

# How to Bring Heaven in Healthcare

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## Episode 2: 7 Victorious Beliefs for the Christians working in Health

### Full Transcript

[Length of episode: 34:26 minutes]

- Pete Carter** In this session I'm joined by my friend, Dave Foggon, who is also one of the senior leaders here at Eastgate church and part of the Heaven in Healthcare team, and we're going to explore seven victorious beliefs for people working in healthcare.
- Dave Foggon** So, I remember one time hearing somebody ask you about HiH and they asked you "Where did the idea come from?" and I distinctly remember you saying "Well, it's not my idea, it's God's idea, but over the years I've learnt to steward it". I guess one of the things that we wanted to look at today are what are some of the mindsets and core beliefs that you've developed that enable you to do that.
- Pete Carter** Yeah, I think that's a good way of summarising it. HiH is not a unique idea, it's actually God's idea for the whole of Christianity - heaven in you wherever you are delivering the resources of heaven to planet earth for its blessing - and obviously having invested my life into healthcare, that's the context in which I work that out. So I'm very clear that HiH is God's idea but it's God's normal plan, it's not an 'extraordinary' plan. But you have to learn how to live in it and walk that out in your daily life, and then help others to walk in it and in order to do that I've done a lot of thinking around it over the years and you get some core beliefs which I think is what we want to talk about right now in this episode.
- Dave Foggon** Yeah, exactly, so the first one we want to talk about is a really important one...
- Pete Carter** ...the fundamental one!
- Dave Foggon** ...that you and I are both very passionate about! The fact that the Holy Spirit is living inside you, and what that means for you as a person, but also as a Christian in the Healthcare world.

**Belief 1: The same Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead is living inside me**

**Pete Carter**

Yeah, I think early on in my Christianity, I thought, 'This is an extraordinary thing!', you know, I was born again when I was 16, and the Bible clearly says that the Holy Spirit comes inside you – and I think it's in John (either Chapter 14 or 17) where it says that God will make His home in us and I thought, 'Well, this is an extraordinary concept!' If He is inside of us, then the creator of the whole universe is inside of me, so the potential inside of me is literally without limit – it's infinite and eternal – so I have always lived with that as a concept and I think that confidence in the presence of God in us and through us is fundamentally important, and I think we have to grow in confidence in that reality of who who the HS is inside of us. Often we refer to Jesus living in us, and that's true in one sense – he said The Father and I will come and live with you, but also Jesus said 'I'm going to leave you and it's better that I'm going because I'm going to send the HS. So Jesus's understanding was not that HS was more important or more glorious, but that he would be even more effective than he was here on earth. So that's a core belief and it's not just true for me or for for inspiring Christians, it's true for every Christian, so we want to release that potential in every Christian.

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah, that's really good. I remember in my own life when I guess I had been wavering a little bit – sometimes I really felt that I had God inside me and I had His power inside me, and then there were moments when I felt like it was just me, and I think the enemy loves to play on that kind of thing and actually to use that to kind of bring fear into your life. I remember one time I was reading Ephesians 1:19 and it just struck me about His 'incomparably great power for us who believe' and that same power is inside me...and then it just suddenly occurred to me, the enemy is the one that's on the run – he's just been trying to deceive me about that this whole time...and for me what was a really eye-opening moment, when I realised how much of God is inside me and how much I am actually living from victory, and fear doesn't need to be part of my life any more.

**Pete Carter**

In 2 Peter 1 it talks about us being partakers of the divine nature and that again is an extraordinary statement. Now it's not that we are divine – we aren't; we're not God, but somehow we get to participate in his divine nature. Now what that means to me is that if something's of your nature, it's natural for you, so God does what is naturally in Him – He doesn't try to be, it just comes out of who He is, so if I actually get to participate in His divine nature, then what's natural for Him becomes natural for me! So, we use the word 'supernatural' understandably, but actually the natural life for a Christian is what is natural for God.

**Dave Foggon**

We don't often think like that though!

**Pete Carter**

No, it's extraordinary. I think we are redefining what 'natural' is back to I think what Jesus intended, whereas somehow throughout the course of Christianity we've managed to subdue that to just our human resource reality, which is

completely insufficient for changing the world.

**Belief 2: God has not given me a spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind**

**Dave Foggon**

...and I guess linked with the idea of knowing kind of who we are in Him and who is inside us, really a key part of that is believing that we're not filled with a spirit of fear, but of love, power, and a sound mind, and I know that that's something that you're passionate for people to really get!

