

# Homelessness.







You don't have to be living on the street to be homeless. You may be legally classed as homeless if you are sleeping on a friend's sofa, staying in a hostel, or suffering from overcrowding or other bad conditions.

Homelessness can often be avoided if you act quickly and get the right help. If you have nowhere to stay or to find a local advice centre where you can talk to someone in person. Alternatively, you can get a copy of a advice booklet, , which gives an introduction to your legal rights and the options you might have.



So what happens when all fails? You tried to get help and there's no hope.

Here is Rebecca's Story In her own words.

"Two things happened when I turned 12, my Father who used to beat the hell out of us left home and the other thing that happened is I started using drugs... One of my friends said 'Here try this it will make you feel better', and it did. When I turned 13, my Mum found a new partner who lived at home with us. He raped me regularly and abused my younger sisters as well. I was only 13.

The last time I tried to kill myself I only had a syringe to slash up with so I was hacking at myself trying to get myself bleeding properly. Then I sniffed paint until I blacked out.



Mick's story,

Rough sleeper Mick has been coming to the bus for a few years now, became a Christian and recently was confirmed by the Bishop of Chesterfield, Mick's new found – faith has helped him put his life back together- he now as a flat he can call home and his new friends on the project will continue to support him were possible

.  
If you would like to know more about Mick's story please ask.

# Church On The Bus

*."Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door. I will come in and eat with him, and he with me"*

*Revelation 3 verse 20*



Here are my directions : Pray much for others; plead God's mercy upon them; give thanks for all he is going to do for them.

1 Timothy 2: 1

# WWJD

What would Jesus do?

## Deuteronomy 15:10

So give freely to those who are **needy**. Open your hearts to them. Then the Lord your God will bless you in all of your work. He will bless you in everything you do.

## Proverbs 31:9

Speak up and judge fairly. Speak up for the rights of those who are poor and **needy**."

## Jeremiah 22:16

He stood up for those who were poor or **needy**. So everything went well with him. That is what it means to know me," announces the Lord.

## Jesus meets with everyone and anyone.

He met with those in Authority, he met with sinners, the poor and needy. He met with sick and elderly, a blind man, someone who was paralyzed. There wasn't a task Jesus couldn't deal with.

Jesus also performed many miracles. Jesus healed a man from leprosy. The problem was with leprosy it was feared and untreatable, therefore people were banished from their homes and the city. They were sent to live in a community with other lepers until they either got better or died.

Homelessness doesn't just happen. There are many reasons why it happens:

- Loss of job, falling into debt – Losing house.
- Drugs
- Alcohol
- Family split – Divorce
- Sexual abuse

## Luke 4:16-18

<sup>16</sup> Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. On the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue as he usually did. And he stood up to read.

<sup>17</sup> The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. He unrolled it and found the right place. There it is written,

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is on me.

He has anointed me

to tell the good news to poor people.

He has sent me to announce freedom for prisoners.

He has sent me so that the blind will see again.

He wants me to free those who are beaten down.

Why are you here?