



# LIVING HOPE MINISTRIES

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“Remember not the former things nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” Isaiah 43:18-19.

May God bless you this year! We have never seen 2023 before and although God’s character does not change, we must listen very carefully to the Lord and seek His will for this year. The verse above from Isaiah still resonates with me since God spoke it very directly into my heart in 1994 while staying in a guest house in Nairobi. I had been seeking God’s will for our future and through this verse God assured me that He had a future for me in His ministry, but it would require a willingness to trust Him for something entirely new.

As many of you know, the new thing was to be a ministry to leaders and pastors under the title of Living Hope Ministries. I had no idea it would take me to Africa, Asia, Europe and South America and also to establishing ministry links in New Zealand and the USA. It would involve developing relationships with 30 UK churches and eventually forming teams who would go out under the banner of Living Hope to help cover the vast ground that was opening up.

The need to provide teaching materials to ground leaders in God’s word is great and of course the media possibilities with Skype, Zoom and WhatsApp have given tremendous opportunities to share God’s word. It has truly been “a new thing”; far beyond whatever Elaine and I could have imagined. The relationships that have developed have become very precious indeed.

Living Hope started with me, but soon involved pastors and church members from the UK joining me on trips. It developed further by sending people without me and then giving responsibility for certain countries to committed team members. Now a further step is developing, which is involving trusted people abroad to strengthen the team and cover more ground as they are sent out on mission too with the same goals and values which have been integral to Living Hope.

Some of the Living Hope team members are fully self-supporting, some cover a portion of the costs and look to Living Hope to cover the rest and some need to be fully supported. Providing lunches at the seminars, Bibles, renting premises for the meetings all need to be covered. However one continues to be amazed how even when hundreds attend gatherings the individual cost is about £3 per head. I was encouraged years ago by a successful Christian business man who assured me that Living Hope provided amazing value for money!

In this mail out is a form, guiding you how to give to Living Hope. Also there is a news update produced by Charlene which gives an overview of the ministry. We pray that our Living Hope Sunday February 19<sup>th</sup> will be an encouragement to all and that God will release resources to help us continue to strengthen pastors and leaders to preach the Gospel of Christ and to build churches which impact their communities with the reality of the risen Christ.

God bless you and thank you for all your support, past and present.  
Richard and Elaine Brunton