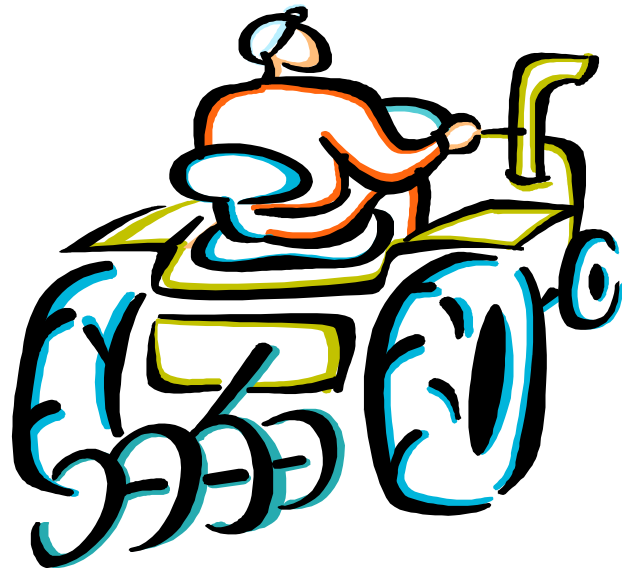


Ploughing



Sowing



Reaping

Introduction

The purpose of Ploughing, Sowing and Reaping, is to encourage **everyone** to seek the Lord and see how He wants us to reach out to others with the **Good News of Jesus**

Jesus came into the world not to start a Christian Club, but to reach a lost and needy world, and bring us **all** back to a relationship with Father God. Those who know God the Father through Jesus, should not keep this relationship to themselves but should earnestly seek to share it with others.

Jesus clearly told His disciples to **GO**, and so often reaching out with the **Good News of Jesus** is done by an invitation to come. People need to be reached where there are!

The first question is ‘how is it done?’ and the answer is, seek the Lord, ask Him what He wants done. It is so important to do what He wants, and not just have good ideas and plans.

Jesus often used agricultural illustrations when explaining spiritual truths. The illustration of the harvest is a good one to use when reaching out with the **Good News**. Consider the natural harvest, it is important to first plough in order to break up the ground, then sow the seed, before there can ever be a harvest. If this is true in the natural is also true in the spiritual. If seed is never sown, there will not be a harvest, and if the ground is not prepared the seed will have little chance of growing.

If at the end of the harvest, the farmer sat and looked at his pile of grain, without going out to plough and sow again, the following year there would be less grain in his barn and this would happen every year respectively, till there was none left. The same is true with the spiritual harvest.

Isaiah 28:2 –29.

***Listen and hear my voice; pay attention and hear what I say.
When farmers plough for planting, do they plough
continually? Do they keep on breaking up and working the
soil?***

***When they have levelled the surface, do they not sow caraway
and scatter cumin? Do they not plant wheat in its place, barley
in its plot, and spelt in its field?***

***Their God instructs them and teaches them the right way.
Caraway is not threshed with a sledge, nor is a cartwheel
rolled over cumin; caraway is beaten out with a rod, and
cumin with a stick.***

***Grain must be ground to make bread; so one does not go on
threshing it forever. The wheels of a threshing cart may be
rolled over it, but one does not use horses to grind grain.
All this also comes from the Lord Almighty, whose plan is
wonderful, whose wisdom is magnificent.***

The Lord, in this passage, speaks about the importance of seeking Him, and listening to what He has to say. He reminds those who are listening that the farmer has to plough the ground, but the farmer does not continually keep on just ploughing. After the land is ploughed he prepares a seedbed and then sows the seeds. It is the Lord who shows the farmer exactly what to do.

There are many lessons to learn in this illustration when reaching out with the **Good News of Jesus**. It is vital to seek the Lord at each stage of the work and hear from Him. It is important not just to keep on preparing the area but to sow the seed into the ground as well. Don't forget to seek the Lord's instruction at each stage and not follow good ideas and plans.

Isaiah 28:27-29

Caraway is not threshed with a sledge, nor is a cartwheel rolled over cumin; caraway is beaten out with a rod, and cumin with a stick.

Grain must be ground to make bread; so one does not go on threshing it forever. The wheels of a threshing cart may be rolled over it, but one does not use horses to grind grain.

