# Reaching out: Why and how

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# **Reaching out: Why?**

- > 11.9 million older people in the UK
- Over 5 million older people say that the TV or their pet is their main company
- > Over 1.2 million older people always/often feel lonely
- > 41% of older people feel out of touch with the pace of modern life

'For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life'. John 3:16

"...they will flourish in the courts of our God. They will still bear fruit in old age; they will stay fresh and green...' Psalm 92: 13-14





## Why?

# The Telegraph

#### Family breakdown is at the root of so many of Britain's biggest problems

It is an issue at the centre of many of Britain's greatest problems. For example, around half a million elderly people aged over 75 are likely to have been on their own on Christmas Day, yet research from the Centre for Social Justice suggests two fifths of them will have had family living in the UK.

They point to the role family breakdown plays in loneliness among the elderly: increasing number of divorcees arriving at retirement age and higher numbers of adult children estranged from their ageing parents.









# Why?

Gen. 1:26-27 *Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us.* 



Ps. 68:5-6 ...*God places the lonely in families* 



HEARING · BECOMING · SERVING

Is. 47:6 *But you, Babylon, oppressed even the elderly* 

Micah 6:8 *Do justice, love kindness walk humbly with your God* 







### **Asset Based Community Development**























Faith in Later Life































cherish the person — change the community



#### Info on befriending:

Befriending Network Linking Lives

Faith in Later Life













## **Asset Based Community Development**







## Put simply....

- It's not rocket science it's relationship
- Keep Christ central
- Keep prayer hot
- Have fun!





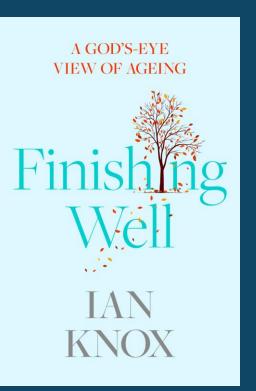
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# Resources





Burnemouth Bournemouth Bournemouth Bournemouth Social Work and Professional Practice

Faith in Later Life

Guidance for Christian faith organisations in the support and value of older people



Faith in Later Life

#### www.faithinlaterlife.org



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