

giving in grace



Training for Follow up Visiting

Follow up Visiting

- **What is it?**
- **Why visit?**
- **Why me?**
- **What it entails**

What is Giving in Grace?

A programme of teaching to encourage the knowledge and practice of Christian giving as an act of worship and thanksgiving

Giving in Grace

- what is it?

- **This autumn...**
- **Church Members asked to review their giving**
- **Gift Aid and standing orders where appropriate**
- **Those not on the planned giving scheme asked to consider joining**
- **Follow up of responses**

Why visit?

- **Further information has already been requested**
- **Personal visits enable the church:**
 - To give out the necessary information
 - To help with filling out of forms
 - To offer thanks and appreciation
 - To integrate money and discipleship
 - To develop relationships

Why me?

- **What we are looking for**
 - **People of faith**
 - **People who are good listeners**
 - **People who understand and practice Christian giving themselves**
 - **People who are reliable and approachable**
 - **People who will get the job done**

What the visit entails

- **Agreeing to visit 4-5 people**
- **Ringling or calling to arrange a convenient time to visit**
- **Giving up to an hour per visit**
- **Responding to their request e.g. bringing standing order forms**

What the visit entails

➤ **Beforehand**

- **Arrange the date and time, and ask for around half an hour of their time.**
- **Read through the leaflets and forms so you are familiar with them**
- **Ensure you have what the person has asked for e.g. a box of envelopes**

What the visit entails

- Introduction and general conversation
- Express appreciation for their response to Giving in Grace
- Explaining you are bringing information they requested
- Give the forms requested and the supporting literature leaflets.
- Help people complete information- only if requested
- Taking away any completed forms for the church officer– only if requested
- Thank them for their response and hospitality

Visiting - good practice

- Prayer- for you and them!
- Reading and understanding the literature before delivering it and visiting
- Give people enough time
- If you don't know the answer to the question, make a note of it and ask someone who does!

Visiting - not so good...

- Don't make too many appointments for the one evening
- Don't tell them what you think they ought to do
- Do not pretend to know the answers to questions when you don't - say you'll find out and get back to them - and do

The envelope scheme

- They are a sign of commitment and willingness to support the church
- They help you to ensure you don't forget for the weeks you are away
- Renewal of envelopes each year is an opportunity for reviewing our giving
- Enable you to Gift Aid if you pay tax

Standing orders

- Makes sure that people do not forget to give.
- They put giving on a par with all the other financial decisions that people make
- They are easy for the church to administer and help the church with cash flow and planning
- They are just as confidential as envelopes
- SO givers can be given a small weekly pledge card to put on the collection plate if required (*check your church has arranged this*)
- Enable you to gift aid if you pay tax

Gift Aid

- Gift aid is for tax payers who pay sufficient tax to cover the tax bill on their annual donations- even lower rate tax payers
- A gift aid form has to be completed & signed
- If you stop paying tax tell the gift aid secretary ..
- It is easy and confidential
- Tell them how much tax return the church got last year
- Higher rate tax payers get additional tax relief when they declare it on their self assessment.

Pastoral issues

- Ensure you listen carefully
- Seek permission to pass the issue onto the appropriate person- usually the vicar
- Offer to pray about it

Giving in Grace

Jesus sent them out....

Will you respond to this call?

Remember not silver tongues but hearts of gold, willing to give time graciously to help others to give in grace