All this also comes from the Lord Almighty, whose plan is wonderful, whose wisdom is magnificent.

These verses are a reminder that in the natural harvest there is more than one method to accomplish dealing with all the different seeds; remember too that each person that hears the **Good News of Jesus** is an individual, and therefore there is no formula that reaches everyone. Seek the Lord and the leading of the Holy Spirit for His purpose and plan for each individual and situation.

Isaiah 28:23; 26; 29.

Listen and hear my voice; pay attention, and hear what I say.

Their God instructs them, and teaches them the right way.

All this also comes from the Lord Almighty, whose plan is wonderful, whose wisdom is magnificent

- 1. The importance of seeking the Lord.***
- 2. Know your boundaries.***
- 3. Know your materials.***
- 4. Know your strategies***

It is so important it is to seek the Lord for His plan and strategy. Learning to listen and hear from the Lord is vital. Give Him time, let Him speak, and speak to Him too.

Ask the Lord what the boundaries are. *Micah* as a ministry, have found the boundaries for the County Parish to be right. If reaching out has been organised by a church, the Lord might give the town, village, or hamlet as boundaries. If the group is small the Lord may ask to cover a street or if working individually it could be the family, friends or workmates.

When it is clear which area the Lord has chosen, seek Him for the necessary materials. There is an enormous amount of material available, and with computers and other technology it is possible to have too much.

Finally having discovered, from the Lord, where to go and what to use, ask Him – how? Listen to the Holy Spirit and be guided by Him, keeping one ear open to what He might have to say at all times.

All that is used will be what God has planned and purposed, giving the people the very best opportunity to hear the **Good News of Jesus**.

PLOUGHING.

Our preparation is Prayer

- 1. The work must begin by Prayer.**
- 2. The work must continue by Prayer.**
- 3. The work must be completed by Prayer**



Section 1.

Ploughing.

Ploughing is preparing the ground ready to receive the seed. Spiritual preparation is prayer. The work must start with prayer, asking the Lord what He wants done. Keep the, communication channels for ongoing instructions. There needs to be continual communication with the Lord; He is the Commander of Heaven's Armies, who has the plans and strategies.

Preparation for any project is often the most time consuming, but vital. When building a house or decorating a room a third of the time is often spent in laying the foundations or preparing the room for decoration. In other words one third of the time that is used for preparation will not be seen at the time of completion but is vital for the final outcome.

Prayers from centuries ago.

Godly men and women from
previous centuries have prayed
through the ages.

The area chosen by God will not be the first time that Christians have worked there. Through centuries men and women of God have prayed for the areas where they have lived. God will not ignore their prayers.

In *Genesis 26:18*, Isaac re-dug the wells his father Abraham had dug. When entering the area give thanks for the work already done by previous generations, asking the Lord to continue to answer their prayers now.

Prayers from present times

1. The local “church” needs to pray.
2. Prayer and praise.

It is so important for local Christians to pray together in the same place. Where possible try and work with all those who have received salvation through Jesus, . As Christians stand and pray together it forms an impenetrable barrier against the enemy. The psalmist states in *Psalm 133* it is good and pleasant when God's people live in unity, and this is where the Lord brings His blessing of eternal life.

Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving to the Lord is necessary as, He then responds as promised in *Psalm 22:3* which states that He lives and speaks through His Holy Spirit where His people are praising Him.

Prayer before beginning Bible delivery

1. Walk the area.
2. Pray the area.
3. Plan the prayer according to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
4. Use the body of Christ to pray.

Walking and praying around the area is the next step. Get to know the area, and its boundaries, where possible, praise and proclaim the Lord's word. This is part of the preparation (ploughing), ready to sow the seed. .

When walking the boundaries ask the Lord to reveal anything planted by Satan and his followers that will hamper the growth. It is not wise to move into any area, and tell Satan and his followers to leave, but where the Lord has given a mandate to plant he has given authority to remove anything that stops the seed from germinating or inhibit growth.

At this stage the local library could be useful to find out any history. Things from the past may have an influence and given Satan a foothold. When walking the boundaries, praying and observing what is around are crucial. The Lord will reveal things 'in the Spirit' that hampers sowing, but observation of signs showing occultic allegiance and practice is helpful as well.

