

Helping churches respond to their greatest missed opportunity



Beyond our churches, almost 3 million people are open to being invited. Ready to receive an invitation to church or a suitable event.

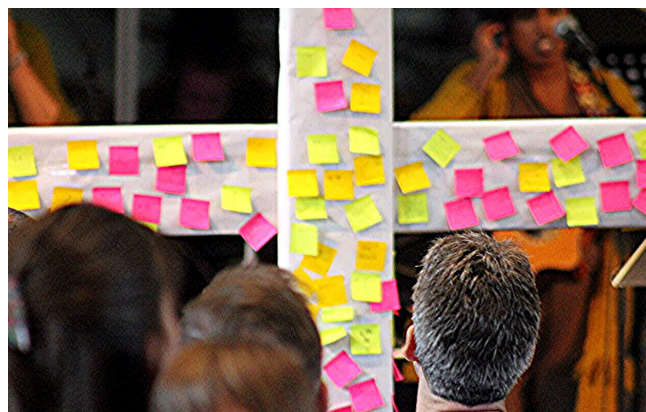
This is the reason for the National Weekend of Invitation -

- To equip church members to face their fear of inviting – and so grow as disciples of Jesus
- To offer a united and strategic opportunity to invite – from a guest service or something more ambitious

When is the National Weekend of Invitation?

The weekend of **Friday 15th to Sunday 17th June** comes strategically after Thy Kingdom Come, the Archbishop's season of Pentecost prayer and its focus on evangelism. It is also at the heart of the HOPE 2018 season of mission.

For a suggested timetable leading up to the Weekend see weekendofinvitation.com/timetable



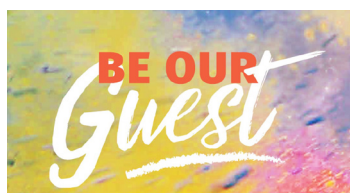
How do churches get ready?

Plan an event

This can be anything from simply a guest service on the Sunday, which is Father's day, to a special event on the Friday or Saturday.

A list of ideas and possible contributors is at weekendofinvitation.com/guestevents

A range of publicity on the theme 'Be Our Guest' can be seen at weekendofinvitation.com/publicity



Prepare your people

The barrier to inviting is fear – fear of rejection, of getting it wrong, of failure. Our resources help Christians grow as disciples by facing their fear and thinking differently about invitation and what 'success' means. See weekendofinvitation.com/thebarrierfear

The preparation climax is an activity in the context of worship – an Invitation Cross Sunday.

See weekendofinvitation.com/cross

Details of the preparation options, including a visit to your church and webinars, are at weekendofinvitation.com/training

weekendofinvitation.com

National Weekend of Invitation, PO Box 748, Oldham, OL1 9QE

0845 859 0006 | info@weekendofinvitation.com



How to run your Inviter Sunday

An Inviter Sunday follows your Invitation Cross Sunday and is a vital component in helping people become inviters.

Use the opportunity to emphasise the three different ways to think in the context of invitation -

- That success is just making the invitation – leaving the ‘yes’ or ‘no’ to God
- That the Inviter is as important as the person being invited
- That God is leading mission – demonstrated by the way he has prompted so many to invite

There is more on this at www.weekendofinvitation.com/the-opportunity/a-new-mind-set

During the week look out for stories of those who have invited people and got a yes or a no. Affirm them for their step of faith and ask to interview them in front of the congregation. The aim is for three or four people.

Before the interviews, it might help for you to tell your own story of success in making an invitation, the outcome to it and what the experience meant to you personally.

During the interviews ask each one the following questions -

- How did it go?
- How did you experience God during the process?
- What might God be doing with the person you invited?
- What have you learned from this?

In asking the questions you are demonstrating how to be interested in the inviter

Now ask people to turn to those around them and share how their invitation went – or where they are up to with making it. After a few minutes ask them to pray for each other and those invited.

Give people the opportunity for to share anything that has been a special encouragement to them from what they have just heard shared.

Pray, thanking God for what he is doing in the lives of those in the church, for those who have received an invitation and for those invitations still to be made.