



All seeing, all knowing and all loving God, I want to follow you and know your presence in my life. Forgive the mistakes of my past, accept me for the person I am, and by your Holy Spirit help me to walk in your ways and become the person you can make me. Assure me of your forgiveness and promise of eternal life, made possible through Jesus. **AMEN**

Love - Hope - Acceptance

“40 days” is coming

Dear Friends

I am writing with a further reminder about the planned **40 days of Good News** Initiative which is a shared vision across our Baptist Union. This very much connects with our NWBA theme “Love Hope Acceptance” through which we are encouraging churches to reflect afresh on our calling to make the message of the Gospel known.

The phrase “love - hope - acceptance” is inspired by the story from John chapter 4, which records the encounter between Jesus and a woman from Samaria. She was someone who many believed was born on the “wrong side of the tracks” to be part of the community of God's people, and life appears to have not been easy for her. But in Jesus she found an attitude of acceptance, a message of hope and an encounter with God's love. We too are called to be those who live and share this message.

Churches are responding to the “40 days” initiative in different ways, with many events happening across the UK. Your church may already have similar plans, but here in NWBA we are also encouraging churches to use the period from 10th April to 17th May to encourage EVERY BELIEVER to be open to share our message Good News. Prayer cards (see above) are still available, and we encourage you to distribute these on Sunday April 10th with the simple invitation “Pray that in the next 40 days, God will give you the opportunity to share this prayer with someone.” You are encouraged to include in subsequent Sunday services a few moments to pause, reflect and pray for such opportunities to come our way. I will be shortly be sending a further email with some ideas for how you can do this.

You should have details of this initiative from previous NWBA mailouts, but you can also visit our website to find out more. This is not the right time of year for everyone, so if you are not planning to participate in the 40 days between 10th April and 17th May, please consider how you can be part of this at another time.

I still have some dates left when I am personally willing to come along to your church to be part of an evangelistic event. If you would like to take me up on that, please email me - phil@nwba.org.uk.

I do hope that you want to be part of this initiative and look forward to sharing with you in it.

Yours in Christ

Phil Jump
NWBA Regional Minister