**Pete Carter**

I'm so passionate about it. I think, you know, the Bible clearly says that God has not given us a spirit of fear, so for me that – particularly with a medical brain – is the clearest diagnostic test I can put – the thing is, are you getting this from God or not? Is this my thinking, is it other thinking, is it devil thinking, or is it God thinking? If it's got any fear in it, then it doesn't come from God, so if I'm getting anxious about something, that's not God's desire; that's not God thinking. So I need to be transformed by the renewing of my mind to the way that He thinks. So he doesn't think fearfully, He's not anxious about anything.

He thinks on the basis of love, He loves the whole of mankind. He has the power to change any circumstance, and a sound mind, so He's got wisdom applicable to any situation, and so I then believe that that's true for any Christian – that we don't need to live with fear guiding our thoughts and our actions, but actually we've got our love – number 1 God loves me individually, but also actually, He loves the world and he payed the price for all the world to know Him without any limitations, and then that love is expressed to the world in many ways through His power, so Jesus healed the sick, because he loved them, and it says that the Christian message, the Christian gospel is meant to be accompanied by signs and wonders, and in Corinthians it talks about our faith not just resting on persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, and I think particularly in the world of healthcare, being loving is acceptable, but being a powerful Christian is very questionable, and that's where the question marks really come: so you think you can put healing and miracles in there? Well, love and power, they have to go together in a full Christian reality, and then then sound mind is that God gives us wisdom of how we do that in any context. We will talk a lot about that in a medical context – you do need wisdom in how you operate in a medical context, but we shouldn't make do without the whole three of those things – love, power and a sound mind, and we need to resist fear.

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah, I know that you have talked to me before about how a lot of the problems that we find in the healthcare world are often fear-motivated aren't they?

**Pete Carter**

Yeah there's a lot of fear within the health world. Any illness attracts anxiety

immediately into our brains. You know, people go from I've got a headache - to have I got a brain tumour - to am I going to die! Thoughts can rush in so quickly, so that's true for our patients, but increasingly it seems for the staff, particularly in the UK, but I'm finding it elsewhere - talking to friends within the US - there's a lot of fear - there's fear of regulation, there's fear of litigation, there's fear of failure, fear of disappointment, there's fear of all sorts of things, and it's very real, but we have to learn how to overcome that. Otherwise, a fearful environment is not a fun one to work in or to be in when you're a patient.

**Dave Foggon**

Absolutely, it's a huge one isn't it?

**Pete Carter**

Yeah, so yes, a loving, caring environment needs to be free of fear - and it says perfect love casts out all fear.

**Dave Foggon**

I remember in my own life one time, years ago, having a brief health scare and it turned out to be absolutely fine, but right before that, I was abiding in love and joy, and then suddenly, whoosh, I'm in a completely different place, and it's like your whole world feels like it's been turned upside down and I was like, have I just had a personality transplant between that moment and this? And I had this moment where I was reading the verse that we're focusing on for this episode, and I just thought there's a SPIRIT of fear. There is a spirit of fear - that's what the Bible says - and it suddenly occurred to me, this fear that I'm experiencing right now, it's not mine - it's the enemies. He is very good at reproducing what is his own experience, and trying to make me think it's mine and I just suddenly realised this is not my fear, I don't have to own this, and I just kept thinking no, I'm going to give that back to you thanks very much. I am going to choose to abide here where I was before, in love and joy and peace and its amazing that when you make that choice, it actually transforms everything.

**Pete Carter**

I had a very similar experience when I was 27. A cancer scare, to be honest; a skin cancer scare and I had to have a lump removed from my back, and they said 'we don't know what it is, we'll give you the results next week', and I thought 'wow!' My daughter was 6 weeks old at the time, my son was just 2 and a half. We had the whole of life ahead of us, and all of a sudden that was threatened, and I was thrown into turmoil. So the battle to reacquire my peace was actually very real. But it happened as soon as I actually trusted God. I chose that place of trusting him and putting my faith in Him and resting there, but yeah, it's a very genuine battle.

**Dave Foggon**

...and it's when you make that choice to enter into the love, the joy, and the peace -that's where the solution comes from isn't it? That's where the heaven can be released to provide the solution.

