we do as a church family, we want to take as many people with us as possible. If we move too fast - endlessly sharing new ideas, events, dreams for the future - we can leave people behind... if we go too slow, we get stuck, we don't serve our communities well and miss out experiencing God's closeness and goodness.

So I want to encourage us all at this time to do a few things that will keep us together and moving forward:

- 1) Remind each other of the promises of God over us.
- 2) Lean each other toward Christ.
- 3) Have eyes for those who are struggling.
- 4) Walk as church into the land promised to us.
- 5) Increasingly be intentional and eager to invite and lead others to faith.

In Exodus we read of Moses leading a people through a season of 'wilderness' and towards a promised land. The season was long, the frustration was real and there were many times that the nation of Israel looked back and desired a return to a life of slavery in Egypt. The faith to remain on course was at times lacking. People got disheartened causing them to turn their gaze away from the beautiful future that was promised by God. Instead they looked back to a previously experienced reality that was sub standard to say the least.

As we continue the grind of 'now' it can be tempting to look back at what was with tinted vision. It can be tempting to desire a return to a way of life that is sub standard at best, unjust for many and could arguably be described as slavery.

*There is a promised land...* it isn't a place, a building, a project or even a success. The promised land is a beautiful future where God's kingdom is established through the lives of those who follow him - embodying his love, grace, wisdom, justice, creativity, joy, peace and unity in all they do.

We all have our temptations; whether it's to look back when the promise of God invites us to look forward; whether it's to look down when comfort and strength is found through looking up; or whether it's to look too far forward when the gift of God is to live in the present.

Yet, I am convinced that we are better sticking together and that now is a time of preparation if we allow it and a time of pressing forward to our promised land.

The sprint is over, the marathon has begun and now we must run this race consistently and faithfully, encouraging all who are part of Glo to do the same... The rules of the season are the same. As a church family let this be a time that forms us in God's ways, so that we can be contributors in further establishing the things of heaven right here and right now.

## **1) GOD HAS NOT CHANGED**

On the contrary he is the same today, yesterday and forevermore. (Hebrews 13:8)

He has not been taken by surprise, we can remain assured in scripture, prayer and our own stories of God's goodness that we will be fine. With this in mind let us lean others toward Christ and his assurance rather than our emotional response. As wise as we might think we are He is wisdom itself.

## **2) LOVE ABOVE THE RULES**

Perfect love drives out fear (1 John 4:18) so therefore let us love others really well with a selfless ambition to eliminate fear and create stability. We are discovering new normals and the world we live in will not be same for quite some time and in many ways, things will never be quite the same.

Don't just read 1 Corinthians 13, imagine how you can live it out to others.

Lead confidently with love.

## **3) ENCOURAGE (EVEN WHEN IT GETS A LITTLE DARK)**

You are the light of the world, a light for others whether they are in the church or not... So radiate encouragement and hope.

This moment in time will come to an end but there is hope to be found in the valley. Relational banqueting tables of encouragement and support are waiting to be made by us as Jesus followers.

## **4) TELL THE GOOD NEWS**

Paul encourages Timothy to be ready to share the gospel in all seasons (2 Timothy 4:2). The tide of communities pulling together through kindness opens the door for the good news of God's kindness and hope of salvation, not through fear but through the love in which we lead with. Take every opportunity to give a true account of the hope you have. Good deeds open conversations of salvation, and receiving Christ gives salvation.

# 02 SUNDAYS



*Continue to find us Live on Facebook and now YouTube*



*Live hosting / talks to continue but utilising more pre-recorded content*



*Glo Kids resources continue to be released 8am Sundays*

## SUNDAY TEACHINGS...

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE PSALMS

## AFTER THE GATHERING...

COFFEE&ZOOM UTILISING BREAKOUT ROOMS

## JUST FOR FUN... WEEKLY CHALLENGES

*We have loved going #Live online - even though we can't be face to face; there is something about being together in realtime that feels so special.* It has been a steep learning curve over the last few weeks and we are beginning to settle into a rhythm, figuring out what needs to be adapted to work in this season. Special thanks should be given to all those pre-recording worship, contributing to different features, going live for interviews and to our friends Gemma and Phil Hornsey for the creation of Pirate Gems Bible Stories.

### Coming Sundays

One of the things we have maintained until now is a layer of insulation between the wider public and our livestreams by holding our Live Gatherings in our closed Facebook group. This is for 2 main reasons:

1. We don't want to livestream bomb the newsfeeds of our friends with lots of Glo content - everybody is being bombarded with content from every direction which can be overwhelming and we don't want to be yet another thing.
2. We want an invitation to remain an intentional and courageous act - encouraging all of us to be brave and invite those we are praying for and reaching.