After gathering information, either by research, observation both naturally or spiritually, ask the Lord for His strategy to neutralise the work done by Satan and his minions. Implement these things whether they be proclamations or prophetic acts or further prayer.

Prayers while planting the seed.

The importance of prayer while the delivery team is out on the doors.

After preparing the ground through prayer; the ‘seed bed’ should be kept ready to receive the good seed. So while the teams take the **Good News** to the people, someone, or a team of people, should be praising and praying for team. This ‘prayer team’ should seek the Lord for instructions as to what to pray and when.

Prayers after the seed has gone into the ground.

	House No	Bible	Tracts	M/F	Prayer	Committment	Good chat	Information
1	Park Pennkarn							
2	2	yes	yes	m/f				wife in a hurry, husband willing to receive. ✓✓✓
3	3	yes	yes	f	yes			Lucille knows Jesus <i>Methodist</i> ✓✓✓
4	4							
5	5							
6	6							
7	7							
8	8							
9	9	yes	yes	f				young lady ✓✓✓
10	10	no	no	f				lady said she was a pagan ✓✓✓
11	11	yes	yes	m			yes	Joe ✓✓✓
12	12							
13	13							
14	14							
15	15							
16	16	yes	yes	f				✓✓✓
17	17	yes	yes	f	yes			prayed for sick child ✓✓✓
18	18	yes	yes	m				Stuart single man ✓✓✓
19	19							
20	20							
21	21							
22	22	yes	yes	f			yes	lady was going for a shower ✓✓✓
23	23							
24	24							
25	25							
26	26							
27	27	yes	yes	f				lady was ill, friend took for her ✓✓✓
28	28							
29	29	yes	yes	m	yes			Gary prayed for spine, wife obstructive ✓✓✓

Record keeping is important, as firstly it ensures that the whole area is covered. Secondly they can be used as a follow up prayer sheet. It is important to pray for each contact after the visit regardless as to whether they have received or refused what has been offered. Thirdly the completed sheets are given to local Christian leaders to continue Ploughing, Sowing and Reaping. It is helpful for those visiting to take time to pray for the contacts made; the prayer team can also pray, and finally if it is a local fellowship that is doing the outreach it is good to pray for the contacts during their prayer times.

SOWING.

Isaiah 28:25.

When they have levelled the surface, do they not sow caraway and scatter cumin? Do they not plant wheat in its place, barley in its plot, and spelt in its field?

