

Blackpool Blessing

This was originally written for morning prayers in the quiet space at Baptist Assembly when we visited Blackpool. Blackpool has a certain reputation and images of night-clubs, fish and chips, casinos and stag nights leapt to mind. Several weeks earlier we visited Blackpool for the day to gather images, sounds, smells, and generally get a feel for the area to give us ideas that we could use to inform our worship. When we made the effort to get to know Blackpool we were surprised to find much to give thanks for and discovered many unexpected places where we found God. This could be used in almost any seaside resort - just change the word "Blackpool" for your own choice of location.

May the blessing of the God of the shifting sea and sand
blow you out of your comfort zone to see new opportunities for living.

May the blessing of the son who walks the city's amusement arcades and night clubs
challenge you to see Christ in the unlikeliest of places.

May the blessing of the spirit who provides space for us to recharge our batteries
hold us safe and warm against the buffeting of an uncertain world.

And may the blessing of Blackpool go with us
as we seek to live out God's promise
now and into eternity.

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