



The Commissioning Service for Visitors

OBJECTIVE

- To prepare those doing the visiting for this ministry as part of Giving in Grace.
- To reinforce amongst the congregation to the spiritual nature of Giving in Grace
- To prepare the congregation to receive a visit in the near future.

METHOD

1. Visitors are commissioned in the normal Sunday Service, on the Sunday before they are asked to start visiting.
2. Commissioning takes place often after the sermon or at some other suitable place during the service.
3. Wording can be as follows or similar:-

ORDER OF COMMISSIONING

The Visitors assemble before the Minister who first addresses the congregation:

Those members of our church family who are to be commissioned as Parish Stewardship Visitors will call on you at home in order to invite you to think afresh about your personal discipleship and your financial support for the work of the Church in this place. As they are sent out to undertake this ministry, which is a part of their own Stewardship response, will you support them with your prayers, and make them welcome when they visit your homes?

The congregation will reply: **WE WILL, WITH GOD'S HELP**

The Minister then addresses the Visitors

The task which you are to undertake in visiting the homes of your fellow Christians, who share with you the life of the people of God in this place, is a ministry of the Church, and a trust from God. You are to help people to see afresh their own value in the sight of God and in the life of the Church, and their duty to respond, as far as they are able, to the providence and abundant love of God with the gifts that God has given them. Will you do this task prayerfully, sensitively and joyfully, in Christ's name,

The Visitors reply: **WE WILL, WITH GOD'S HELP**

The Minister then commissions the visitors with these words

I commission you in the name of Jesus Christ. May he bless you and your work.

The Visitors then return to their places.