

PRAYER WALKING GUIDE

Purpose: To understand and begin practicing prayer in our lives

To pinpoint geographic locations where God is already active and pray on-site against the strongholds that prevent Him from changing people's lives

To spot the lost and pray for their salvation

Prayer Walks:

Makes us more aware of what is around us. Numbers 13

Helps us distinguish between good and evil

Helps us see prayer needs of the area on a more personal level

Preparation for Prayer Walks:

Reconcile relationships with others

Making certain relationships with God is right

Be open and ask God to give you His heart and eyes for the area

Have a plan before you begin walking:

Turn to the person next to you and discuss when the last time was that you knew someone was praying for you.

How did that make you feel?

Do you feel like the prayer was answered?

On an average day, what do you think about when you walk?

Map out the streets that you plan to walk and have a picture in your mind of the buildings or other objects that are along these streets.

Think of what specific things you can pray for each of these places.

Include praises to God.

Ask that God will use us as initiators of change in this community.

Give God praise for the beauty of the community

Think of specific verses of scripture that would be appropriate for the things you know are taking place on a given street.

How do you pray through a scripture verse?

It's time to hit the streets and **PRAY – EXPECT GOD TO UNLEASH HIS POWER AS YOU PRAY!**

Divide up into teams to pray

Debrief and talk about what God has shown you

Example of a Prayer Walking How to Guide:

(Taken from Lift L.A. prayer walking guide)

1. **Team:** Join one or two other believers to pray most effectively.
2. **Time:** Plan to spend no less than 30 minutes. An hour or more is best. You may choose to prayer-walk any number of days, and pray for any combination of topics listed.
3. **Topics:** Agree on a theme or a few scriptures that will help focus your praying.
4. **Territory:** Aim to cover a small area. Government centers, residential areas, markets, churches, embassies, mosques and or villages.
5. **Talk** about it: Afterwards, talk about your prater-walk. Did God impress you with certain needs, or lead you to further action? Establish plans for further prayer and action.

As you walk, let the...

- **Street signs and billboards** remind you to pray that people will see and understand the signs of our times, and seek God's direction for their lives.
- **Houses** remind you to pray for stable homes built on Christ.
- **Cars** remind you to pray against materialism and other cares of this world that choke out the Word of God.
- **Intersections** cause you to pray that God will bring turning points into people's lives.
- **Mosques** remind you to pray for the people and work of God; that the church will be a bright light and salty salt to those that serve a false god. Matt. 5:13-16
- **Government Buildings** prompt you to pray for uprightness and justice in government institutions, agencies, and officials.
- **Trees and Plants** remind you to pray that people will be rooted and built up in Christ, growing to maturity, and bearing fruit in every good work. Col. 1:10, 2:7
- **Gates** prompt you to pray for open doorways for the Gospel.
- **Pharmacies** prompt you to pray that people will seek God and ask Him to reveal Himself to them to heal them from the inside out.

Outing One –

Pray for the churches to be strengthened and revived. *“And God put all things in subjection under Christ’s feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church”* Eph. 1:22.

The Lord wants to express His authority and redemptive power through the Church. God loves to renew and awaken His people in the fresh vitality of His Spirit.

- Ask God to heal divisions.
- Ask God to let the work He wants to do begin in His people.
- Ask Him to lift His people in holiness, and to move His people into the world in His transforming love. Purity, passion, power, boldness and an understanding of the times are needed in the church.
- Pray especially for pastors to be refreshed in vision, faith, and love for the people they serve.

Outing two –

Pray for God’s greater glory to be revealed in our city. *“Our Father who is in heaven, sanctify your name!”* Matt. 6:9

- Ask God to reveal and distinguish Himself in honor.
- Pray that He will move in ways that reveal Jesus in the affairs of home, business and government.
- That God will be recognized precisely as he has revealed Himself in Christ.
- That Christ will be encountered, worshipped, honored and exalted.
- As you walk, praise God according to the scriptures for all you know Him to be. He deeply desires all *“to come to the knowledge of truth.”* I Tim. 2:4

Outing three-

Etc. The above two examples are suggestions that are to be used as a guide if you need one. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and that leader of the Prayer Walk Team.

