

## Elaine tells of an encounter outside Bedford Hospital - hip healed.

Elaine is interviewed by Matt Peacock.

Matt: Elaine, I know you're part of TSM (our training school for supernatural ministry) and as part of this you go out on Thursdays to share God's heart and speak to people about Jesus. Now, you did that a couple of weeks ago. Would you like to tell us about your experience?

Elaine: Sure thing. Every Thursday we go to the hospital, and we're not actually allowed inside, so we kind of have to go round and talk to people that way. Bear in mind, this is weeks of going around (*outside the hospital*) and not seeing much 'fruit' and I was kind of disappointed and discouraged, and it's off the back of that – so this is kind of a 'high' point that has happened. So, there was a mum and her daughter standing smoking outside A & E and I was with Wendy. She said, I get the name 'Anne' – let's go up to them and say, does the name Anne mean anything to you? So we went up and they were actually quite scared because they thought we were coming to tell them off about something like smoking. We said, 'No, don't worry!' Then we said, 'This is going to sound crazy, but does the name Anne mean anything to you?' To be honest, we totally flopped because the name Anne meant nothing – but then from that God was amazing and 'opened a door'. They volunteered the information that they had just been in A & E. (The mum said) 'My daughter Gemma fell over at school and really hurt her hip and she's been brought in in a wheelchair, in really bad pain.' We explained, 'We're Christians, we're from down the road...' and did a little bit of an explanation, so it wasn't too freaky for them, and we said, 'We'd love to pray for you. We believe that God heals, we see it all the time.' She said, 'Yeah, why not?' – she was totally open. We got her to put her hand on her hip, and we prayed the simplest prayer: 'God, you love Gemma, you love to heal, would you come and take the pain away.' After this first prayer she said, 'Are you guys for real? Are you going to come out with cameras?! No way – Mum, I'm not kidding you, the pain is going!' She was walking around and testing it – this is bearing in mind that she came in a wheelchair. So we asked her, 'Where would you say your pain was when you first came in, on a scale of 1 to 10?' (*1 is mildest and 10 is most severe*). She said it was at a 9 so we asked, 'Where is it now?' and she said it was a 4. We said, 'We believe God can totally take that pain away for you and completely heal your hip; can we pray again?' and she agreed. Again, we said the simplest of prayers: God you love her, take her pain away. She walked up and down and said, 'Oh my gosh, I'm so freaked out right now!' Her mum was also saying it was amazing. All this time though, it was totally natural – there was nothing forced or uncomfortable about it, it was just incredible how God opened this opportunity up. During the time we were with them, Wendy had some prophetic words for the mum; things to do with having people close to her who have died and going through a hard time, and also some encouragement words like, God thinks you're a really good mum. She said, 'Wow, all of that is really spot on.' She was smiling but shocked at the same time. It took us 4 times to pray for this girl for her hip and it went from 9 to 0 (*on the 'pain scale'*). And that wasn't the end!! It wasn't only that God healed the hip – off the back of that it made them really open to talk about spiritual things, so it took the conversation further. She said she 'saw' spiritual things as if in a spiritual world. She said she saw her dead grandma and we said how it just shows there is so much more to life than this (*what we see around us*). We were able to have a deeper conversation and she said she was going to come back to church.

Matt: Obviously it's quite a daunting thing to go up to people on the streets and pray for them. What would you say to encourage us from your experience?

Elaine: OK, to be honest we totally got it wrong, but there is nothing that you're going to lose by going up to someone and saying 'Is your name Anne?' If it's not, God can either 'open a door' or close it. It could have totally stopped there and we've got nothing to lose. But God amazingly used our obedience and willingness to step out. Also, love the person. As long as you leave them loved and honoured there is nothing to lose.