



PICTURED ARE MEMBERS OF THE 20s/30s  
'GOING DEEP' BIBLE STUDY INITIATIVE

# NAVIGATE

## HELPING 20s & 30s WALK WITH GOD & LABOUR FOR A LIFETIME

In September I visited a group of Navigator friends for lunch at Des and Mercia Barton's home in Thames. All of these friends are retired, and still actively walking with Jesus and seeking to share the gospel with people around them. They have a passion for Jesus that is contagious. This is what we long to see for all of those involved with the Navigators - everyday people in all walks of life, joyfully leading integrated lives among those who don't yet know Jesus. We invest deeply in people throughout their lives so that they might faithfully live and labour with Jesus for a lifetime.

One of the promises I am praying for the Navigators is Isaiah 44:3-4 which describes God pouring out his Spirit and blessing on the next generation. Isaiah says that these people will 'spring up like grass in a meadow, like poplar trees by flowing streams'. We are praying for God to raise up new generations of labourers as we play our part by investing our lives and passing on what the Lord has taught us.

Our Going Deep initiative is one of the ways we are investing in the lives of people in their 20s-30s (see the photo above). Our vision for Going Deep is to develop a culture of deep engagement with the bible across the Navigators and across the generations. Many of the people involved in our Going Deep initiative have

young families and busy working lives, so their commitment to weekends away, personal bible study and small group discussion is significant. Investing in this core group of people and helping them to pass on what they are learning is a key way of ensuring we maintain a high view of the bible in the Navigators

Having people to come alongside us to strengthen and encourage us in our faith is vital throughout life, and especially in our 20s-30s when we face many significant life transitions and choices. If we are to see many more groups like the one in Thames in the future we will need to invest into the lives of people in their earlier stages of life, including the 20s-30s. Lifelong labouring requires lifelong investment and encouragement.

May this issue of Navigate give you ideas and insight to pray for and invest in the next generation.

Yours,

*Simon*

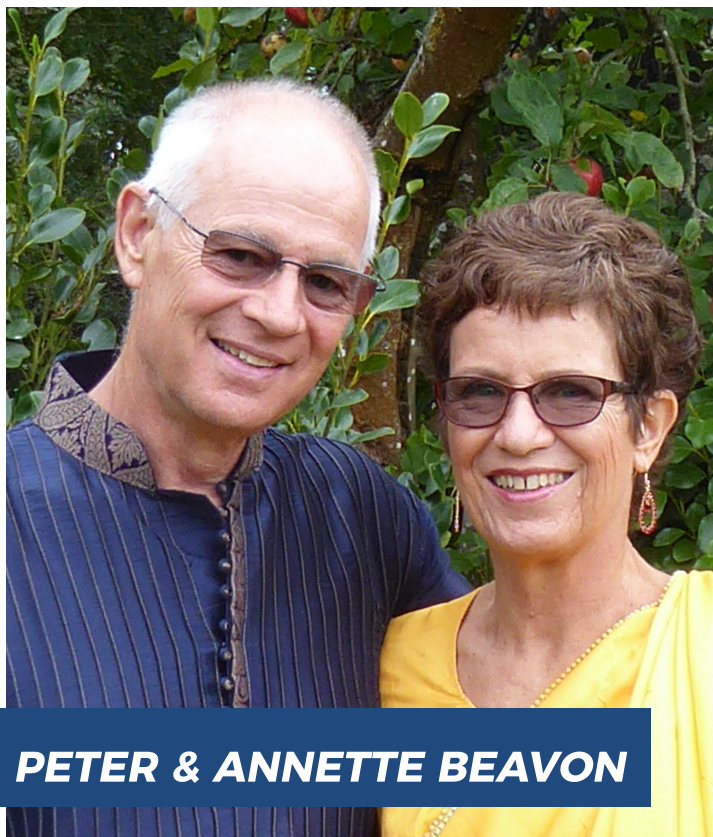
Simon Cayzer  
National Director





# INVESTING YOUR LIFE INTO 20s/30s

HELPFUL ADVICE ON COMING ALONGSIDE & INVESTING IN THE LIVES OF 20S/30S



**PETER & ANNETTE BEAVON**

*We sat down with Peter and Annette Beavon to ask them about how God has used them to come alongside and invest their lives in people in their 20s and 30s*

We see people in their 20s and 30s as the future of our calling and mission. It's really important to invest in them now so they can carry on implementing the vision of seeing generations of labourers living amongst the lost.


Three keys for us are reading the Word of God with them and discussing what it means for our lives, praying with them and listening well. Many of their concerns come out and can be addressed in those contexts. Peter: I like to pray with people so they can hear what I am looking to Jesus to do in their lives. Annette: I pray 2 Chron. 16:9, that their hearts are fully committed to following him, and 2 Cor. 3:18, that they would be increasingly transformed to

become like Jesus, honouring and reflecting him in the world. I also pray they will experience God's love for them, which will hold them in the hard seasons of life.