We do also recognise that people stumbling across our gatherings can be a great opportunity. With this in mind we are going to make a change and trial streaming our Sunday gatherings from May 10th on YouTube.com. A link will then be posted in the Facebook group, our Facebook page, through communities chat and via email.

Our hope is that this will enable those not on Facebook to connect with our Sundays and help us to offer an appropriate way of inviting others who may not normally connect with church.

# 03 MISSION

Here is a brief summary of the things that we are currently involved with in order to make a difference to our community and serve the needs of others. Email [info@glotorbay.co.uk](mailto:info@glotorbay.co.uk) to see how you can get involved.

## 01 Food Parcel Delivery

### **SERVING ONE OF OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Each week on a Mon, Tues and Fri a team from Glo plus a few friends have been delivering food parcels to families from St Marychurch Primary School in Torquay.

## 02 Nova Street Team

### **SERVING AT RISK YP AS A STREET BASED PRESENCE**

On weekdays our street based youth work team are present across Torquay and Paignton to support those young people who aren't remaining in their homes for various reasons. Our team offers a point of connection and encourages safe practices.

## 03 Youth Support Line

### **SERVING YP IN NEED OF SUPPORT THROUGH CONNECTION & ADVICE**

We have set up 2 phone lines that are available for young people who would appreciate a chat to get in touch. We also have team manning messages on our social media profiles in order to keep connected with young people, helping them to stay well.

## 04 Micro Co-ordinators

### **SERVING THOSE IN OUR STREET**

A number of people have signed up as micro co-ordinators through the Torbay Community Development Trust to be a trusted person within their postcode who can respond to requests for help.

*“The Church doesn't have a Mission... God's Mission has a Church.”*

*One of Glo's values is GENEROSITY. We love to find creative ways to give ourselves away.*

There are some amazing things going on in our bay and we wanted to share a few ways that you can help other churches or organisations.

### **Riviera Life Storehouse & Baby Bank:**

Donate food items, nappies, formula or volunteer

**01803 291156**

### **RE4ORM Torbay:**

Donate items or volunteer to prepare and deliver meals for families in need.

- Tinned goods
- Pasta
- Rice
- Toiletries

**katie@re4orm.uk**

### **The Haven:**

Volunteer to pray, prepare and serve food, building relationships with the homeless in Paignton

**krb.haventorbay@gmail.com**

### **Punk Against Poverty CIC:**

Stock one of the 30 Punk Pantries around Torbay through an Amazon wish list: [www.facebook.com/punkCIC](http://www.facebook.com/punkCIC) or set up your own community pantry in your street.

**www.facebook.com/punkCIC**



# 04 PRAYER // NOW IS THE TIME

We have been part of the **24/7 Prayer Communities Network** for nearly 2 years now and whilst we were already working towards more comprehensive prayer rhythms; this pandemic has thrust us into being an increasingly prayerful people very quickly. With all the things that we can't do, we recognise that one of the things we definitely can do is P-R-A-Y.

Whoever you are... years of faith to new faith, pray lots to pray never... we can all choose to join billions of people across history who have drawn strength, comfort and peace from a place of prayer. Whatever we do as a Church must flow from our relationship and intimate connection with God - this is built in the place of prayer.

We also want to make sure that our times of prayer are accessible to those who may not yet know Jesus. Google has seen vast increases of people searching for 'prayer' - so we want our prayer spaces to be an opportunity and introduction to a God who loves them and to a God whom they can trust.

## 1. Daily Prayer - Torbay

### MORNINGS

#LIVE @ MON - FRI // 8:00AM

[facebook.com/groups/dailyprayertorbay](https://www.facebook.com/groups/dailyprayertorbay)

*On weekday mornings we set aside 30 mins to use the Lectio365 devotional together and then bring prayers of supplication to God.*

### EVENINGS

#LIVE @ MON & WED // 8:30PM

[facebook.com/groups/dailyprayertorbay](https://www.facebook.com/groups/dailyprayertorbay)

*Reflective Practice of the Examen to review the day, recognising God's presence, focusing on gratitude and looking to tomorrow.*

## 2. Virtual Prayer Room

### 24/7-Prayer Room

[www.24-7prayer.com/signup/0d7377](http://www.24-7prayer.com/signup/0d7377)

*Our Virtual Prayer Room is a great resource to help us connect with God and is still accessible 24/7.*

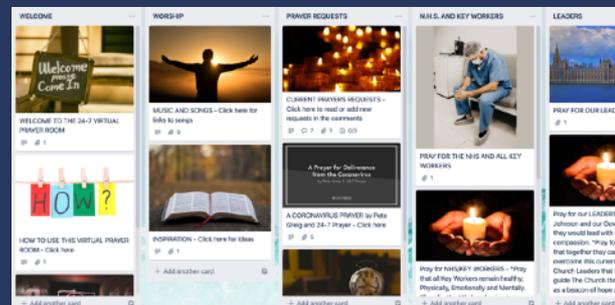
*We would love for people to continue posting and adding requests, reflections and their own creativity.*

