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### A Ministry to the Forgotten Ones

# **Visiting the Housebound**





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### Who are the Housebound?

The housebound are current members of our Church Family who cannot leave their houses to attend worship with the rest of the family. They might be fully unable to go out and about, be partly unable, or temporarily unable. Though they may be out of sight, they are not out of mind and are still part of our family.

#### What can We do?

We can bring a touch of family life to them in their homes and make them feel loved and remembered. We can keep them connected and involved and help them remain a vital part of our Church Family.

#### What are the Rewards?

The rewards are the same as in any growing friendship - and in offering love you may find that you are loved more in return. Another big reward comes from knowing and sensing that the Lord is using you in an important task.

### What are some Considerations?

Perhaps the most important consideration is to be sensitive to those you visit. Due to potential age and health problems, the person or persons you are visiting might tire easily, have fluctuating moods, have a failing memory and may have diminished hearing. Depending on the situation, it might be better for one person or better for two people to make the visits and, of course, if the housebound saint is single the visitor must be gender appropriate.

Communication is vital to any ministry, so keep in touch with the coordinator about any needs, problems or changes with you and/or the person you are visiting.

#### Resources

# **Community Bible Church Office**

541-664-5576

info@communitybible.us

**Bob Rolls - Housebound Ministries Coordinator** 

541-772-9924

boblen777@yahoo.com

Norm Heyden - Deacon of Family Care Ministries

541-665-2996

normheyden@gmial.com

Pastor Dale Bitterling - CBC Executive Pastor

541-664-5576

dalebitterling@communitybible.us

**Dr. Russ Kooy** - SOS Coordinator

541-899-5739

rgkbiz@hotmail.com

# **Background Check Authorization**

I am authorizing Community Bible Church of Central Point to conduct a full background check, which may include a full criminal records check and a sex offender background search. I understand that Community Bible Church will receive and keep on file a report that may contain information about my driving history; including any traffic citations, a social security number verification, present and former addresses, criminal and civil history records, as well as state and national sex offender records.

I understand the information on this authorization and any information discovered in the background check will be kept confidential and only shared with those individuals who need the information for official reasons.

I understand that I am entitled to a complete copy of any background information of which I am the subject upon my request to Community Bible Church, if such a request is made within a reasonable time from the date it was produced. I also understand that I may receive a written summary of my rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

Full Legal Name:	
Signature:	
Date:	
Date of Birth:	
SSN:	
This portion will be cut off and shredded upon completion	n.

### What is Expected of Me?

Once you are paired with a Housebound individual or couple, you will be asked to get to know them and build a relationship with them by committing to the following:

- Attend Visitor Training workshops
- Visit at least every other week
- Celebrate their birthday and other significant dates (anniversaries, late spouses birthday, etc.)
- Include them in holiday celebrations and remembrances
- Keep them updated with church happenings
- Pray with them

### What is Not Expected of Me?

Housebound people have a variety of needs and we recognize our visitors will not be able to meet all of them. You may be asked to do a variety of things you do not feel able or comfortable to do. These might include things like:

- Housecleaning
- Home repairs
- ♦ Yard work
- Transportation to appointments
- Assisting with hygiene needs

Our goal is to provide companionship and fellowship. There are other ministries and resources to take care of some of these other needs they may have.

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### **Rules & Guidelines**

- Arrange your visits in advance and confirm your visit before you arrive. Many of our Housebound have memory issues and this confirmation is vital.
- Communicate with Bob, the Housebound Ministry Coordinator, if you have any issues, questions or cannot make one of your visits.
- Plan to spend 45 minutes on your visits. You do not want the visit to feel rushed nor do you want to stay too long.
- Plan to bring a Church bulletin with you from the last church service as well as any other items that might be of interest.
- Be patient and understanding on your visits. Many of our Housebound have a variety of issues that can lead to confusion, forgetfulness, and embarrassment. Our job is to love them.
- Be very careful accepting gifts, especially those of monetary value. We want to allow them to love you back but we need to respect their situation and family as well.
- Do not solicit from the Housebound. This would include youth fundraising events.
- If you are asked to help with a household chore, a repair project, provide transportation or other assistance, you are welcome to do so if you feel comfortable and able, but that is above and beyond the purpose and scope of this ministry.

# I would like to become a Visitor

Your Name:	
Contact Phone:	
Street Address:	
City:	
Email:	
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Please list any health concerns or other information we should know before we pair you up with a Housebound.