

PRAYER WALKING



Prayer walking is best done in groups of two or three but can be done alone as well. In groups you have the added benefit of hearing how God speaks to others and it can deepen and broaden your own prayer life and ability to discern God's ways. If you are in a group you should pray aloud so others can agree with you in prayer. If you are by yourself you can pray silently except when praying for others in their presence.

There are four main ways to determine what to pray for when prayer walking:

1. Observation: Seeing a tricycle in a yard for example might prompt you to pray for children, for families, for schools, for transportation, etc. The idea is to let physical cues prompt us to see beyond to issues that are on God's heart.
2. Research: You might discover that there are specific pockets of crime, injustice or need in an area you are prayer walking. These issues can then direct your prayers.
3. Revelation: You may get a nudge or a picture from the Holy Spirit that guides you into a particular area of prayer.
4. Scripture: You may select a passage of Scripture ahead of time and allow the themes of that passage to suggest themes for prayer.

Pay particular attention to the following types of places that are "pressure points":

Government centers such as courthouses

Commercial centers such as shopping areas

Educational centers such as schools

Communication centers such as radio stations

Spiritual centers such as church buildings, mosques or temples

Look for opportunities and listen for promptings to pray for individuals or churches whom you encounter on your prayer walk. You can say, "I/we are praying for this community, is there anything in particular we can pray for you about?" Or you might say, "I/we are praying for this community. Do you know of anything in particular we should pray for?" After listening to their response you can ask about their own needs. After they share, pray for them right away. If the Lord leads, you may pray about other needs as well. You can use the following acrostic [BLESS] to guide you in doing so:

Body [health]

Labor [job and finances]

Emotional [morale]

Social [relationships]

Spiritual

In most cases, people are grateful for your concern. If the person is a non-Christian this often opens the door to a spiritual conversation and sometimes to an opportunity to share one's testimony and the gospel or an opportunity to offer the person a chance to be part of a Bible study or even better, to host one in their home. If the person is a Christian then you should invite them to join your prayer walk or equip them in some other aspect of discipleship.



PRACTICE: Go prayer walking in groups of 2 or 3.

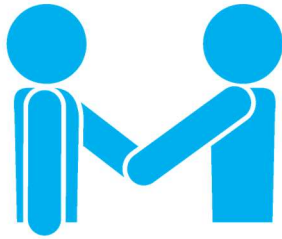
PERSONS OF PEACE

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES - Read Luke 10:1-11 [You can also read Matthew 10:5-14]

Characteristics of the person of peace:

Luke 10:

- V. 5 - opens his door to you
- V. 6 - receives your blessing and shows interest
- V. 7 - opens his house to you/hospitable
- V. 7 - offers to sustain you in some way



What the sent one does:

Luke 10:

- V. 1 - goes two by two
- V. 2 - prays for laborers
- V. 3 - goes with danger all around
- V. 4 - leaves behind bags
- V. 4 - does not waste time
- V. 5 - gives greeting
- V. 6 - if favorable response, gives blessing
- V. 7 - fellowships with them
- V. 9 - asks God for healing where needed
- V. 9 - ministers to them
- V. 9 - proclaims the words of the Kingdom
- V. 10 - if no response, announces protest, then leaves

FILTERS FOR THE PERSON OF PEACE

A person of peace will usually match at least one of these statements:

- ✓ Serves you
- ✓ Hosts you
- ✓ Attracted by your lifestyle
- ✓ Likes you
- ✓ Open to your message
- ✓ Mobilizes others

SUMMARY

- ✓ Pray for laborers; go where God sends you.
- ✓ Enter a place or area proclaiming the Kingdom. Do not waste time; inquire with discernment.
- ✓ Visit the person of peace candidate and engage them and their family if possible.
- ✓ Give greetings and ask spiritual interest questions.
- ✓ If there is a favorable response, give blessing and ask evangelistic questions.
- ✓ Spend time with the candidate and their family; fellowship with them and discern.
- ✓ Minister to them by sharing your testimony, the gospel and other Bible passages, etc...
- ✓ Always be bold and truthful.
- ✓ If there is no response, announce protest and then leave.



LOOK FOR PERSONS OF PEACE: Persons of peace are interested in spiritual things and open their home to you. They are willing to invite their friends and family to study the Bible and/or will let you use their home for a church gathering.



LOOK FOR GROUPS OF PEACE: Find groups that are already in existence and form them into churches. For example: sports groups, a men's or women's group, religious groups, etc...



PRACTICE: Look at your relational network list. Are there any persons of peace on it?

THE PRAYER CYCLE

This is a guided pattern for spending an hour in prayer. It is helpful to enable people to understand various aspects of prayer and to increase their capacity for prayer. The intention is to spend five minutes on each segment.

1. **Praise:** Start your prayer hour by praising the Lord. Praise Him for things that are on your mind right now. Praise Him for one special thing He has done in your life in the past week. Praise Him for His goodness to your family.
2. **Wait:** Spend this time waiting on the Lord. Be silent and let Him pull together reflections for you.
3. **Confess:** Ask the Holy Spirit to show you anything in your life that might be displeasing to Him. Ask Him to point out attitudes that are wrong, as well as specific acts for which you have not yet made a prayer of confession. Now confess that to the Lord so that you might be cleansed.
4. **Read the Word:** Spend time reading in the Psalms, in the prophets, and passages on prayer located in the New Testament.
5. **Ask:** Make general requests on behalf of yourself and others.
6. **Intercession:** Make specific requests on behalf of yourself and others.
7. **Pray the Word:** Pray specific passages. Scriptural prayers as well as a number of psalms lend themselves well to this purpose.
8. **Thank:** Give thanks to the Lord for the things in your life, on behalf of your family, and on behalf of your church.
9. **Sing:** Sing songs of praise or worship or a hymn or spiritual song.
10. **Meditate:** Ask the Lord to speak to you. Have a pen and paper ready to record impressions He gives you.
11. **Listen:** Spend time merging the things you have read, things you have prayed and things you have sung and see how the Lord brings them all together to speak to you.
12. **Praise:** Praise the Lord for the time you have had to spend with Him and the impressions He has given you. Praise Him for His glorious attributes.



PRACTICE: Spend an hour praying through the Prayer Cycle.