## 3. UNITE 7:14

### Twice a Day

[www.24-7prayer.com/unite714](http://www.24-7prayer.com/unite714)

*Set your alarms and join with millions of people around the world praying 2 Chronicles 7:14 at 7:14am and 7:14pm.*



# UNITE 714

# 05 THE GIFT OF GIVING

*At times it seems that the global Church has communicated that God actually requires our finances. The truth is that teaching on giving does not sit well with many and partly because it has been done badly. Our assumption is that some of you will have witnessed a questionable wielding of scripture and advertising-like-techniques when it comes to church offerings. We believe this simply is not the Jesus way.*

*As a team we want to ensure that we communicate honestly and clearly some in depth teaching about finances and giving. So we are creating a 3 part video series which will walk slowly through some careful teaching on finances and various aspects of generosity. Our hope is that that we all emerge with a richer understanding on the GIFT that is GIVING.*

***We are going to look at some OT scriptures that you may never have heard in the context of tithing that may just surprise you.***

**I have no need of a bull from your stall  
or of goats from your pens,  
for every animal of the forest is mine,  
and the cattle on a thousand hills.  
I know every bird in the mountains,  
and the insects in the fields are mine.**

**PSALM 50:9-11**

**Nor is He served by human hands, as if  
He needed anything, because He  
Himself gives all men life and breath  
and everything else.**

**ACTS 17:25**

## 1. The Bible

What does the Bible actually say about giving? What are the principles of tithing and offerings and what are their key purposes?



## 2. Our Posture

How does my relationship with God and my apprenticeship to Jesus shape my thinking and attitudes towards these biblical practises and giving in general?



## 3. Our Practice

How do we as a church enact what it is to be *family* in relation to finances and giving? How do we model generosity to the world around us both corporately and individually?



If you would like to start giving regularly to Glo regularly or as a one off you can use these bank details:

**Bank:** Santander  
**Account Name:** Global Generation Church Torbay  
**Account Number:** 08060839  
**Sort Code:** 09-01-29



# 06 VICTORIA SQUARE



PRAY

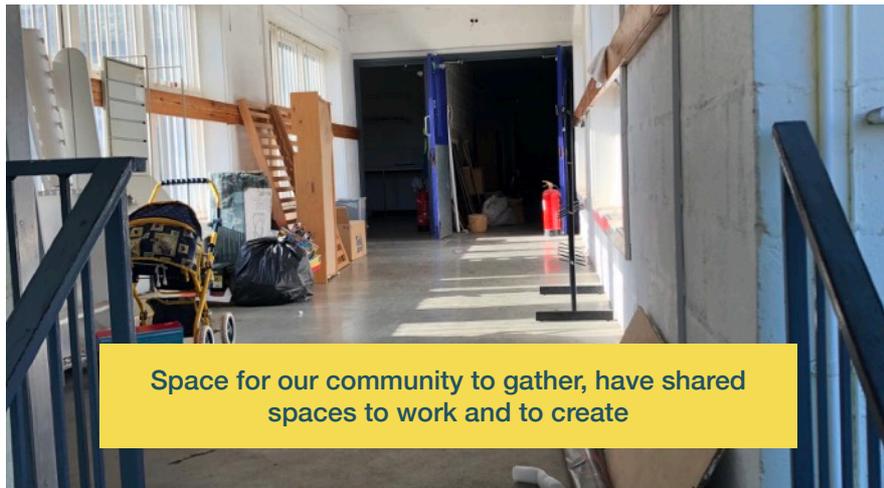
SEEK

*Before the lockdown we started conversations with key people about the potential of taking on additional units in order to transform Victoria Square and establish a home for Glo and our associated initiatives.*

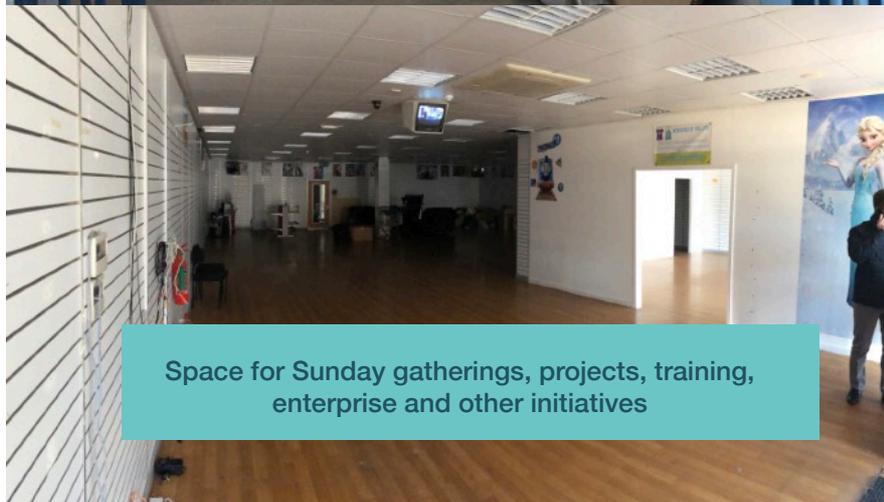
**Our vision has not changed and we are still pursuing this opportunity in faith and drawing on as much wisdom as we can.**

