

Christians called to extend hand of friendship.

After rise in religious hate crimes the Evangelical Alliance has called on Christians to make positive steps to reach out to Muslim and other faith communities in the wake of figures that show a six-fold increase in religious hate crimes in London since the bombings last summer.

Joel Edwards, General Director of the Evangelical Alliance, said, "Christian communities throughout Britain should show the love of God by extending the hand of friendship to those affected by the actions of extremists and suffering violence and intimidation as a result.

"We need to care beyond our creed and serve without compromising our faith. Secondly, hard though it is to face the fact that there are terrorists in our midst, our Christian faith requires us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us and I would emphasise this command at the present time."

The Evangelical Alliance does remain concerned however, that the Government may use the current climate as an excuse for rushing through the racial and religious hatred legislation. It remains firm in its conviction that such legislation could exacerbate religious tension and increase community division.

Learn to 'wait well' for things

'My future is in Your hands...'

In her great book, "When, God, When?" Joyce Meyer writes: "God has taught me to keep living the life I now have, while I am waiting for the things that are in my heart to come to pass. We can become so intent on trying to birth the next things that we neither enjoy nor take care of the things at hand. I had a vision from God ten years before I began to see it fulfilled. During those years, I believe I missed a lot of joy trying to give it birth outside of God's timing."

Learn to enjoy where you are, while you're waiting to get to where you want to be. After all, all your life you will spend more time waiting than you will receiving. And when you receive what you're waiting for now – you'll begin waiting for something else. That's life! If we don't learn to 'wait well', we'll live with endless frustration.

Waiting well is what will deliver our dream. Listen: "in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Gal. 6:9). "Due season" is when God knows we're ready, not when we think we are. He has set appointments to accomplish certain things in our life, so we might as well settle down and wait patiently, because that's when it will happen – and not before.

God knows what you need, he knows when you need it and he knows how to get it to you. All he asks you to do is trust him.

From UCB 'Word for Today'

Exercise daily - walk with the Lord.