

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

of LOUISVILLE

est 2012

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Gratefulness for Our Gospel Partnership from the UK

March 15, 2014 | by: Brian Chesemore

Posted in: [Miscellany](#) | Tags: [WorshipGod](#), [Nathan Smith](#), [Bath UK](#)

Dear Sovereign Grace Church Family,


We thought you'd be encouraged by this note from Nathan Smith, the senior pastor of Grace Church in Bristol, England. He and his church partnered with Sovereign Grace Music recently to host the WorshipGod UK conference in Bath. We want to echo Nathan's gratefulness for you all!

I wanted to write on behalf of our pastoral team here at Grace Church Bristol, the folks of our church, and all those of us involved in the WorshipGod UK conference last week to thank you as a church for releasing Jeff, Bob and Julie, Brittany & Mackenzie, Devon, Neil DeGraide, Jared Hoffman, and Steve & Vikki Cook to come and join us and serve us at the conference.

I wish I could detail for you the influence, impact and affect that all these folks had upon the conference last week. There are numerous stories and testimonies that have already come through to me from people who attended the conference, saying how deeply affected they were by the doctrine, teaching and example of those involved, and how God used these people to refresh them in the gospel, and equip them to more passionately worship the Saviour and better serve their local churches. All of the folks that participated from your church were kind, gracious, humble and servant-hearted. They were a real credit to your church, and set a wonderful example of what it means to be God-glorifying, Jesus-focused, gospel-driven worshippers, with both their lives and their lips.

As I'm sure you would expect, Bob and Jeff also did a fantastic job of serving our local church here in Bristol on the Sunday morning. The feedback we have received from our folks about the blessing of Bob's leadership and Jeff's preaching was of no surprise to us at all, but we're so grateful our folks finally got to experience firsthand something of what we have valued and benefited from over many years.

Date ▼

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So, thank you for releasing all these folks to serve outside of your local church context and for the commitment this demonstrates to the gospel and to the partnership we share in our family of churches. This was a very real, tangible expression of that partnership, for which we are exceedingly grateful. We pray that our partnership would continue to deepen, and that much fruit will be borne here in the UK, by the grace of God, because of your service and investment in "sowing" these folks out. We look forward to future opportunities to share in our deepening partnership and mission together.

Please would you pass on our gratitude to the whole church, but especially to Julie Purswell, Kristine Kaufflin, and Kate DeGraide and their families who have felt the brunt of the sacrifice as Jeff, Devon and Neil traveled. We are so thankful to God for you all.

With deep respect, appreciation and affection,

Nathan

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