



More than just a day

We're sure you will find that your Disability Sunday opens new doors for your church and inspires people to reflect God's heart for disabled people all the more, so you won't want to limit yourself to just one Disability Sunday.

Here are four things you can do

as individuals and as a church community:

1. PRAY.

Ask God for opportunities to use the gifts and talents He has given you to make a real difference in the lives of disabled people.

2. BECOME A DISABILITY CHAMPION

Find out about opportunities to volunteer and support the work of disability charities in your area. Take practical steps to make disabled people feel welcome and included in every area of church life by developing your own disability ministry.

Disability Sunday will very likely have uncovered new areas for ministry and people will have stepped forward. There are further resources and training you can obtain from various Christian disability organisations, to help you develop your ministry. Details are given at the end of this document.

3. GIVE.

There are many simple, practical 'things we can do' to raise money for various disability charities such as organising a collection, sponsored activities, selling Christmas cards, carol singing or holding a special service.

4. KEEP DOING IT

Make Disability Sunday an annual event and broaden the theme to include a variety of ways in which God works through pain, suffering and brokenness.



Disability Sunday Resource Pack

Further Specialist resources

(Please obtain resources from the individual organisations at the contact addresses given at the end of this pack. Online versions of this document contain direct links to websites: just click on the title.)

Through the Roof www.throughtheroof.org

Hearts in Motion – a six lesson Bible study exploring disability from a Biblical perspective.

Be a Roofbreaker – Equipping churches to become welcoming places for all.

Come In – Making your church buildings accessible to disabled people.

Removing Barriers – a self-assessment resource to see how inclusive your activities are.

All Welcome – Best practice guide to include disabled people in the life of the church.

Guidelines for stewards/welcomers are double-sided, playing card-sized, laminated cards that give the key principles of inclusion in bullet-point format.

Integr8 disability youth programme providing free web resources, training, mentoring, and mission trips

When God Weeps by Joni Eareckson Tada, a book on pain and suffering.

Depressed or Possessed by Joe Hayes – a book recognising and responding to mental illness.

Shattered Temples DVD – personal stories of young disabled people

Causeway Prospects www.prospects.org.uk

One Big Family is a resource churches can use to promote awareness and action that will benefit people with learning disabilities and their families.

Worship CDs and other resources, featuring original songs with simple lyrics.

DVD with Causeway songs and Makaton signing.

Remembering God's Love - understanding the service of Holy Communion.

Easy to understand **Bible Reading Notes**, available both in written and audio (CD) format, to help people with learning disabilities grow individually in faith.

A member of our mission development team will be happy to visit and talk to you about training, resource materials and the affiliation partnership programme.

Torch Trust www.torchtrust.org

A clearer Vision. A booklet about including blind and partially sighted people in the life of the church. Available in print, giant print and Braille



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Livability www.livability.org.uk

Things I can do. Free resource pack with ideas for disability-focussed services and activities.

Life to the Full. Ten things your church can do to involve disabled people.

Just People? An interactive six-week course looking at compassion, justice, and how your church can effect change.

The Community Mission Team can run training courses and retreats to motivate congregations to become active in outreach and social involvement.

Go Sign www.gosign.org.uk

Sign Me In! A policy for including deaf people in the life of the church.

Christian Signs. Booklet and DVD on British Sign Language Resources. This includes people giving their testimony in sign language, as well as a video clips of Christian vocabulary translated into BSL (also available online at www.christiansigns.co.uk)

Mind and Soul www.mindandsoul.info

UK Directory of Christian Counselling and Care compiled by the Association of Christian Counsellors for Premier Lifeline, this is an invaluable resource for finding trusted and reliable Christian counselling and care wherever you are in the UK.

Open Ears www.openears.org.uk

Advice about inclusion of hard of hearing and deafened people in church life. Contact Open Ears on 01425 615215 or admin@openears.org.uk

ASNA www.asna.info

Making the Gospel accessible. A practical training guide and resource manual for Special Needs Coordinators within the British Union of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. (Applicable to all churches) also available online at www.asna.info or send email to info@asna.info

ASNA Connect breaks. Short breaks for families, young carers and carers

ASNA Asign. Information, signposting, advice and resources

ASNA Enabling Access. Disability training for volunteers and church leaders

Other

Guidelines for producing print material suitable for people with all levels of sight are available in the "See it Right" book and CD-Rom produced by the **RNIB**. Contact the RNIB on 0845 702 3153 or see their website: www.rnib.org

Information about website accessibility is available on the **RNIB** website. The **Web Access Centre** is located under "Good Design".

Equal Sign is a translation service from English text to British Sign Language (BSL) on video. www.equalsign.co.uk

Signs of God offer advice about booking and using BSL (British Sign Language) interpreters - see their website: www.signsofgod.org.uk



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Who is Churches for All ?

[Churches for All](http://www.churchesforall.org.uk) (www.churchesforall.org.uk) is a partnership of UK Christian disability organisations. The partners have a breadth of experience and depth of knowledge on disability issues - challenging and enabling churches to include disabled people fully.

Our aim is to help churches create and sustain an environment where disabled people can participate fully in church life for the benefit of all. Disabled people are involved in the leadership of Churches for All and many of its partner organisations. Together, we strive to equip churches to reach towards their full potential by truly including disabled people

The Churches for All Partners

 <p>Prospects for People with Learning Disabilities</p> <p>A full life in Christ for people with learning disabilities. Tel: 0118 951 6978 www.prospects.org.uk</p>	 <p>Torch Trust for the Blind</p> <p>Christian resources and activities for blind and partially sighted people worldwide. Tel: 01858 438 260 www.torchtrust.org</p>
 <p>GO! Sign Christ in the Deaf Community</p> <p>Supporting and enabling deaf Christians through networking, equipping, teaching and outreach. Tel: 01702 613 113 www.deafchristian.org.uk</p>	 <p>Livability</p> <p>The new name of Grooms-Shaftesbury. Providing care, education, rehabilitation and holidays for disabled people. Tel: 020 7452 2000 www.livability.org.uk</p>
 <p>Through the Roof</p> <p>Good News to all disabled people and those involved with their lives. Tel: 01372 749955 www.throughtheroof.org</p>	 <p>Open Ears</p> <p>Fellowship for non-signing hard of hearing Christians. Tel: 01425 615 215 www.openears.org.uk</p>
<p>Mind & Soul</p>  <p>Exploring Christianity and mental health. Telephone contact through Premier Lifeline: 0845 345 0707 www.mindandsoul.info</p>	<p>ASNA (Associate Member)</p>  <p>ASNA Supporting the spiritual, social, emotional and physical needs of people living with disabilities. Tel: 01491 821103 / 01491 821104 www.asna.info</p>