

**Why plan a will?** Your will is one of the most significant documents you will ever have. Whatever your stage in life, it is important to have a will and to keep it up to date. Even if you think that your estate has little value, a will means that at your death your estate will be distributed to the people and organisations you care about, in line with your wishes.

It is important to know that marriage automatically revokes an existing will (unless it was drafted in contemplation of marriage) and parents of children under 18 years old should also use their wills to appoint Guardians for their children, should anything happen to both parents.

A gift to Baptists Together from your estate will have a lasting impact and will help Baptist churches to support and transform future generations. You can use your will to do something extraordinary!

We suggest you consider the following steps to make a will.

**1 Choose your Executor(s).** You can appoint up to four Executors who can be your spouse, family, friends or professional advisors. These individuals are named in your will and will be responsible for your estate and carrying out your instructions in the will. It is sensible to name at least two Executors in case one is unable to act when the time comes and it is advisable to discuss the appointment with them to ensure that they are happy to take on the role.

**2 Decide who will benefit from your will.** Naturally you may want to look after your family and loved ones first, but by also considering the work of Baptists Together your gift will continue to make a difference in people's lives, churches and communities. A gift can be any of the following:

- **A gift of a particular item**, eg a painting or jewellery
- **A sum of money** for example Mrs C left Baptists Together £10,000
- **A share of your residue** (which is your whole estate after the specific gifts have been distributed and debts paid)

**3 Write your will.** Baptists Together is a member of The National Free Wills Network which enables us to offer to pay for a limited number of 'simple' wills through participating solicitors. Whilst there's no obligation to include a bequest to us, we sincerely hope that you will be able to do so. The programme is for people aged 60 and over and includes mirror wills for husbands and wives.

**4 Store your will in a safe place**, perhaps with your Solicitor, and make sure that your Executors and family know where the original document is.

**5 Consider telling Baptists Together** your intentions to help us better plan our future support of churches and projects using the Legacy Pledge Form found on our website. Please visit [baptist.org.uk/legacy](http://baptist.org.uk/legacy)

