TRAINING SESSION #2: HOME VISITS

SECTION 1: WHO YOU ARE

- You are just a signpost helping someone identify the following:
 - Where they are on the journey i.e. have they made a commitment, do they understand or are they simply exploring?
 - Where they are journeying on to (i.e. a discipleship group (Just the Beginning), church unit or exploratory group such as Christianity Explored or Simply Jesus).
- When you leave the visit you are also free from any further responsibility to that person. If you have done your job you will have pointed them towards the next stage.

SECTION 2: HOW YOU ARE TO BE

- Everything outlined on previous hand-out re appropriate behaviour for prayer ministry and response team is also relevant to home visiting.
- You are NOT called to get overly involved or to try to 'fix' the person; Jesus is the one who does
 that. You are simply there to point them towards the first stage of learning to follow Jesus for
 themselves.

SECTION 3: WHAT YOU ARE TO DO

- 1. From Mon 30th June Sarah W will assign you one or more home visits. The number given will depend upon two unknown variables 1) the number requesting home visits and 2) the number of members of the visitation team.
- 2. Visits will be gender-appropriate although married couples can visit either sex when visiting as a pair.
- 3. Once you know who you will be visiting then please use the following procedure:
 - a. Set up the meeting:
 - i. Make phone or email contact to arrange a convenient time to call. If you have to leave a message then you need to decide if you are happy to release your contact details.
 - ii. Please do NOT cold call for the following reasons:
 - 1) It is not courteous.
 - 2) The person may work shifts and therefore could be asleep when you call.
 - 3) It allows you not to waste time.

- 4) It relieves any 'felt pressure' or awkwardness e.g. if the person still has to tell their partner about what has happened and you go storming in!
- 5) The person may have cooled off.
- iii. If your own work pattern does not enable you to connect easily with the respondee at a time when they're available then quickly return the card to Sarah who will ensure it is passed onto someone else.

4. The visit:

- a. Introduce yourself.
- b. Talk to the person; LISTEN to what they say.
 - i. Why did they come forward?
 - ii. Did they make a commitment? If so, do they understand it?
- c. If (ii) then:
 - i. RE-AFFIRM the gospel message and their commitment using Appendix A in *Just the Beginning*. They will already have a copy of this.
 - ii. Give them a Bible.
 - iii. Give them a list of follow up options. Explain these options where applicable.
 - iv. Pray for them as appropriate e.g.
 - 1) Affirm that God loves them.
 - 2) Pray releasing the presence of God's Kingdom.
 - 3) Command a healing in Jesus' name.
 - 4) Ask the Holy Spirit to fill them.
 - 5) Pray for God's love and peace to be experienced and received.
 - 6) Pray a blessing.
- d. If they don't know why they came forward or just wanted prayer then:
 - i. Keep listening to the Holy Spirit.
 - ii. Lead them to the Lord (if the door opens to do this).
 - iii. Answer their questions. If you do not readily know the answer to a question then explain this honestly, say you'll research the answer and GET BACK TO THEM.
 - iv. Pray as per (iv) above.