

# Tom Rooney Family

## Missionaries in Gainsborough, England



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Dear Pastor,

In Matthew 16:18, the Lord Jesus told Peter that “upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”. It is encouraging to know that the Lord will build His church in spite of the obstacles that Satan has put in place to hinder the work. We have come face to face with obstacles in the past few weeks but continue to see the Lord bless in different ways.

In August I had a run-in with three local youths. To make a long story short, two of them attacked me, hit me in the mouth, and took my cell phone. The Lord allowed me to get away and the police caught them and recovered my cell phone. Unfortunately, there was not enough evidence to charge them. I have not had any further contact with these youths.

We have continued the distribution of John/Romans in Gainsborough. I have been to 20% of the households in the town. Over 550 scriptures have been handed to those who were willing to accept one. We

are also mass-distributing flyers in the area and have completed about 7,000. I have had a couple of written responses from the flyers – both negative. Apathy concerning the things of God is certainly one of the obstacles that we are facing here. We did have one visitor who came to a service because of the flyers but he has not returned.

At the end of September our small church group had a Harvest Supper on a Sunday evening. We did not advertise to the public but made personal invitations to attend. Including my family, we had 35 in attendance. Of those, 10 were visitors who have not attended a church service. Every one seemed to enjoy the evening and the church people were encouraged to see the Lord bless. *Please pray with us about another special event we are considering for Christmas time.*

Two of the men in the church have been making an effort to be a help to me in the work. They have each contributed to the outreach effort in their own

way and they have both been an encouragement to me. Another family has decided to stop coming but we remain in contact with them. Everyone who has been attending has been helping with the refreshments and seems to be getting to know each other better.

Addie, Ethan, Olivia, and Henry flew to the USA on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Addie’s father is having bypass surgery so she wanted to be there with him. Ethan will be staying in America and working with a view to attending Christian college after the first of the year. Addie and the other children will return to the UK on October 25<sup>th</sup>. *Please pray for Ethan and for the others as they travel back.*

### Prayer Requests

- Revival in the US and the UK
- British men, women, and children to come to Christ
- Our family to be in the center of God’s will
- Church growth
  - Salvations
  - Other services
  - John/Romans
  - Flyer Distribution

A thought from a missionary: “It doesn’t matter, really, how great the pressure is; it only matters *where the pressure lies*. See that it never comes *between you and the Lord* – then, the greater the pressure, the more it presses you to His breast.”

J. Hudson Taylor