

The Safeguarding Prayer

(Written by Commissioner Keith Banks)

Loving God,

We share our world with over eight billion people – that's a number to challenge the mind and is so hard to grasp. Yet your Word teaches us that you care for every single one, and Jesus tells us you care so deeply that even the hairs on our head are numbered. It is hard to comprehend, yet we believe it is true.

We know that as followers of Jesus, you want us to care for people like you do. You need us to be agents of care to those with whom we interact at home, at work and at church – everywhere. It's not humanly possible for us to care for billions like you do, God, and we know you understand that, but we know you want us to care for those people we meet regularly and often, and to act responsibly towards them.

So dear God, help us to create a climate of care through our actions and interactions with our fellow human beings – those we meet often and those we hardly know; children and adults of every age and culture, the vulnerable, the lonely, those who feel excluded, and marginalised. May we not only care for them, but also lovingly and intentionally watch over their safety. Guide us and help us to act responsibly as their guard and protector.

Dear God, your Word teaches us that all are precious in your sight. Everyone is precious to you. Mould our hearts so that all are precious to us too.

In Jesus' name, and for his sake, we pray. Amen

