Session 2 6 June 2020

# MAYHEM?

#### "Is there a message in the mayhem?" - session 2

#### **Andy Ezeilo**

Andy is a member of the East London International Church of Christ and a key member of his congregational teaching and worship ministries. His interests are predominantly in the areas of Biblical interpretation and practical Christian living. He has a background in science (PhD. in Neutron Scattering, Imperial College) and currently runs his own business. Andy has been married to Sandra for 27 years. They have two adult children.

#### **Rob Payne**

Rob is the Director of Homeless Services at HOPE with many years' experience of development partnerships in education, charity and church contexts. As a former Physics teacher and Christian minister, he enjoys exploring the relationship between faith, history and science.

Rob blogged about his experience of social isolation while undergoing treatment for Leukaemia and is grateful to be in remission now. He is a member of the North London International Church of Christ and is married to Katarína - they have two young children.



## How can we respond to a crisis?

How can we respond to what we're seeing? How do we best serve others and bring hope? What doors is God opening because of the virus?

In this session, we will look at what we can learn from the way the early church responded to times of trial, and consider how our prayers, gifts and resources can help bring hope.

#### Discussion Questions

- I. What stood out to you from the talks and what have you been learning through this time?
- 2. How do you think God wants you to grow and use your gifts and resources to respond to the current challenges in our world?

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#### **HOPE Worldwide**

We are delighted to partner with HOPE Worldwide UK.

HOPE worldwide is part of a global network of charities that work in over 70 countries in a variety of sectors including: education and training; health and social care; and disaster risk reduction, response and recovery. HOPE worldwide programmes in the UK help people experiencing homelessness and recovering addicts. To support our international relief for those affected by COVID-19, please go to https:// www.hopeworldwide.org.uk/ covid-19/ and select 'COVID-19 International Relief'

### Thames Valley churches of Christ

The TVCOC fellowship was established in 1990 by an intrepid small group of men and women.

We are a diverse community with young and old, students and teens, singles and families all warmly welcomed. If you would like to get to know us better, contact us via the website or tvcochrist@gmail.com.

#### Further Resources

To help prepare for this session you might like to watch the following YouTube videos which help us understand the 'big picture' before we focus on particular questions in the session. Some further resources are also added here.

Image of God: Bible Project video

Heaven & Earth: Bible Project video

To read more about the work of the Homeless Services of HOPE worldwide, please visit the 'Two Step' programme website <a href="twostep.org.uk">twostep.org.uk</a>.

For a recent sermon by Rob related to his work at HOPE worldwide click here: <u>Compassion of Jesus sermon</u>.

Ronke's JustGiving page.

Rob's <u>reference</u> for the writings he quotes.

#### Some useful scriptures

Romans 12.1-8

Revelation 21.1-4

Luke 9:57-58, 10:20, 10:25-37, 12:15, 18:22

Acts 8:1-4, 16:25, 10:1-29, 16:1-3

#### **NEXT Week**

The focus for Saturday 13th June is - How may we live differently in the future?

Dr Andy Boakye and Malcolm Cox will be exploring in what ways followers of Christ may want to live differently as a result of the pandemic. Can we perceive the Spirit prompting us to think and live differently? How does the virus change the way we think about our mission, lifestyles, social responsibilities, and our impact on the planet?

In this session, we will consider how the world is changing and what role Christians and churches play in responding to and bringing about change.

If you have not already done so, you can register here.