**Pete Carter** Yeah I found that – it happened for me – it was about a three day battle to be honest, but there was a moment. It was instantaneous, when I stepped into that level of trusting God no matter what that suddenly peace came, and my fear disappeared.

**Dave Foggon** That's amazing.

**Pete Carter** Yeah, very real, but it was a tough old battle for three days.

### **Belief 3: Everywhere I go I bring the atmosphere of heaven**

**Dave Foggon** Thinking about this whole idea of what you're cultivating on the inside, it's also important to think about the impact of that on the external isn't it and the environment that you are creating around you. Do you want to talk a little bit about that?

**Pete Carter** Yeah, the Bible talks about us overflowing with hope, and overflowing with all sorts of things. Jesus overflowed, and the measure that God gives to us, it says, is pressed down and overflowing. So, what God wants to give to us in terms of what he wants to deposit into us so that we're OK, but actually to be creating an atmosphere of joy and peace all around us, so the atmosphere of heaven is literally being created all around us. One of the ways we talk about that is actually whether you're a thermostat or a thermometer. I think a lot of people are good at taking the temperature of a room and saying 'Oh, it feels a bit rough in here'. We can all sense atmospheres like that, and we can walk into a room and we can think ooh, it feels a little bit awkward in here, what's going on? Or, it feels a little bit sombre, or dark – all those sorts of things. And I think sometimes Christians think well, I'll just withstand that and I'll make sure that somehow I'm not contaminated by that. Sometimes Christians think well, I'll have to get out of that in order to not be contaminated but it – and I'm going to guard my peace by not being in that place where it's actually challenged. But I believe that God wants us to be thermostats in any environment rather than thermometers, so actually we choose to change the atmosphere. And that's what I have done throughout my medical career and I learnt that very very early on as a junior hospital doctor – how to do that – and how important it was, and number one, I had to make sure my thermostat was set at the right place. So if I wasn't walking in love, joy, peace, kindness – all the fruit of the spirit – I would say – is a great way of discerning where your Christian thermostat should be.

**Dave Foggon** ...it's like your barometer...

**Pete Carter** Yeah, I should have these in sufficient measure for all of that to be

overflowing, not just being filled so that you think I'm 'OK' - it's got to be more than that. I honestly believe that we can change the atmosphere of any situation we're in for the good and then as we do that then everybody else benefits from love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and then on the basis of that also I believe the power of God can flow out in miracles much more naturally without us having to try and squeeze that into our thinking. So, I think it's a really important idea and we've got to get rid of the idea that we sort of just take the temperature and then try and 'resist' anything pulling down our temperature, but we need to be confident as we've said earlier in the HS inside of us who is resetting the temperature of the room.

**Dave Foggon**

It always makes me chuckle a little bit when people talk about 'ooh that's a really spiritually hard place to go into and things like that and I always ask them, 'Well, how much God is in you?' I don't really remember Jesus saying to the disciples 'Yeah, stay away from that town, they're not really into things over there, it won't be very nice'. He just sent them out!

**Pete Carter**

You can't think of Jesus walking into a situation and saying 'Tough one guys, it's so dark here we can't do anything...we haven't got enough light for this...'

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah...don't expect much!

**Pete Carter**

No...he expected a lot. Now there were some places where it didn't happen, like Nazareth, but that's because the people who were on the receiving end didn't want to change; they didn't want to receive. And I think that's another important thing, is that Jesus said to us when you enter a place, give your peace away, so we actually have something to give away. Peace is not just a nice feeling, it's the whole shalom, the wellbeing of God. We have that to give out. Now if people don't want to receive it, he says, take it back, it's yours, you won't lose your peace, then you move onto where it will be received and I think that's true when you're thinking about this thermostat - sometimes people don't want to change, but OK what's important is that you keep your thermostat high. I'm not losing my peace. No matter what you want, I'm staying high, and I'm going to go to places where that will be received. And I think to be honest, not everywhere will receive it, but but Jesus says that's OK. It happened to Jesus, like in Nazareth. But that being confident that I can reset the temperature of any situation I'm in, is really important.

**Dave Foggon**

...and I guess a part of that is when you're in an environment and there are things going on culturally there that don't align with your internal reality, it's important that you recognise that and don't partner with it. So, if people are flustered or they're stressed and you feel like they're getting themselves into a bad state, then it's important that you just think actually, I don't need to partner with that...I can position myself differently.

