

I ask that your minds may be opened to see his light, so that you will know what is the hope to which he has called you, how rich are the wonderful blessings he promises his people.

## Paul's prayer

Ephesians 1:18 GNT

## How can the church help?

OPEN's resources equip church leaders and others to respond appropriately to those affected by abortion.

Healing weekend retreats are offered throughout the UK. Details can be found on the website.

## What do people say?

You obviously really understand the dilemmas that church leaders face.

**Manager of a Pregnancy Advice Centre**

The lectures opened my eyes and made me more aware of the need to help men and women through this healing process.

**Abigail, Theological College Student**

You touched many lives because it was so honest, earthed in the real world of human dilemma and need.

**Russ, Church Leader**

I left the weekend feeling hopeful and excited about the future.

**Helen, after an OPEN post abortion healing retreat weekend**

We are pleased to be discussing these kinds of issues and your heart and approach made this possible. We look forward to partnering together in training and awareness and enabling men and women to find freedom and wholeness.

**Paul, Church Leader, after a Connect Leaders training session**



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An initiative of



OPEN is an initiative of CARE. It aims to create an environment within churches where unintended pregnancy and post abortion concerns can be shared with grace and compassionate understanding.

## Why such a ministry now?

One in three women in the UK will have had an abortion by the time they are 45. Inevitably, this will therefore be a part of the story for many in our churches.

Some women and their partners may have come to terms with their experience of abortion, but others still feel deeply affected, even if they felt it was the right decision at the time.

Many people might hesitate to tell people at church about their abortion, in case their response is unsympathetic or judgemental. This means they are left to deal with the hurt and pain on their own.

## What does OPEN provide?

- Training for church leaders to address this sensitive subject
- Lectures for those studying in theological colleges
- Seminars at Christian events
- Speakers who can open up the conversation in church congregations
- Post-abortion recovery weekend retreats

“One of the greatest pastoral challenges in the church today is how we support women who have to deal with the pain of an abortion. This ministry brings tenderness, truth and hope to those who are dealing with this experience.

OPEN can help local churches and individual women to find a pathway of healing in the midst of unspoken but deeply-felt loss.”

**Rev Malcolm Duncan**

Senior Pastor, Dundonald Elim Church, Belfast



## A word from Jenny...

For over 20 years I have been involved with those affected by unintended pregnancy and post abortion concerns. It is a huge privilege to bring the message of OPEN to churches and the wider community.

**Jenny Baines**  
Consultant for OPEN



Find out more at: [weareopen.org.uk](http://weareopen.org.uk)