We want to live and be incarnational, like Jesus who came "not to be served, but to serve". Neither incidental nor planned serving seems to be optional and it hasn't always been easy. Having believers and non-believers in our home or boarding with us is a good way to come alongside and connect with people naturally. We haven't sought boarders but are open and positive about having people live with us. It allows us, and them, to be real and to become one of the family through the mundane activities and conversations of everyday life. We have dinner together and make time for engaging with them. A lot of modelling happens when people live with you, and God has sent us quite a number of people who have grown up without two parents.

Transformation is slow – we are all imperfect and life is messy. We are privileged to cooperate with God and His agenda, pointing people to Him, walking alongside. Inevitably deep issues are brought into the light, but God works and graciously uses broken people as lights in a broken world. Annette: We always need one eye on the horizon where we're heading, and one on the next step along the path. Peter: Growth is a lifelong process, you've never made it. We don't want to make carbon copies of ourselves or squash people's dreams and aspirations.

Our interest in people doesn't change when they move. Technology allows us to maintain close connections, although this requires regular scheduled time. We try to connect them with others of the same heart in their new location, which can be quite hard, but our long-term hope and prayer is always that they will co-labour and build a missional community with people in their new location.

If you want to help 20s and 30s, we suggest listening for what's on their heart, what God is saying to them and what's behind the words. Read the bible together and affirm, encourage and pray with them in whatever God is saying to them. It is their heart for God that matters. You don't need all the answers – just cooperate with what God is already doing. 

## ALONGSIDERS



HELP OTHERS TO KNOW CHRIST, MAKE HIM KNOWN & HELP OTHERS DO THE SAME

**PLEASE HELP FOSTER IN-PERSON ALONGSIDER VISITS & TRAVEL COSTS TO 20's/30's IN N.Z. BY GIVING TO OUR "ALONGSIDER 20's/30's FUND"**

GIVING DETAILS ARE INCLUDED ON SLIP



# WALKING WITH GOD IN YOUR 20s/30s

BY LIANA FLANAGAN

"Dear God, I am so tired!" This was the sentence I often found myself starting with when I would try to pray, particularly if that praying coincided with a chance to sit down or have a few moments alone. In my early 30s, juggling the demands of part-time work and parenting three small children, I wondered how I could be a "worker for the kingdom next door to everywhere" as our Navigators vision phrases it. The realities of my daily life seemed at odds with my longing to connect with God and see his kingdom purposes transforming both my life and the lives of those around me. I had previously become accustomed to *doing for* God – quiet times, hospitality, intentional conversations – and yet all these ways in which I had formerly measured my spiritual health and productivity had been stripped away. The transitional years of the 20s and 30s can involve massive shifts in lifestyle and world view. We are immersed in a world saturated with alternative messages about what gives us worth and where we should spend our time. What it looks like to walk with God can vary greatly from one season to another. And yet, as I was to learn, the journey of transformation can occur in the all of these seasons, even the most ordinary and seemingly unproductive ones. To continue as a disciple of Jesus in these different seasons requires not only good foundations but also encouragement and a willingness to position oneself for ongoing transformation. Good foundations set the scene for the transforming work of the Spirit during the times when we are hard pressed. But while my reservoir of both Scripture memory and my lived experience of relationship with God helped to sustain me, it wasn't until I personally experienced this season of hiddenness and seeming unproductiveness that I began to learn how to *be* present to God. I needed this season to learn how to remain and abide in Christ as Jesus speaks about in John 15.

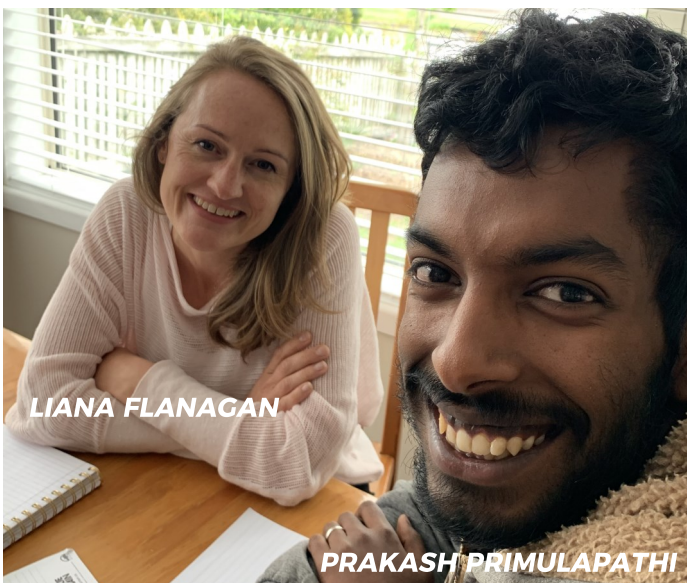
The faithful presence of mentors is an essential part of help-