#### **Belief 4: I am by nature victorious, and not a victim**

**Pete Carter**

It's also recognising that any environment has strong belief systems within it. You might not think they do, but there are..and if they're negative, then the Bible talks about them being strongholds, and we take strongholds captive, so we demolish strongholds by taking every thought captive. So our thought life is really important. As an example I remember – I've worked overseas a lot – but I was working one particular nation for a length of time over a course of years, and at the start of working in this nation, I recognised that actually discouragement was quite a high value system for them, and encouragement wasn't. I don't why that was – discouragement is a negative thing and it's not a biblical positive, it's a biblical negative. But we've got the counter to that, which is encouragement. So I said right – with the churches that I was working with – we are going to build a culture of encouragement that's going to overcome the discouragement. It took quite a while because actually there was almost a value system for discouragement. It sounds strange, but it was true; it was there. You can find that – it's not an uncommon thing where people like to run others down and gossip like that. So we need to recognise it and then think OK well that's that...what is the antidote to that? Well, encouragement. Like love overcomes all fear. Encouragement will overcome discouragement. Just been aware of the realities of thought processes enables us to come up with the right solutions.

#### **Belief 5: I am full of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit**

**Dave Foggon**

So obviously we're going to be talking a lot about the Kingdom of God and releasing the Kingdom of God into the workplace, but it's really important for us to define what we mean by that when we talk about the Kingdom of God isn't it?

**Pete Carter**

I think so. I think there is a lot of misunderstanding around that in Christianity. Jesus talked about preaching the 'good news of the Kingdom of God; the Kingdom of heaven. He talked about the Kingdom 'being near you' and in the Book of Acts they talk about the 'message of the Kingdom'. So that is fundamentally important to Christianity that we understand what that is. And for me, one of the best ways of defining it – it's not the only way, but it's one of the best biblical ways I know is in the passage in Romans 14 where it says that 'the Kingdom of Heaven is not a matter of eating and drinking', so the context of that is in there are some arguments about what foods you can eat...do you need to abstain from food, sacrifice to idols etc. So he is saying, look guys, fundamentally the message is not about rules and regulations, that's not the message. What it is about is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. So again, in the HS – the HS is our source of all these things, but we then need to make sure we understand what righteousness is, and that's a big teaching, but basically it's really important to distinguish forgiveness and righteousness. The fact that we are forgiven of all our sins again, is fundamentally important, but

having been forgiven of all our sins, then that leads us into this place where we are declared righteous in Christ and we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ. Jesus was never forgiven for sin, he took all our sin but he is not a forgiven sinner, so our standing in God is not as forgiven sinners, it's that our sin has all gone, and now we stand as glorious sons and daughters, with Him, seated with Him in heavenly places. So that's our standing. And in God's sight (and it tells us this in Ephesians) He regards us as holy and blameless. So he doesn't look at us with a degree of guilt, blame, shame or anything like that - that's been removed from us, so we need to remove that from our thinking. Once you've got that as a foundation for life of this is how God sees me, you think wow this is amazing, so this is how I need to see me...then you start to live out of the goodness of that without waking up feeling guilty, shameful, blame - all these negative thoughts. You actually start to say oooh...I'm a participator in the nature of God. So that's what righteousness really means. Now, if you get that, then peace starts to flood your being, because wow this is an amazing place to be. I'm not worried about the past, I'm living in the present, looking into this glorious future, and once you're got peace, then actually, that leads to joy, which is an outcome of this - righteousness, peace and joy will flow and as those flow through our lives, the Bible goes on to say that those who serve Jesus in this way are pleasing to God. So that give God pleasure... and approved by men. And it's not that we seek men's approval, but actually that sort of lifestyle will be attractive to other people and draw people to us so that they can access the good news of the Kingdom.

