

Rudgwick

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From the Youth Pastor



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Dear Friends

We have been in the village just over 3 years now (myself, my wife Sarah, and now, our 1-year old daughter), and it has been a haven of rest where we have enjoyed having our own garden, as well as the slower pace of life away from the hustle and bustle of London. We feel this especially so with sunnier days upon us, and time spent outside in our private floral paradise, or walking the beloved Downs Link which serves so many of us so well.

But despite the great natural beauty of our surroundings, and even amidst the sincere and gracious welcome and love we receive from so many in the locality (for which we are truly grateful!), there is one ache of the soul which only God can fill. City or country, luxury or poverty, mankind is destined to seek pleasure, purpose and fulfilment. I have enjoyed the golden beaches of Los Angeles and southern Spain, wracked with deep depression. I have stayed in French country mansions and exquisite Portuguese villas, with loneliness and purposelessness still knocking on my door. And I have served in the trash dumps of Nicaragua and Honduras, yet still struggling with a lack of meaning and self-worth. Queen frontman Freddie Mercury said it like this:

“Can you imagine how terrible it is when you've got everything and you're still desperately lonely? That is awful beyond words.”

I hope and pray this summer blesses you and your loved ones. But know this: seasons change, while “the steadfast love of God never ceases” (Lamentations 3:22). I discovered God’s love at age 16 after being stabbed in my chest in London, and seeing an angel at the foot of my bed the same night. I have never been the same. If you too are hungry for truth, meaning and the love you were made for, you need look no further than Jesus Christ. Read his biography – The Gospel of John – and find out this summer if He is who He says He is: a Peace everlasting, and a Love with no limit. I promise, you will not regret it! What have you got to lose?

With love

Jonny Fossey

Cover photo: View from Churchman’s Meadow, by Doug Betts