

April 2026

## Worry



**“Worrying is carrying tomorrow’s load with today’s strength – carrying two days at once. It is moving into tomorrow ahead of time. Worrying doesn’t empty tomorrow of its sorrow. It empties today of its strength.”** Corrie ten Boom

## Dear Friends,

Corrie ten Boom was a Dutch Christian who, with her family, sheltered many Jews from the Nazis during the Second World War. She was eventually caught and imprisoned. In her book, *The Hiding Place*, which was published some 25 years later, Corrie tells her gripping story and reflects on the challenges of living the Christian life under extreme pressure.

Everyone experiences pressure at times: work-related, relationships, budgeting, 'so much to do and too little time to do it'. We worry about our families, our health or that of others, about money, the world and the future. They may be caused by uncertainty, anxiety or fear. Those concerns may be well-founded, but it is easy to let our imagination spiral out of control. Each person experiences worry differently, but it is what we do with our worries that is important. “Don't worry,” is easy to say but harder to put into practice. Let us look for ways to support our family and friends who may be going through stressful periods. A kindly word, a gift of flowers or chocolate, a meal or a greetings card serve to demonstrate love and care.

Especially as Easter approaches, we think of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, praying earnestly that his Father would remove the cup of suffering. This was more than worry. He was in severe distress about events that were soon to take place. He chose the company of his closest friends, Peter, James and John but, despite their desire to stand by Jesus, they could not stay awake to support him in his torment. Jesus did not escape the suffering that followed and we thank him for going to the cross to bear our sins and sorrows. We are forgiven people! Jesus carries our worries and cares if we would only give them to him and not cling onto them ourselves.

**“Turn all your worries over to him. He cares about you.”** 1 Peter 5:7 (NirV)

As Corrie ten Boom so wisely explained, there is no point wasting today's energy with worrying about what tomorrow may bring. We can't change the future, but we can walk into tomorrow with our hand in that of Jesus.

**“So don't worry about tomorrow. Tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”** Matthew 6:34

God is faithful and will not let us down. Let's pray for one another and show God's love and care in practical ways too.

Easter blessings,

Christine

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**Welcome** to any new readers who have joined us recently. Thank you for your interest, support and prayer. If at any time you wish to unsubscribe from our mailing list, please drop us a line – no hard feelings because we know how quickly our email Inboxes fill up!



## How to Count Everyone In seminar

### Brand new for 2026!

We will be launching different one-hour online seminars throughout the year to reach and engage with more churches, church leaders, and Christians who would like to know more about sharing the Gospel with people with learning disabilities, but don't quite know where to start.

We are excited to announce the first of these seminars, 'How to Count Everyone In'. We recognise that most of our Newsletter readers know how important it is that the local church is accessible for adults with learning disabilities. But sadly, too many churches are not yet accessible for people with learning disabilities. And many Christians haven't really considered the need for an accessible church either.

In this seminar we will take a brief look at what a learning disability is and why it is important that people with learning disabilities do not miss out on Jesus. This seminar is a space to ask questions and to start your journey towards an accessible church.

This seminar may therefore not be for you, but perhaps there is someone in your church who might benefit from attending. Please share the link.

How to Count Everyone In Seminar - Monday 20th April - 7-8pm on Zoom  
Book your place here:

**[CEI Online Seminar - How to Count Everyone In \(20-Apr-2026\) · CharitySuite Events](#)**

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### Here is a reminder of the Know and Grow Workshops that we offer at present:

**Know & Grow Longing to Belong (in-person)** – an introduction to learning disability, theology, communication and how the church can respond

**Know & Grow Life Matters (in-person)** – supporting adults with learning disabilities as they face issues such as relationships, healing, mental health and bereavement

**Know & Grow Makaton (in-person and online)** – learn to sign everyday and Christian vocabulary at the only workshop for Christian language that is accredited by The Makaton Charity (TMC). This workshop was developed by Janneke Klos in partnership with TMC.

Would you and your church be interested in hosting any of these workshops?  
email: [bookings@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:bookings@counteveryonein.org.uk)

## Book here:

Know and Grow Makaton in Reading - 18th April - [Know and Grow Makaton - Reading \(18-Apr-2026\)](#) · [CharitySuite Events](#)

'How to Count Everyone In' - 20th April - [CEI Online Seminar - How to Count Everyone In \(20-Apr-2026\)](#) · [CharitySuite Events](#)

Know and Grow Makaton (online) - 3 sessions: Wed 6th May, Wed 13th May & Wed 20th May - 6.30-9pm - [Know and Grow Makaton - Online \(06-May-2026\)](#) · [CharitySuite Events](#)

Know and Grow Longing to Belong - 9th May  
[Know and Grow Longing to Belong - Clevedon \(9-May-2026\) Charity Suite Events](#)

Know and Grow Makaton in King's Lynn (Terrington St Clement) - 27th June - [Know and Grow Makaton - King's Lynn \(27-Jun-2026\)](#) · [CharitySuite Events](#)

Know and Grow Life Matters in Melksham – 3<sup>rd</sup> October  
[Know and Grow Life Matters - Melksham \(03-Oct-2026\)](#) · [CharitySuite Events](#)

or [bookings@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:bookings@counteveryonein.org.uk)

## Being Friends

Count Everyone In – so that no one misses out on Jesus  
... and we need each other!