**Belief 6: Because I overflow with His presence, I also overflow with His hope.**

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| <b>Dave Foggon</b> | Yeah, and I guess that is you living in a place of freedom isn't it? It's the difference between 'religion' that is trapping you and enslaving you and living in freedom and. that being the fruit of that freedom.  |
| <b>Pete Carter</b> | Yeah, you're free from guilt, blame, shame, free from your sin, free from worry, anxiety, and free from misery. In any circumstance. It doesn't mean to say you won't have some tough circumstances, but you've got these three things which will enable you to overcome.  |
| <b>Dave Foggon</b> | Wow, that's really good. Now I remember last year, when we had a HiH Conference, and the theme of that was 'Overflowing with Hope', which I know for you is one of the biggest things to communicate for HiH isn't it? The idea of having hope and being a source of hope, and restoring that hope, I guess, to begin with though, isn't it? |
| <b>Pete Carter</b> | I think it's really important. I think most Christians who go into healthcare in any form go in with a dream of making a difference; a hope that their Christianity is going to be expressed in that workplace, because most people go in with a desire to care and make a difference in other people's lives. They                          |



recognise that God in them has been good for them, so they would like to share that with others, but I think that hope gets crushed out of people quite readily and quickly, and I don't think that's necessary. So there's a beautiful verse in the Bible that I refer to regularly (it's in Romans Chapter 15, verse 13) and it says this: I pray that God the source of hope will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him. I think that's phenomenal! So, what I know then is that God is my source of hope, and if I have the HS living inside me, which I do, then that source is in there, so actually, I should always have hope. And then it goes on to say then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the HS. So, this hope within me should actually overflow to create hopeful environments rather than hopeless environments. Hope is the basis upon which faith grows. It says 'faith is the assurance of things hoped for', and the whole Christian life is based on our faith in God, and again, once hope is diminished then our faith tends to diminish as well. So I think this idea...but I think it's interesting again that it talks about joy and peace - so it aligns hope with joy and peace, so this whole concept of joy and peace is flowing throughout all of this. But we need to be those who bring hope to situations, rather than actually buckling down under them 'hopelessly', in one sense. We are not victims, we are victorious.

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah, that's really good. I love what Steve Backlund says as well - that there are no hopeless situations, only hopeless Christians! Actually it comes from this inner belief that I carry the God of hope in me, so just by me being there, the situation can't remain hopeless.

**Pete Carter**

I like that as well. Steve has got some great thoughts...he's a great friend. And I think, yeah, when I walk into the room, hope walks in with me, because he is in me - not because I've suddenly summoned up some optimism. It's not that I'm suddenly doing some mental gymnastics, that somehow I've got to get confident in getting a little bit hopeful. Actually I'm confident because the God of all hope actually is resident inside me, and He's not leaving me.

**Dave Foggon**

That's really good!

**Pete Carter**

I think it's just worth saying on that - that this is a confidence in the habitation of God. So we are not asking God to visit us. That's almost a denial of the truth of the Gospel. So we are not desperately pleading for God to be with us in our workplace, we get confidence that He is with us, and I think that's also a victorious mindset and we need to recognise that. I don't start the day pleading with God to be with me. I wake up and thank Him that He is with me and then live with that expectation.

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah, absolutely. We can't 'earn' His presence through our prayers, our worship or anything like that. We have to understand that He paid for it already and, like you say, it's living from 'the thank you' - the thankfulness of

that.

### **Belief 7: I expect God's power to work through me**

**Dave Foggon**

Now one thing that we love talking about is restoring dreams to people about their lives and about their work and things like that but I know one thing I've heard you say before – if people say “I don't feel like I'm living my dream, or I don't feel like my dream isn't happening yet...I've heard you say “well, maybe your dream isn't big enough, because God wants to give you more than you can ask or imagine”. Now, when you're in of 'survival' mindset and just getting through every day, it's hard for people to get to that point of actually having that expectation, isn't it, but I know that's something that you have learnt over the years to cultivate, isn't it? Approaching every day with this expectation that God is going to do even more than what you can ask or imagine.

**Pete Carter**

Yeah, and I think again, in the book of Ephesians, it's an extraordinary statement: that God will do more than we would ask or imagine, and then it says through the power of the Spirit at work in me; so it's actually His spirit inside me that's going to enable that to happen...and I know you and I are a bit similar on this, so lots of imagination going on; lots of ideas out there, but God's imagination is much bigger than ours...you know, His desires are greater than ours. I think He loves birthing dreams in us and on the day of Pentecost it talks about one of the outcomes was dreams and visions, so dreaming – having life dreams and for your career and all those sorts of things is a really important part of Christianity, so we have to restore those, but we also have to be ready for the 'more' than we ask or imagine, which will – by definition – be a surprise! Because if you've imagined it, then it's not more than you've asked. I think sometimes I've seen this with people where they've got a dream, and even if it's God-given, sometimes they say it doesn't seem to be working out quite as I imagined it would – well, yeah, there's a little clue in those words... because God wants to do more than you ask or imagine, and sometimes we're so focussed on this thing that we don't see this 'wow' bigger thing that is actually placed in front of us. I know that's been true particularly of Eastgate as a church, that God has taken us on this extraordinary journey of all that we can ask or imagine.