How to Get Started Prayerwalking

- **Join with other believers.** Join your faith with others to help prayer flow in an engaging conversational style. Large groups sometimes fail to give everyone a chance to participate. Pairs and triplets work best.
- **Set aside time.** Allowing one or two full hours gives prayerwalkers a good chance to manage preliminaries and follow-up discussions, although much can be done in less time.
- **Choose an area.** Ask God to guide you. It's best by far to learn the joys of prayerwalking in unfamiliar neighborhoods. You'll return quickly to your own neighborhood with fresh vision. Centers of commerce and religion are fascinating, but there's nothing like touching families, schools and churches in residential areas. Use elevated points to pray over a panorama. Linger at specific sites which seem to be key.
- **Pray with insight.** Pray for the people you see. As you do, you might find the Spirit of God recalibrating your heart with his own sensitivities. Enhance these responsive insights with research done before hand. Use knowledge of past events and current trends to enrich intercession. Above all, pray Scripture. If you have no clear place to begin praying, select just about any of the biblical prayers and you will find that they almost pray themselves.
- **Focus on God.** Make God's promises rather than Satan's schemes the highlight of your prayer. Your discernment of evil powers may at times exceed God's specific guidance to engage them in direct combat. Consider the simplicity of first making direct appeal to the throne of God before attempting to pick street fights with demonic powers. Seek a restraining order from heaven upon evil so that God's empowered people may bring forth God's intended blessings on the city.
- **Regather and report.** Share what you have experienced and prayed. Expressing something of your insights and faith will encourage others-as well as yourself. Set plans for further prayerwalking.
- **Coordinate efforts.** Enlist other praying people to join with friends to cover special areas. Give leadership by forming and mixing prayer bands. Seek to collect written notes recording which areas have been covered and what kinds of prayers have been prayed. Pool your insights to ascertain whether God is prompting a repeated focus on particular areas. Eventually aim to cover your entire town or city, unless God guides otherwise.

Themes for Prayerwalking

Attempt to keep every prayer pertinent to the specific community you pass through. As you do, you will find prayers naturally progress to the nation and to the world.

Use a theme passage of Scripture. Unless God guides you to use another, try 1 Timothy 2:1-10. Many have found it to be a useful launching point for prayerwalking. Verse 8 speaks of the important territorial dimension to prayer connected with God's desire that all people be saved.

Copy this and other passages in a format easy to read aloud several times during your walk. Each of the following prayer points emerges from this passage.

- **Concerning Christ:** Proclaim him afresh to be the one Mediator and the ransom for all. Name him Lord of the neighborhood and of the lives you see.
- **Concerning leaders:** Pray for people responsible in any position of authority—for teachers, police, administrators and parents.
- **Concerning peace:** Cry out for the godliness and holiness of God's people increase to substantial peace. Pray for new churches to be established.
- **Concerning the truth:** Declare openly the bedrock reality that there is one God. Celebrate the faithful revelation of his truth to all peoples through ordinary people | Timothy 2:8. Pray that the eyes of minds would cease to be blinded by Satan so that they could come to knowledge of the truth.
- **Concerning the gospel:** Praise God for his heart's desire that all people be saved. Ask that heaven would designate this year as a "proper time" for the testimony of Christ to be given afresh with simple power | Timothy 2:6. Name specific people.
- **Concerning the blessing of God:** Thanksgivings are to be made on behalf of all people. Give God the explicit thanks he deserves for the goodness he constantly bestows on the homes you pass by. Ask to see the city with his eyes, that you might sense what is good and pleasing in his sight as well as what things grieve him deeply. Ask God to bring forth an enduring spiritual awakening.
- **Concerning the church:** Ask for healing in relationships, that there be no wrath or dissension among God's people. Ask that God would make his people, men and women alike, expressive in worship with the substance of radiant, relational holiness. Ask that our worship would be adorned with the confirming power of saints doing good in our communities.

(Excerpted from Prayerwalking by Steve Hawthorne and Graham Kendrick, Creation House, 1993)