\* Email [pete@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:pete@counteveryonein.org.uk) if you, your group and/or church are interested in becoming Friends with Count Everyone In.

Pete will send you an information and application form telling you about the scheme. [Being a Friend also adds you to our monthly half hour prayer Zoom invitation list.](#)

Open to individuals, churches/groups. Further info from

[pete@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:pete@counteveryonein.org.uk)  
☎ 07711 869810

Friends with



## Thank you

Without you, your prayers, interest, time and financial support it would be hard for us to do what God has called us to do. Thank you for whatever part you play in supporting Count Everyone In. We don't receive any funding apart from that of individuals and churches, and no contribution is too small. Thank you too, to all our anonymous givers; you know who you are!

Donations to Count Everyone, regular or one-off, In may be made at <http://www.give.net/20280624> or directly into Metro Bank (business) account (Gift Aid form available on request)  
Sort code: 23 05 80 - Account no: 33248601



## Prayer



**Friends with Count Everyone In** Zoom prayer meetings continue on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and we will send out the Zoom Links in due course. Here are some prayer points in the meantime:

1. Spring Harvest is here! Pray for the CEI teams at Skegness (30<sup>th</sup> March – 3<sup>rd</sup> April) and Minehead (6<sup>th</sup> April – 10<sup>th</sup> April) and for the guests that they will meet with God through the CEI programme and the event as a whole
2. Prayer for the ongoing work and relationship with The Makaton Charity
3. Pray for those who teach about Easter, that everyone, including adults with learning disabilities, will grasp the truth that Jesus died for them and they can receive new life
4. Pray for all who hear about world events and are troubled
5. Prayer for Friends groups that are struggling with succession planning – we particularly pray for new (and younger) volunteers and leaders to help run the groups

### Regional prayer

This month we want to pray specifically for churches in the East of England, that they may recognise the importance of being welcoming and accessible for adults with learning disabilities and their families. We have few contacts here but there will be opportunities to make new links at Skegness. Thank God for every connection with individuals, churches and organisations in the region and pray that He might guide our conversations.

## Spring Harvest Holidays in partnership with CEI

### We're getting excited!!!

It was 20 years ago that Pete and Christine made their first visit to Le Pas Opton in the Vendée region of western France. Alongside Tony and Tua Phelps-Jones, they led the first LPO holiday for adults with learning disabilities, their families and support staff. Apart from the two Covid years, we have continued, with different team members, to run these holidays and here we are planning for June 2026, thrilled to be celebrating 20 years at LPO! We offer an accessible holiday that runs alongside the main programme, with worship, Bible teaching, art and craft, BBQs, beach and pool, fun and friendship. Will you join us?

When? 1-8 June 2026

If your group/ family includes an adult with a learning disability you can obtain a 15% discount by quoting EVERYONE when you phone **01825 748318** to make your booking. See also [www.springharvestholidays.com/everyone](http://www.springharvestholidays.com/everyone)

Contact [info@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveryonein.org.uk) or **07751 431277** to let us know you've booked so that we can write to you ahead of your holiday.



**20** years of  
holidays  
for adults with  
learning disabilities

## Resources

We now have copies of the newly reprinted **New Testament** and also **Psalms**, both **NiRV - Accessible Edition (softback)**. We also have the CEI Psalms Devotions which was commissioned by Biblica some years ago to be published at the same time as Psalms itself. It consists of 20 sessions, each focusing on one psalm and using illustrations from the Psalms publication. Now, at long last, we can offer you both.

Contact us today for your copies.