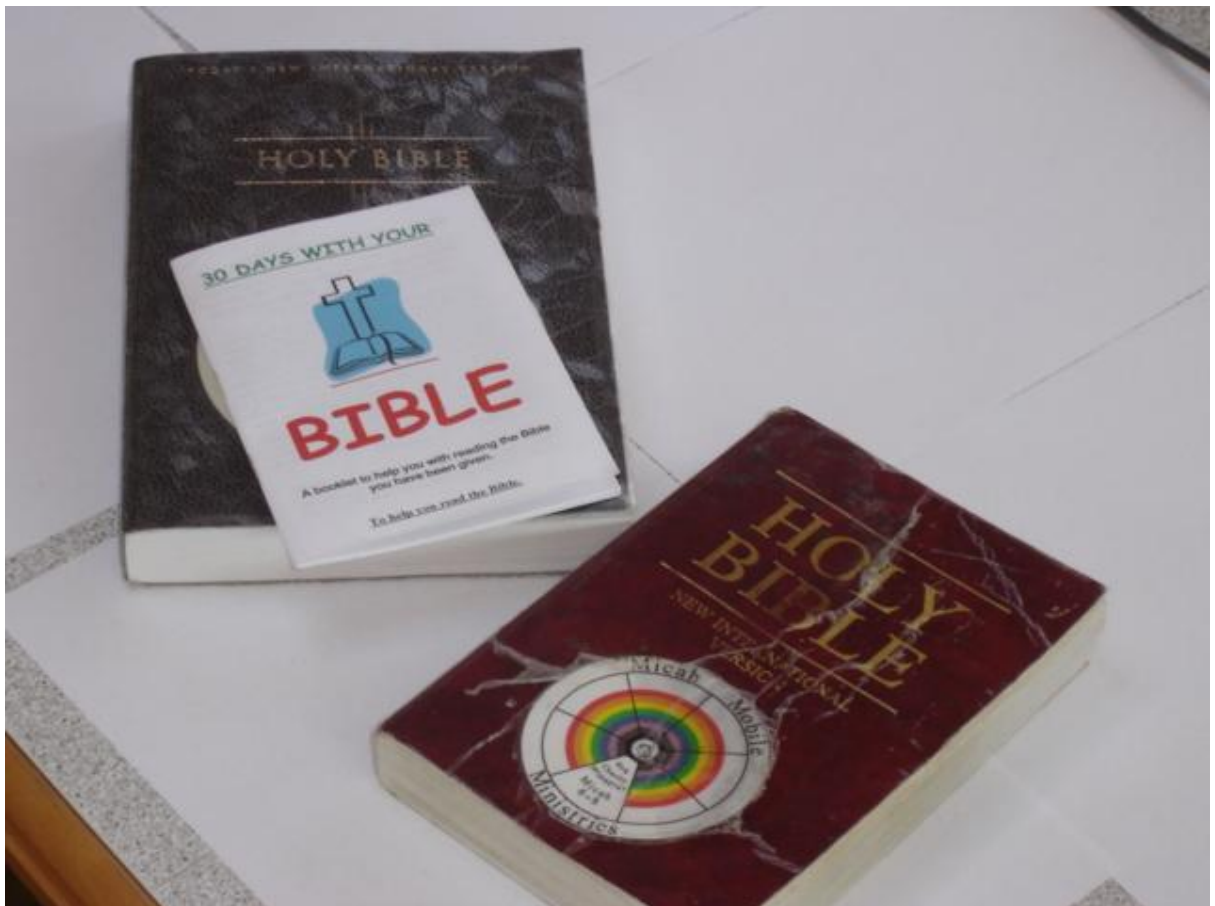
Section 2

Sowing.

Isaiah 28:25 This verse is a reminder that having prepared the ground the seed needs to be sowed. Praying is not enough, planting the seed must follow.

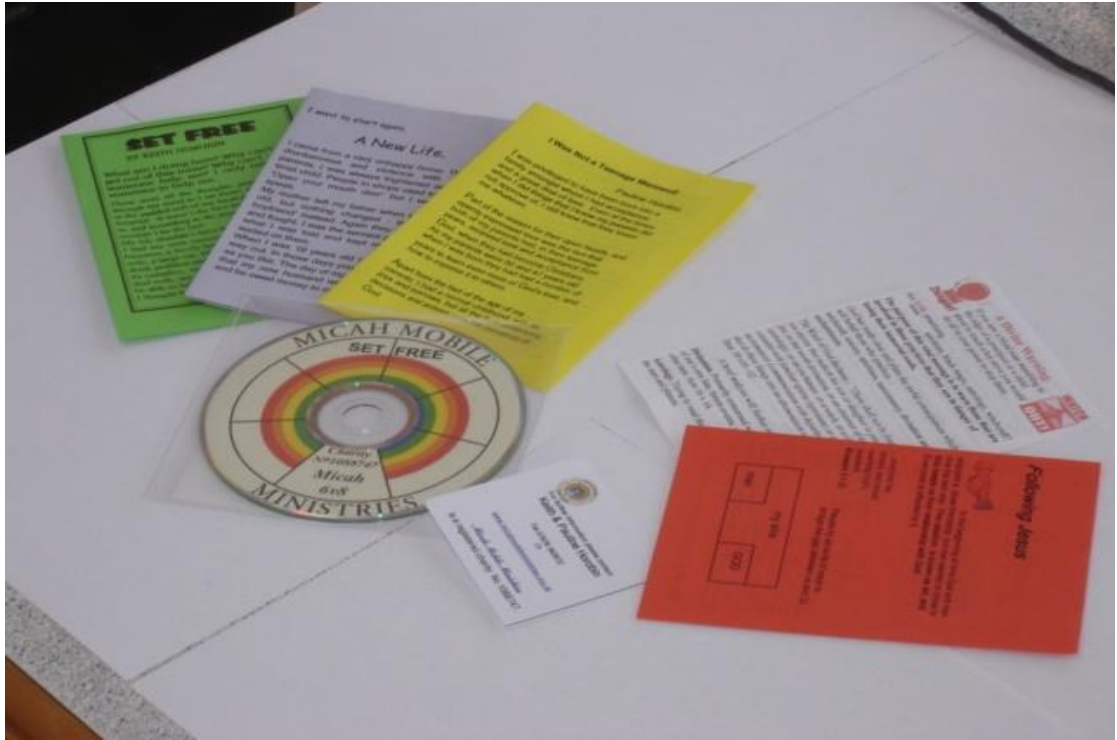
Galatians 6: 7.