As we continue to seek God on this huge decision we have a number of things that we would ask you to pray for:

1. **Favour with LiDL** - we have asked them to consider a longer lease than they wanted and a single lease for all 5 units.
2. **Favour with Torbay Council** - help them to grasp our vision and share enthusiasm.
3. **Finances** - we will need to give generously and fundraise in order to pay the bill.
4. **Wisdom and Creativity** - as we seek the Lord for this venture.



Space for our community to gather, have shared spaces to work and to create



Space for Sunday gatherings, projects, training, enterprise and other initiatives



***As you will have noticed, the lockdown situation has caused our teams to adapt and shift across all areas of church life. This seems to be pushing us into things that are actually really healthy for us as a church and are causing us to grow.***

## 07 WORSHIP

Our worship core team have been tasked with finding ways to serve the church in worship beyond our Sunday Morning Online Gathering. They have been busy thinking, praying and dreaming up ways to help you to worship in this time and to encounter God in creative ways.

**Currently the team are serving us by offering:**

- Prerecorded songs for our Sunday Gatherings
- A Worship Playlist - available on YouTube.com, Apple Music, Spotify, Amazon Music
- A Song of the Week
- Live Worship - Sunday evenings
- Contributing to the Virtual Prayer Room

**The team are also working on:**

- Song Writing
- Spoken word and poetry
- Helpful suggestions to help you experience God
- Visual worship expressions

## 08 CHILDREN

Our children's core team have been encouraged to think about how we continue to serve the children and their families, enabling them to stay relationally connected and offering content to continue learning.

**Currently the team are serving us by offering:**

- Weekly Bedtime Story
- Sunday morning story and craft activity
- Family Zoom (s)
- Sending all the children post cards

**The team are also working on:**

- Creating a music video to a song written by one of our worship team

## 09 COMMUNITIES

Our Communities are the first port of call for any body seeking support or help of any kind. Please do not hesitate to contact people in your communities for support or just for a chat. This is also the first line of pastoral support for the church family

**Currently the team are connecting via:**

- Communities Chat - a message thread either on Whats App or Facebook Messenger
- Regular phone calls to those not on chat or especially vulnerable
- Community Zoom - many are weekly

**We are also working on:**

- FUN FUN FUN - keep you eyes peeled for Ministry of Fun and other events that are just for fun

# 10 GLO DIGITAL TYPICAL WEEK\*

## SUN

- 8:00am - Glo Kids Session // **Glo Facebook Group**
- 10:30am - Sunday Service // **YouTube and Facebook** LIVE ●
- 11:45am - Coffee&ZOOM // **Zoom** LIVE ●
- 3:00pm - Glo Kids Family Zoom // **Zoom** LIVE ●
- 8:30pm - Worship // **Glo Facebook\*\*** LIVE ●

## MON

- 8:00am - Morning Devotional // **Prayer Facebook Group** LIVE ●
- 12:00pm - Food Parcel Deliveries // **St Marychurch Primary\*\***
- 8:30pm - Examen // **Prayer Facebook Group** LIVE ●

## TUE

- 8:00am - Morning Devotional // **Prayer Facebook Group** LIVE ●
- 12:00pm - Food Parcel Deliveries // **St Marychurch Primary School**
- 8:30pm - Grow Session // **TBC\*\*** LIVE ●

## WED

- 8:00am - Morning Devotional // **Prayer Facebook Group** LIVE ●
- 5.30pm - Glo Kids Bedtime Stories // **Glo Facebook Group**
- 8:30pm - Examen // **Prayer Facebook Group** LIVE ●

## THU

- 8:00am - Morning Devotional // **Prayer Facebook Group** LIVE ●
- 8:30pm - Grow Session // **TBC\*\*** LIVE ●

## FRI

- 8:00am - Morning Devotional // **Prayer Facebook Group** LIVE ●
- 12:00pm - Food Parcel Deliveries // **St Marychurch Primary**
- 8:00pm - Ministry of Fun // **ZOOM\*\*** LIVE ●

## SAT

Sabbath

\* Throughout the week the following will also be taking place at differing times:

**Nova Street Team** - Victoria Square  
**Virtual Prayer Room** - Trello  
**Glo Communities** - ZOOM

For more details - see specific articles in this document.



LIVE ● Live and online

\*\* Doesn't necessarily take place every week