LIANA & HAMISH FLANAGAN

ing to refocus the mind and heart on what really matters to God during these seasons and transitions. We need other people to see the things we can't see ourselves. Mentors who have walked this path before us can come alongside with steady tread, encouraging us and stoking the vision for transformation into Christ-like fruitfulness through all the ordinariness of day-to-day life. With encouragement from mentors, I was able to see how God was transforming me in my current season even as I felt like I had no capacity to be transformed. I learned that God was at work with me, not expecting me to transcend the busyness of life but instead inviting me to enjoy His presence as I did my work and was present to my family. [🔗](#)

## 20s/30s MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT



LIANA FLANAGAN

PRAKASH PRIMULAPATHI

We long to see people in their 20s/30s **thriving** in their relationships with God and being **fruitful** in their contexts. Our vision is to see the gospel spreading naturally and powerfully through the relational networks of the people in our 20s/30s work.

People in their 20s/30s are typically working 40 hours a week and are dispersed, spread out into different workplaces and contexts across NZ and even the world. This presents challenges in sharing the gospel due to isolation, but also great potential. As each person moves into a new context, they bring Jesus and His kingdom into this new setting. This is the Navigator vision of "workers for the kingdom next door to everywhere" being lived out!

Encouragement and support are essential to help the people in our 20s/30s work keep their vision on God, His promises, and His work. We provide this by facilitating small groups and promoting connection with others who share this vision.

We come alongside people individually to bring encouragement and to renew vision for labouring with Jesus right where God has placed them. This involves staying connected by all means, including visiting people in their settings. [🔗](#)



## HELPFUL TIPS TO WALK WITH GOD IN YOUR 20S/30S

### A Q & A WITH BEN & DEE BURNELL

Ben, Dee and their four young children live in Hamilton where they seek to live out the good news of Jesus among their neighbours, friends and workmates. They also organise and host bi-monthly city-wide Navigator meetings. Dee works part-time as a teacher and also runs her own home business. Ben works full-time as a mechanical engineer. They first met The Navigators as students at the University of Canterbury.

#### [Q] What has helped you continue labouring?


- Stories from people who have been deliberate to live as insiders and hearing about the depth of their relationships and how they regularly see God at work through them and in the lives of others
- Being reminded about having an outward focus through Church or Navigators teaching
- Regular chats with Simon and his questioning/prompting in this area

#### [Q] What choices have you made that have made a significant difference to walking with Jesus?

- Good routines - attending church regularly, journaling bible reading/study and quiet times, attending life-groups/small groups
- Committing to something, maybe a bible reading plan, a bible study, or a prayer time each day
- The above alongside a friend/group brings accountability and encouragement
- Having a deliberate focus generally results in spending more time with God which leads to thinking more about Him during the day and being aware of His presence



#### [Q] What are you learning about walking with Jesus in the midst of busyness and demands?

- The culture we live in demands so much of us and expectations are forever being placed on us
- Jesus understands and experienced seasons of life himself so there's no need to feel guilty or lesser than someone else by comparison
- Learning to informalise things and chat openly to Him
- Recognising how long, hard, and emotionally draining days are when they haven't started with a quiet time and talking to Jesus
- Taking small steps towards building routines is better than being overwhelmed and paralysed by ambitious targets
- Listening to podcasts whilst driving/preparing food is a great way to engage with Jesus without adding another activity into life. 

## SAYING FAREWELL TO A LIFELONG LABOURER

*Long time Navigator's staff Jim Chew went to be with the Lord on October 24, 2019*



Jim Chew was called home to the Lord on Thursday, October 24, 2019. He was 81. Jim was the former national director of Navigators of New Zealand and also in Singapore. He most recently served as Asia-Pacific Missions Mentors with his wife, Selene. He passed away in Wellington after a 3 year battle with lung cancer. His memorial service was held on Friday, November 1 in Wellington and was attended by friends and colleagues from around the world. "The nations were always on Jim's heart," said International Executive Team member Alan Ch'ng, who was a close friend of Jim. "Jim served to advance the Gospel to the nations, particularly in Asia. Jim was an encourager who sought to bring out the best contributions a person could make in the kingdom of God."

We are grateful for how God used Jim's life as a blessing to the nations of the world including the work here in New Zealand. He shared Jesus freely with people through his life right up to his final weeks in hospital. His heart for God, His Word, people and the nations is an example for us all. Please continue to pray for Jim's wife Selene in the days and weeks to come. 