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. People reap what they sow



Galatians 6:7 gives the promise that what is sowed will be reaped. Seek the seed from the Lord. For *Micah Mobile Ministries* the Lord used the Bible. This is good for many reasons. Firstly what better seed to sow than the word of God? Secondly very few people throw Bibles away, it may be due to superstition, but it does mean that the Bible will stay on the book shelf, taken to second hand book shops, car boots sales or local charity shops, but not thrown in the dustbins. Finally in times of crisis the Bible has often been taken off the shelf and **read**, The seed has taken root and grown into a relationship with Father God through Jesus.

Another helpful tool is a Bible Reading booklet that shows where to begin in the Bible and speak more about Jesus and how to develop a relationship with Him.



REAPING.

John 4:37-38.

Thus the saying 'one sows and another reaps' is true. I have sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.

1. Go in two's.
2. Move in the power of the Holy Spirit.
3. Work with local Christians

2 Corinthians 9:6 is an encouragement to sow generously. God will always provide the finance for plans and strategies that He has purposed.

Testimony is another excellent tool for sharing how Jesus can change someone's life. Everybody who knows Jesus has a testimony of meeting Him. So there are many testimonies that can be used. Take testimonies of known people, in this way they can be authenticated. Don't just use testimonies from people, who have come to Jesus from a dreadful life style, some will be 'normal', but still need Jesus. Every testimony is valid and usable. The Lord may use paper leaflets, CD's or even DVD's. It is good to have a leaflet explaining the way of salvation in easily understood terms, with a prayer that the person could pray asking forgiveness to begin a relationship with God.

Isaiah 28: 27-28.

Caraway is not threshed with a sledge, nor is a cartwheel rolled over cumin; caraway is beaten out with a rod, and cumin with a stick. Grain must be ground to make bread; so one does not go on threshing it forever. The wheels of a threshing cart may be rolled over it, but one does not use horses to grind grain

1. One size does not fit all.
2. Encourage people to become involved with the local church

These verses from *Isaiah 28:27- 28* clearly demonstrate that not 'one size fits all'. God sees people as individuals, and cares for them accordingly. Do the same and don't try and make them fit into the local fellowship like a 'sausage machine'. It is important to make sure that those who make an initial commitment to Jesus read His Word and grow in Him.

If the outreaching done is not with the local church it is vital to encourage people who made that commitment to get involved in some way with the local church.

Isaiah 28:23:26:29.

Listen and hear my voice; pay attention and hear what I say.

Their God instructs them and teaches them the right way.

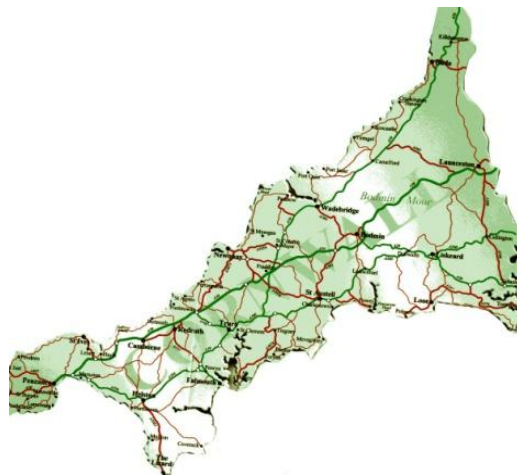
All this also comes from the Lord Almighty, whose plan is wonderful, whose wisdom is magnificent.

It is crucial to stay in constant communication with the Lord and to Go and Do what He says!



For *Micah Mobile Ministries* it started in Cornwall.

