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5th UK Urban Mission Congress *Setting People Free*
- exploring the Good News of *Jesus In The City* of Bristol 14-18 June 2007

Join Jesus' followers from local town centre, inner city and outer estate churches, congregations and parishes across the four nations of the UK to:

- offer our **celebrations and struggles** from our towns and cities to each other
- explore our experience of **engaging with the Bible** in the light of places of liberation and transformation in Bristol
- mark the 200th anniversary of the **abolition of slave trading** and mourn modern trafficking
- be surprised, excited and challenged by **God's mission of freedom** in our urban town and city centres, inner cities, estates and post-industrial areas
- take back **practical skills** to make real changes in our churches, town and city centres, inner cities, estates and other urban places.

The aim is for all followers of Jesus with a heart to live, work and proclaim the good news of freedom and justice for oppressed and broken-hearted people can **find a welcome**. We hope people will be inspired to work for Jesus' Kingdom and for change in their communities. The **Congress** is not a conference but a place of sharing ideas and experience. We will learn from Projects in Bristol and from an exciting range of Christian action across the UK.

The **costs** for the long weekend are deliberately kept low, thanks to grant support, to help people from urban areas attend. The maximum fee is £85 (including hospitality accommodation and most meals) with considerable reductions for group bookings and unwaged people, giving the lowest fee of £25.

Alongside the Congress are:

- a meeting of the Caritas Urban Round Table Network
- a study visit by Baptist pastors from across Europe
- the lecture tour on Luke's Gospel by Bob Linthicum of the US

We are delighted to confirm that alongside speakers from local projects the following people will be presenting their views of the transformation of the Gospel:

Jim Wallis of the Sojourner Community in Washington, USA will speak at our opening evening service of celebration on Thursday 14th based around Jesus' '**Nazareth Manifesto**' in Luke 4.

Kathy Galloway of the Iona Community in Glasgow will speak about '**Challenging Oppressors**' at the evening service on Friday 15th

Richard Reddie of 'Set All Free' has the theme '**Releasing Captives**' to mark with us the cruelty of past slavery and current human trafficking on the Saturday 16th evening service

On Sunday 17th evening at a **Celebrating Jubilee** service in the Anglican Cathedral presentations of God's liberating love and justice will be made from local Bristol projects and across the UK

On Monday 18th **George Kovoov** of Trinity College, Bristol will challenge us at the commissioning service to follow Jesus' way in our own situations.

Booking and more information online at: <http://www.jitc.org.uk>

The main business of the Congress

Different aspects of Luke 4:16-21 will form the centre of our work on Friday, Saturday and Sunday and Monday. Each day there will be:

- prayerful worship and contextual Bible study prepared by Bristol people to begin;
- a mix of workshops, seminars and visits
- and then a worship celebration with local and national speakers to bring our ideas together.

Monday sees a commission to renewal in our home settings.

Friday visits will be to Christian-based projects that operate on a variety of mission models, addressing the realities of homelessness, street sex trade, mental health problems and drug misuse within the Bristol area.

Saturday Workshops over 30 to choose from including:

Breaking the chains of injustice: responding to sexual exploitation in the UK

Val Jeal, One25 Bristol and National Christian Alliance on Prostitution

Grassroots initiatives in racial justice

Andy Bruce, UK Churches Commission for Racial Justice

Mission and working class culture

Joe Hasler, Bristol and National Estate Churches Network

On the edge of the centre: mission at the hub of the city

Paul Ballard, Cardiff and UK City Centre Churches Group

Partnership and the Local Church: Captivity or Freedom?

Capt Steve Dixon, CA and Peter Robinson, Urban Ministry Training Project, Newcastle

Prayer Patrols

Paul Waterfall and Dawnicea Palmer, Bristol Prayer Patrol

Revitalization movements and the book of Nehemiah

Terry Jones, Baptist Union of GB

The parables as a means of liberation

Christine Jones, Urban Theology Unit, Sheffield

Understanding and working with the spirituality of urban children,

Kathryn Copsey, CURBS, London and Glasgow

Urban church planting

Stuart Murray Williams, Urban Expression, London and Liverpool

Redemptive Roads: working with young people in urban settings

Dean Pusey, Youth Adviser, Southwark Diocese and 'Faithful Cities' Commissioner

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Jesus in the City is a Project of the UK Urban Mission Congress Trust.

The Trust is a charity recognised by the Inland Revenue and registered in England and Wales under the Charity Commission No. 1046117