New Testament (soft back) - **£7.99 + p&p**

Psalms (soft back) - **£4.00 + p&p**

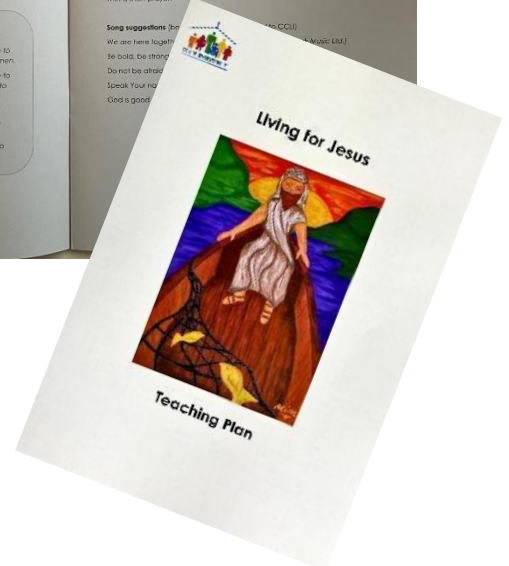
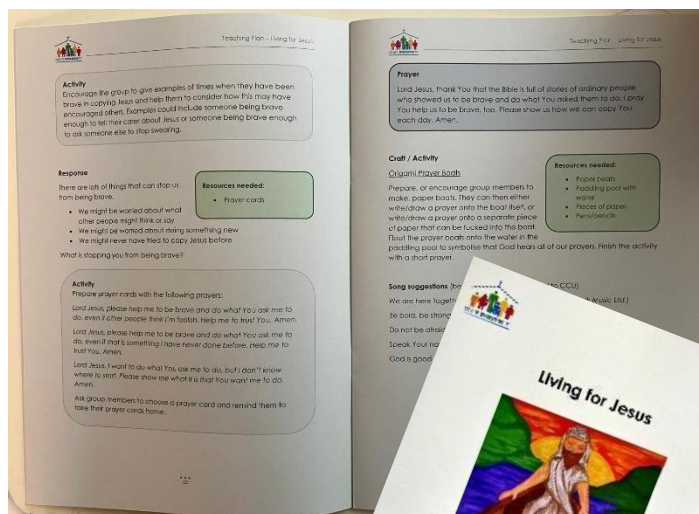
Psalms Devotions - **£4.50 + p&p**



**New resources:** Our latest teaching plan, 'Living for Jesus' is proving popular. It consists of five teaching sessions that explore what it's like to be a friend of Jesus, based on the life and experiences of Peter. Price: **£7.00 + p&p**

We are working on yet another teaching plan so watch out for that. Very soon we shall also have a Carers' Pack, to which many of you will have contributed. More on that next time!

**Other resources:** If you are interested in purchasing CEI branded t-shirts or full-zip hoodies, accessible Bible notes, our other teaching plans based on Joseph or Ruth, CEI badges, notebooks, pens, keyrings, ceramic mugs or travel mugs, please email [info@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveryonein.org.uk) for a full list.



**Diary dates** – please note that the CEI team normally meets on Thursdays

30 Mar – 3 Apr	Spring Harvest Skegness
6-10 Apr	Spring Harvest Minehead
15 Apr	Church is for All – meeting of Christian disability charity leaders
18 Apr	Know and Grow Makaton - Wycliffe Baptist Church, Reading
19 Apr	St Mary's, Eversley
20 Apr	'How to Count Everyone In' online seminar 7-8pm
22 Apr	Diocese of Exeter Disability Inclusion training
23 Apr	CEI Friends Prayer Zoom
25 Apr	Growing Hope - Faith & Healthcare conference, London NW3
26 Apr	Kenn Road Methodist Church, Clevedon
6 May	Know and Grow Makaton pt 1 - Online
9 May	Know and Grow Longing to Belong – Kenn Road Methodist Church, Clevedon
13 May	Know and Grow Makaton pt 2 - Online
16 May	Know and Grow Makaton workshop – Midsomer Norton (no spaces available)
17 May	Good News Church, Melksham
20 May	Know and Grow Makaton pt 3 - Online
23 May	Created to Belong Conference – Scotland
24 May	Stanley Road Baptist Church, Morecambe
28 May	CEI Friends Prayer Zoom
1-8 Jun	Spring Harvest Holidays – France (travel dates 30/31 May)
25 Jun	CEI Friends Prayer Zoom
27 Jun	Know and Grow Makaton – Terrington St Clement, King's Lynn
28 Jun	Holy Trinity, Redhill
4 Jul	CEI Trustees' Meeting
12 Jul	Christ Church, Guildford
20 - 24 Jul	Keswick Convention week 1- CEI Celebration programme
18 Jul-1 Aug	Keswick Convention weeks 1 & 2 - exhibition and Seminars

**GDPR** We hold your contact details for the purpose of sending you this newsletter at your own request. We also hold details of people who serve on CEI teams or attend training days. If you have any questions about this, or you wish to be removed from mailing lists etc, please let us know.

- **Give as You Live** is one way to donate to CEI at no extra cost to you  
– <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/>
- **CCLI** Don't forget to include 'Prospects' and 'Worship for Everyone' songs in your Church Copyright Licence (CCLI) reporting

**Social media** - See [www.counteveryonein.org.uk](http://www.counteveryonein.org.uk) and you can also keep up with us on Facebook, X & Instagram. **Please follow, like, comment and share so that more people find out about CEI.**

**Every blessing,**

*Pete, Christine and Janneke*

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Janneke: [janneke@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:janneke@counteveryonein.org.uk)

[www.youtube.com/c/counteveryonein](http://www.youtube.com/c/counteveryonein)

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