*He has shown you O man what is good
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice and to love mercy, and
to walk humbly with your God
Micah 6:8*



1. Know the area
2. Know the materials.
3. Bring the word of the Lord through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

With *Micah Mobile Ministries* the Lord clearly said the County Parishes of St Just in Penwith, Hayle and St Teath in Cornwall. The Lord indicated that He wanted Bibles and testimonies taken out, and over time He taught which strategies to use where and how as people are a work in progress so is the work the Lord is doing through *Micah*. Always listen to what He has to say for every situation and never try to set anything set in concrete. In every area that *Micah* has worked in the Lord has moved into people and families, drawing them to Himself, then showing them how to grow and develop their gifts in Him. Stay open to the leading of the Holy Spirit when seeking to share the **Good News of Jesus** by ploughing the ground, sowing the seed and reaping some harvest, and then leaving a legacy for others to reap further as the seed is watered with prayers.

1 Corinthians 3:6.

I (Paul) planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

Micah Mobile Ministries (M.M.M) has grown through God calling Keith and Pauline from Yorkshire to 'Reach People Where They Are' beginning in Cornwall. While still in Yorkshire they bought 24 bibles which they felt the Lord saying they would use to start the work in Cornwall.

In September 2002 they arrived in Cornwall and so the work began. K&P started door knocking doors offering bibles, tracts, words of knowledge from the Holy Spirit to people.

It took five years and two months to visit all the homes in both town and the County of St Just, Parish. *M.M.M* were supported by thirty-four local Christians and others came from all over the country at various times to help. After Bible distribution, a seven day mission was held in an open air amphitheater in the centre of St Just. *M.M.M* then moved to Hayle; a larger town of approximately twelve thousand people. The town was divided into 6 areas with about 600 houses in each area. Bible distribution started in June 2005. Of one thousand and seventy four properties visited, six hundred and thirty four took bibles, a hundred had tracts, hundred and fifty six refused any form of literature, but had conversations with the *M.M.M* team. No one was available in a hundred and forty nine houses but information was put through the letter box. Two people who made commitments to the Lord, continue with a weekly Bible study, and are now attending one of the local churches. *M.M.M* aim to take any converts to the local churches; there is no intention to plant new churches in any of the areas covered, but to encourage those who make a commitment to the Lord to become involved in local fellowships. A number of people have made first time commitments to the Lord, and several have been healed. Bible distribution in Hayle began in June 2005 and finished in September 2008. Three thousand two hundred and thirty eight, properties were visited, with two thousand two

hundred and sixty seven properties receiving Bibles. A further two hundred and fifty nine properties received tracts, but not Bibles for various reasons. Three hundred and twenty four properties refused everything offered to them. There was nobody at home even after four visits in three hundred and eighty eight properties

Bible distribution began January 2009 completed March 2010. One thousand and sixteen properties were visited and seven hundred and seventy one properties accepted a Bible and tracts. A further eighty one properties accepted tracts but not a Bible for various reasons. Eighty seven households refused everything that was offered. In seventy seven properties it was not possible to find anyone at home, even after four visits.

This completed the first mandate the Lord gave *MMM* (Keith and Pauline) when they first started. Since 2002 *MMM* have given away six thousand five hundred and fifty three Bibles, ten percent of which has been tithed to other organisations who offer Bibles to people. Pauline then did some calculations and realized that it would take a hundred and eighty one years at the present rate of delivery to finish Cornwall. They sought the Lord who gave them a new mandate which is based on Acts 1:8. Ploughing Sowing and Reaping is the foreunner of Acts 1:8 explaining to churches organisations or groups wanting to do door to door offering Bibles and telling people about Jesus how K&P and help with the experience they have acquired over the years by offering their services for eight weeks to train people

(for more information please see information on the back page)



Acts 1:8

You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be my witnesses, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest parts of the earth.



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Micah Mobile Ministries

have been involved in delivering Bibles since September 2002, and are now available to teach and bring 'hands on' training to churches or groups of individual Christians in any locality. The training is based around Acts 1:8. Information is available from

Micah Mobile Ministries

*He has showed you, O man,
what is good And what does the
LORD require of you?*



*To act justly and to love mercy and
to walk humbly with your God.
Micah 6:8*

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For further information please visit our website

www.micahmobileministries.org.uk

or phone 07876 362872

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