



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 reach out to people with authentic sensitivity and compassion, unlocking pathways to healing and restoration. Thank you for the lives you have touched. You are making a difference to so many.

Mark, Senior Church Leader, Sleaford

We are pleased to be discussing these kinds of issues and your heart and approach made this possible.

Paul, Church Leader, Lincoln, after a pastoral workers training.

'...it has been so healing and allowed me to be vulnerable and authentic, so God could come and nestle closer to my heart. Thank you for holding this course, which has supported me on my journey ...I feel very blessed and grateful.'

'I felt loved, accepted, cherished and nurtured throughout the weekend. It was a safe place...to move forward into deeper healing and freedom. Thank you!'

Two ladies after an OPEN post abortion healing retreat weekend.



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE



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A pastoral response to abortion

OPEN is an initiative of CARE.

It aims to create an environment within churches where crisis 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?

- 1 In person and online training for church leaders to address this sensitive subject.
- 2 Lectures for those studying in theological colleges.
- 3 Seminars at Christian events.
- 4 Speakers who can open up the conversation in church congregations.
- 5 Post-abortion recovery weekend retreats.

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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

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For over 30 years I have been involved with those affected by crisis pregnancy and post abortion concerns. It is a huge privilege to bring the message of OPEN to churches and the wider community.

Jenny Baines
UK/Overseas Consultant
for OPEN



I am so delighted to be sharing this ministry in Northern Ireland.

Rebecca Richards
Northern Ireland Consultant
for OPEN



Find out more at: weareopen.org.uk