I think it's true for Heaven in Healthcare as well, we started off with a little idea (well, it was a big idea!) But suddenly it's expanding and we're going 'Wow, I hadn't thought of that or I hadn't imagined that!' – so I think that ability to embrace the 'surprises' of God is really important, and not just to have a fixed idea. But I think in order to start to get there the Bible would say that actually, it's good to imagine. So if it's saying I want to do more than you would ask or imagine, then I think it's encouraging you to imagine; to dream. So I think it's very important that our imaginations get active, and that we cultivate the dreams and dare to articulate them, and I think that takes a degree of courage and security in an environment. I think that's one of the things in HiH

that's really important to us, is that we provide places where people can meet and connect with one another and dare to articulate the dreams that God has given us; dare to be bold in that, and actually to be encouraged rather than knocked down. I think sometimes within Christianity people are bold enough with dreams that they get pulled down. I've often said that in my lifetime, I've lost track of how many people have asked me to be 'real', 'Pete, let's get real', I've thought well, it depends what 'real' you want. If your real is less than I'd imagined, then that's not what God's got for me. So if you're trying to pull me down, then your degree of reality is not what I want to enter into. God's reality is more than I would ask or imagine. And I think sometimes when people say 'well, let's get real', well it's only taking into account our human resources and not the resources of God inside us. Because His resources are limitless. So, I think I want to get real by being real about who God is, not just about my limitations or the limitations of the environment.

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah, that's really good. I think it requires a degree of vulnerability doesn't it, to actually be open about your dreams in that sense. I have often found in my own life that if I share a dream and everybody around me gets it, and everybody is on the same page, then maybe I haven't dreamt big enough yet, because a good sign that actually I'm being vulnerable with something that is a deep desire or a dream of mine that is really kind of reaching out of like OK, that could only happen with God, an indicator of that is that some people around me will be like 'Hmmm, I don't really see that, I don't really get that' and that's often an indication of OK, I'm really going for it with this one, you know.

**Pete Carter**

I think, again it's important when we talk about vulnerability, think sometimes we only show vulnerability in showing our weaknesses. That does take vulnerability, and we want to create a safe place where people can talk about their struggles, their weaknesses so that they can get strengthened, but I think it also takes a lot of vulnerability to actually dare to articulate dreams, and for that to be encouraged, and that is a really really important part of HiH, that encouraging environment that will release more and more dreams, and we've got some great stories.

**Dave Foggon**

I love what you said about when you are dreaming about something, and actually if it doesn't go the way that you're expecting, maybe it's because God wants to give you more than what you can ask or imagine, and I think that's a really really healthy thing to keep in mind, isn't it? Because if I feel like OK, I've got a vision for my life or a dream for my life, and that's the path that I'm going on, and then often we hit what feel like walls don't we, and there's frustration, and there's something in the way and we question everything, and we think what's going on, why isn't this working out, why does this feel hard... and actually a lot of the time, maybe we need to be thinking 'Ah, maybe what God is trying to do here is give me an opportunity for an upgrade; something bigger' He's not saying no, and it's not even the enemy that's trying to stop me,

but it's actually God giving me an opportunity for something bigger than I'd even thought.

**Pete Carter**

One of the big lessons of our past was actually that we were at a church in a rural community and that's where we started, and we were developing well, growing, to quite a sizeable church. We had a dream of our own building and we actually came across this opportunity which was a fantastic dream; a really great opportunity and we were working towards it, getting really close to it, then all of a sudden it just disappeared. We were really disappointed, confused, we couldn't work it out. We thought 'What's happening here?' It was a really challenging moment for us as a church. And then within two weeks we'd had a prophesy where God said that He wanted to place us at the East Gate to the City, and all of a sudden we had a change of focus and a change of direction, and we realised that actually He was taking us out of just a rural context and placing us into a place where we would actually affect Cities – as well as the rural context – but actually going on beyond that to impact nations. He was just putting us in a much bigger context, and that's the context within which HiH is now growing.