

Prayer Team Golden Rules

Thank you for becoming a member of the BAUC Prayer Team and for undertaking prayer ministry training. In order that we protect people, care for them and minister to them it is important that we understand our role and apply these simple courtesy 'golden rules' to safeguard them and you.

- 1 We are people who pray for others, we are not counsellors or therapists
- 2 We should make people feel welcome and comfortable by asking their name and their need, we should limit our questioning to the minimum to determine the specific prayer need, reassuring that what they share is held in confidence*
- 3 We acknowledge that God is the one who heals and answers prayer; we recognise that we are only a conduit for His blessing
- 4 We react calmly even if a person's story is disturbing and will ask others of the team to assist if we feel out of our depth
- 5 We ask permission to touch someone (laying on hands) and it is always a light and appropriate touch (normally, shoulder, hands or head).
- 6 We should take care to pray for people in pairs rather than on our own. If we pray 1:1 it is best to ask if the person would be more comfortable with someone of the same sex praying for them?
- 7 If we suspect a person requesting prayer is under 18yo we should first confirm this and then ask for another person to pray with you, if possible someone involved in Young Church ministry
- 8 We should keep our eyes open to see how they are reacting and to respond appropriately.
- 9 We should feel able to ask how they are feeling and if they feel God is saying anything to them
- 10 We should expect God will sometime give us a word or picture for the person we are praying for. We should be sure it is in line with scripture and give it sensitively. (I feel God is saying.... or, has shown me..... etc).
- 11 We should encourage people to come back if they need more prayer
- 12 We should not give people our contact details or continue ministry out of the church setting. We do have a Pastoral Team who are able to follow up.

Finally, the Leaders are there to back you up and to help you handle any concerns that you may have resulting from your ministry session. Do feel free to discuss anything that concerns you without feeling you are undermining confidentiality.

Trevor Atkinson (On behalf of BAUC Leaders)

* Confidentiality only applies if the matter the person shares does not include a disclosure of an offence in law