

GUIDE TO PRAYER-WALKING

What is prayer walking? One simple definition: "Praying ON-SITE with INSIGHT." The purpose of prayer walking is to seek God's guidance, mercy, and transforming power—both for the people, the site, the community, and for us as God's servants in the community.

Guidelines for Prayer-Walking

1. Meet at an assigned time and start with group prayer.
2. Lay out the basic needs or purpose of the Prayer walk (Why was this site chosen?)
3. Plan to walk for about half to one hour depending on the location area. If anyone in your group is not comfortable with walking, they can prayer-drive around the location instead. Encourage those who cannot come for health, age or time reasons to pray off site at the same time. (Example: Many of our Seniors can not attend, but are Veteran Christians whose know how to pray and need to be – and feel - involved and honored.)
4. Walk in groups of two 2-5. Plan your routes to cover as much of the area as possible.
5. Pray aloud in a quiet, conversational voice, if you feel comfortable doing so. Or pray silently, letting your prayer partner(s) know what you are praying about. Don't call attention to yourselves. Be on scene, don't make a scene."
6. When praying with other churches or denominations, be sensitive to the diversity of prayer styles within the Body of Christ, come and pray as a servant... (1 Corinthians 10:14-32)
7. If anyone asks what you are doing, be prepared to respond: "We're praying God's blessing on this High School. Is there any special way we can pray for you?"
8. Although it is not the primary purpose of prayer walking, be open to opportunities to interact with and bless people God may put in your path.
9. Afterwards, Debrief: gather to share your prayers, observations and experiences. What did you learn about the location? How was God manifest hi this experience? Be Concise and brief.
10. Set plans to gather for additional Prayer walks or Prayer times as led by the Holy Spirit. The "prayer walk" moment may be great, but was a "moment" all God had in mind? Seek God for His plan, strategy and timing.
11. Continue praying for the site/community during the week. Pray until it is done. So how do you pray?

- Pray from Wisdom – what is known about the target area – Names, concerns, crime, needs, history, positives and negatives.
- Pray for discernment – Seek the gift of seeing the community through Christ's "eye" and to discern what God is already doing there; ask God to show you how you can pray with greater insight for the people, events, and places in the community.
- Pray for blessing – Pray over every person, home and business you encounter; for God's intervention in each life, so that each one can be fruitful in God's kingdom; for God's will to be done in this community "as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10).
- Pray with empathy – See and feel what residents live with every day, offer intercession for those things that express brokenness and grieve God's spirit, and give thanks to God for the blessings and gifts that exist in the community.
- Pray from Scripture – Prayers based directly on God's word can be especially powerful. You may want To bring a Bible with key passages highlighted, or copy verses onto note cards.

- Pray in God's Power—allow times of silence for God's spirit to speak to you, or through you (Romans 8:26). Ask with confidence in the power of Jesus' name (John 14:12-14) Like the disciples sent out by Christ, we are empowered to push back the darkness (Luke 10: 17-18)

On April 30th 2011 will be the kick off of Polk-Haralson Association Prayer Walk. We are asking all churches in the association to get on board to "Influence your world through prayer" We want all churches to prayer walk their church as well as 2 other churches. We also need to Prayer walk the associational office. This is a project for the whole congregations to be involved. Prayer Walk is Praying On Site with Insight. If you can not fit April 30th into your church schedule any time during April is appropriate.

There are different ways that you can prayer walk your church. We have listed some ideas to get started:

- Before the day of the prayer walk collect prayers from the congregation to have specific prayers to fit your church.
- Start out with a group prayer
- Plan a breakfast fellowship the morning of the prayer walk
- Get in groups of 2 or 3 people and decide what area of the church each group will be walking around or maybe each group go to all parts of the church at different times. Some Examples
 - Step into the pulpit to pray for your pastor
 - Walk in the choir area to pray for the choir
 - Go in and out of each Sunday School room praying
 - Walk in and out of each pew to pray that all people that fill the pews will fill the Holy Spirit as they attend your church.
 - Walk around the parking lot to pray that more cars will fill the lot
 - Touch the front doors of your church and pray that all whom enters the doors will feel the need to be all of one mind and one accord for the work of the Lord

These are only some ideas to get you started. When you get to praying as you walk you will notice the more you pray the more you need to pray for needs of the church , the associational and the community.

We all want to be about the Lord's work, praying intercessory prayers to our Lord and Savior is a good way to increase our Christian walk.

- Pray continually (1 Thess. 5:17)
- Pray with faith(John 14:13)
- Believe that prayer is necessary (Eph 6:18)
- Understand the power of prayer(James 5:16)
- Depend in the Holy Spirit (Rom 8:26)

We want the churches to have a special prayer time the 1st Friday of each month. Here's a couple of examples--

- 1- Have the congregation to pray some time that day between 9 am and 9pm
- 2- You could have a prayer supper that night.

Guidelines for prayer walking were taken from--
<http://www.prayershield.com/prayerwalkguide.html>

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