



## Update 22nd May 2008

### Newfrontiers Dublin Church plant has a name!

We are excited to tell you that we are called *Saoirse* (pronounced Seer Sha). This means "Freedom" in Irish. More on this in our next newsletter! Ask God that we live up to our name!

### New arrivals at basecamp!

We introduced you to Ian and Ruth Grant in our last newsletter. They arrive, to live in Dublin on June 2nd!! Thank you God. We can't wait Ian and Ruth! We asked them to share some prophetic thoughts they have had, as they prepare to catch the ferry to Ireland...

### "Great things happen when men and mountains meet" - William Blake

When Joshua crossed the Jordan to take the land on the other side, Caleb said, "Give me my mountain!!" For some, Dublin is the mountain God is calling them to. For others it could be base camp. It is no coincidence that Dublin is overlooked by mountains. There is something prophetic about them!

Every year dozens of teams set out to climb Everest at 29,000ft. Base camp on Everest is at 17,450 ft., and it speaks of a place of preparation, where team is built and character is formed. Every person at base camp is vital if the mountain is going to be taken, though not all will reach the summit. Mountains are great levellers and have no respect for hierarchy; team is critical. This is a picture for us as we build church in Dublin. Character and preparation are vital in the Christian life, and our desire is for everyone to be growing in God.

Base camp is not only a place of preparation, but also be a place of rest and restoration. They say that to reach the summit of Everest, climbers have to climb the mountain up to 5 times. Each time they push on to the next camp, stay a few days getting used to the thin air and then returning to base camp to allow the body to recover before repeating this process through all the camps. The thin air higher up can cause breathing problems, dehydration and severe headaches. The rest at base camp is crucial to the whole expedition. For some, this church will be a place where restoration and healing can take place in order that they can then get back to the climb.

Vital to climbing Everest is the activity of the ice doctors. These men are experienced in the mountains and they push ahead of the climbers marking out safe tracks and hammering in hooks for ropes and laying down ladders over ice crevices. These are wise and strong men. For the church in Dublin to be fruitful we need people with experience and wisdom, who make the way safe for the summit takers. We are all one body, but each has a different part to play.

Bear Grylls was once asked, "How does it feel to have conquered Everest?"

[www.saoirsedublin.com](http://www.saoirsedublin.com)

### Meet the team

(Each newsletter we introduce you to different people in Saoirse so that you can both get to know them and also see how God has been speaking to them. We hope that it helps you as you listen out for what He is saying to you.)

### Justyn & Josie Pride



In July of this year we are expecting the birth of our first child. One year ago, in July, we experienced another new birth; one of a new season of change. It was at the Together on a Mission conference that

God took us through a process of unsettling us on the first day, confirming it was right to be moving, and then speaking to us about Dublin at the end of the week. This led to various conversations with our church leaders, Chris and Rachel and other good friends. Having visited Dublin, and spent time praying, we knew God was clearly speaking. The only decision we could make was to be obedient and follow what God was saying!

We have always felt that this was a faith venture; like Abraham, 'going not knowing'. God told him to move, and he did, even though he didn't know the end result. Therefore we made the decision to move out to Dublin as early in 2008 as we could. We were stirred about being involved in the early stages of the plant, when the key foundations are laid. This resulted in us finishing our jobs mid February, and moving lock, stock and barrel to Dublin on the 24th February 08.

It has been a challenging 3 months, but we have seen God's hand in everything. We came here recognising that it would probably take a while to settle in to a new nation and for Justyn to find work. Both were right, as it did take us a month to start feeling like we were settled in from a practical perspective, and at the time of writing this, Justyn has still to find full-time employment. It has been a difficult couple of months, but we know that God has been laying some important foundations in us. He

He replied, "I didn't conquer Everest, she allowed me to climb her". It feels like that with God. He does not need us to do his work for him, but he allows us to be part of his exciting challenge, to take his love to the nations. Let me ask you what is your mountain?

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### Update from Pete & Michelle Foster, Kingston

Having told our church back in January that we would be moving to Dublin in either May, June or July, July is now looking the most likely! We have had our flat on the market for sale since February but had an offer withdrawn recently. We will be moving in July if we have a buyer or not, but will probably look to rent our flat if there is no offer by the time we leave.

Please pray for either a buyer or good tenants failing a buyer. Please also pray that our move goes smoothly and that we slot into the health care system smoothly as we have another baby due in September.

has been stripping away things in us that were unhelpful, that were focussed on identity in doing and not in just who we are in Christ. We know God is teaching us to wrestle in prayer concerning faith for work, friendships, and other issues that he's been working on in us. We have a real sense that this is a time of preparation for what He has planned. God often takes us out of our comfort zones in order to work in our lives.

We are so excited about the plans and purposes that God has in store for Saoirse. We've had some wonderful times of encountering Him during our gatherings together. Building church is about loving Jesus, building community together, and inviting others to come and know both. We know that this is just the beginning of the story for us, and Saoirse. We are looking forward, with a sense of excitement, to see where God will lead us on this adventure together.

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### Things on the ground in Dublin.....

#### **Bread - Every other Thursday evening from 7.30pm**

We have had some good times of getting to know one another over a simple meal of fresh bread and soup. We had prophetic words about God having fresh bread for Ireland, so wanted to begin to meet around fresh bread, literally and spiritually. After eating we spend unhurried time worshipping and praying for one another. They are real times to meet with God and be changed. Church culture can so easily slip into working for God when He wants us to first know how to be loved by Him and love Him in return. All are welcome so why not bring someone with you? **Next: May 29th**

#### **Rounders in the park - Every other Sunday afternoon at 3pm**

We are getting into the swing, quite literally in Phoenix park. Whether people come to play rounders or just to chat and watch, these afternoons are proving great times to meet new people. Each week we have had new people come along. It is an afternoon with no strings-attached so great for bringing people who have nothing normally to do with God or church. We all end up back at Chris and Rachel's place for tea and cake. **Next: May 25th**

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## News and prayer update!

- **People moving to join us.**
  - As we have said, Ian and Ruth Grant are moving from the UK to join Saoirse in early June. *Ask God for safety and smooth transition for them.*
  - Pete, Michelle and Emma Foster are planning on move out in July 08 sometime (see their update above). *Ask God that their flat does sell soon and that they find job and a house to live in.*
  - Mapaseka from Derry is still applying for the right visa to be able to live in Dublin. *Ask God for success in her application.*
  - Rebecca and her daughter Asha are applying for a job in Castleknock, with the intention of moving out here to get involved with Saoirse. *Pray that she gets the job!*
- We have a **Newday Global** team coming out to join us for one week from 17th-24th July. These teams are designed to give eager, young men and women exposure to what it is like to turn up in a new nation and plant a church. More on this to come... *Ask God for huge impact in the teams life and for salvation and impact on the streets!*
- Bryan and Nyasha Mukandi are doing well in Galway. They miss us! *Pray for courage and boldness to bring Jesus there in the months before they look to move to Dublin and join us.*
- **Let's Go** team Sept/October 08. We are planning an exciting opportunity for us all to be mobilised in the autumn as the students come back. Exact dates are to be confirmed but we already have a team coming out from the King's Arms Church in Bedford, to lead the long weekend. They have been experiencing some very exciting things on their own streets! *Ask God for power on the streets of our city!!*

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