

Bridging the Gap

Prayer Ministry Training

Updated 7-25-19

SETTING AN ENVIRONMENT FOR MINISTRY

- Come with a clean heart and clean hands. Come humble and hungry.
- Focus on praying for the request, not “fixing” or counseling. Keep prayers short and be careful of how loud you pray. Remember it isn't the length of our prayers but the One who hears. People often will wait to move from their seats to come forward for prayer when they see an open prayer person.
- If you're not sure if someone has given their life to Jesus, ask them. What is your relationship with Jesus like at this time? Have you ever surrendered your heart to Jesus? Or whatever wording the Holy Spirit puts in your heart.
- Experience God's presence. Invite the Holy Spirit to show you how to pray for this individual. Focus on the Lord and His supernatural ability to bring freedom
- Christianese: Please be aware not everyone coming for prayer understands Christian language and may not believe as we do. Pray conversationally.
- Authority & Agreement: Many do not realize they have been extended authority by the Lord in their roles and don't know how to exercise it. If they would like prayer for their children, encourage them to pray aloud and that you will join them and will pray when they are through.
- Pray scripture as God leads. Many times the Holy Spirit will bring a Bible verse to your mind as you are praying, include it in your prayer as you pray God's will for their life.
- Try to pray with your eyes open. As weird as that feels, you can then see how the person receiving prayer is responding to what is said. It also allows you to see who is waiting for prayer so you'll be able to move things along if there are large numbers needing prayer.
- Be Ready: When the person speaking asks the altar prayer team to assist, come forward quickly
- Smile: convey God's love through warm greeting, smile, eagerness to pray for them, and a confidence that God will hear.
- Fresh Breath. When you know the teaching is getting close to the end, use a mint to freshen breath.
- Praying in pairs: If possible depending upon the numbers coming forward for prayer. This small step provides everyone involved with safety. Safety from accusation (should that ever arise) or wobbliness should the person you're praying for experience instability.
- If you pray with someone who accepts Jesus, Briefly encourage them to find a church home and get connected with women in a Bible Study. Encourage them to read the Bible, starting with Book of John.
- An outburst: regardless of its source, we want to provide the ladies with a safe place to process that maintains their dignity. Should something arise, connect with a prayer leader and we'll all go together to the prayer room to see how we can assist her best.
- Get prayer yourself if you feel the Holy Spirit leading you to do so. Remember that your effectiveness in prayer is out of the power of the Holy Spirit, not anything within you.

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- When each altar ministry time is done, pray with another prayer team person after ministering to others. Pray for protection, covering, and peace.

Issues requiring Intervention

- Domestic Violence situations
- Situations where the person in danger
- Situation where others are at risk, especially children
- If you feel uncomfortable dealing with a situation, or it requires more intervention, find one of the Team Leaders. The team leaders will be easy to identify with a red lanyards.

JESUS' PRAYER MODEL

A Lifestyle of prayer

- Jesus developed a disciplined lifestyle of prayer (Luke 5:16)
But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed. (Mark 1:35)
- Jesus centered his ministry around communion with the Father. (John 5:19)
- The Power of the Holy Spirit (John 1:32-34)

Compassion for people

- Jesus ministered out of compassion for people (Mark 1:40-42 // Matthew 9:36 // Matthew 14:14)
- Jesus' ministry was fueled by God's love for hurting and oppressed people.

Use of Touch

- Jesus used touch and laid hands on people (Matt 8:14 // Matt 9:27-29)
- Touch was an expression of his compassion for people, a physical extension of God's love
- Always ask for permission...be respectful and appropriate

Speaking directly to the condition

- Jesus spoke directly to the condition (Luke 4:39 // Mark 9:25)
- He simply SPOKE to the condition and RELEASED God's healing.

Releasing the power of the Holy Spirit

- Jesus prayed by the Power of the Holy Spirit. (Luke 4:33-41; John 5:19; John 14:10-14, 20)
- Jesus simply allowed the Holy Spirit to work because he cooperated with what the Father was doing
- We will see even greater power exercised in our lives.

Jesus' Commission to His followers: Luke 9:1-2

Prayer Procedure for breaking Strongholds:

- **Repent**
- **Renounce**
- **Team Member – pray and take authority**
- **Recover – pray for the Holy Spirit to fill and heal**

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Prayer Room Coverage:

- We would like to have at least two members of the Prayer Team in the Prayer Room as much as possible. Please check the schedule and sign up for a shift that works for you. Follow the same guidelines for ministry as you would at the altar. This is still not a time for counseling, but a time for prayer and trust God to do the work. Offer resources if appropriate.

Prayer Scriptures you can use as you intercede for the women coming to the event:

Ephesians 1:15- 23 *For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.*

Ephesians 3: 14-21 *For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*