

Alpha Course Underway Again

Take a fresh look at Christianity at the United Churches in Savannah, West Bay and George Town over the next several weeks as they present the Alpha course again, following the very highly acclaimed run in May through July.

At the celebration dinner at the end of that course, participants lauded the experience, with comments such as *“The best course we have ever done!”* 15 Million people around the world have now done the Alpha course. It is particularly aimed at persons who are not committed Christians and who want to learn more about Christ and the Christian Faith, rather than rely on uninformed comments picked up in the general society or the prejudices of those who are anti-Christian. However, it is also a great setting for the long-time Christian to explore Christ more deeply under the very usable format of the course, created by the Reverend Nicky Gumbel of Holy Trinity Church in London, England. The course invites people to:

- Find out more about the basics of Christianity; or
- Take a refresher course about the Church of your childhood; or
- Explore something totally new.

And all of this in an open, friendly, no-pressure setting, where *“No question is too simple or too hostile!”*

Each evening starts with a relaxing, fellowship meal (so there is no need to worry about having to go home to cook dinner *“and babysitting will be provided too if needed!”*), followed by a viewing of a Nicky Gumbel presentation on a different topic each night, and then small group discussions where participants can explore any question. Rev. Gumbel raises some hot topics in his presentations but participants who are struggling with trying to determine what the Bible really says about certain issues and how Jesus addresses these, can also make for very informative and searching exploration which helps everyone.

Rev. Gumbel, a former lawyer, is an excellent presenter, with a great sense of humour, who explores various topics such as, **Is there more to life than this? Is there a God? Who is Jesus? What about all the other religions? Is forgiveness possible? What relevance does Jesus have for our lives today? The Holy Spirit is also widely explored.**

For more information, log on to Alpha.org.

And please drop in on Tuesday nights at 7 pm at Savannah United Church, Elmslie United Church in George Town or the John Gray Memorial United Church in West Bay, for supper and to see for yourself what it is all about. You’re invited to dinner!

Picture of participants from George Town at the Alpha *“Away Weekend”* in June 2010

