

Bridging the Gap
Prayer Team Training

Prayer Ministry Guidelines for THRIVE 2020 Conference
Virtual Prayer Team Members

- **Come with a clean heart and clean hands.** Come humble and hungry for more of God.
 - Ask the Lord to show you if you need to confess and repent for any recent sin; in thoughts, words, or outward behavior. 1 John 1:9
 - **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. If someone is struggling with an emotion like fear, anger, or depression, you could do a “supernatural exchange.” Example: Father, I surrender my fear to you, and in exchange, I ask you to fill me with YOUR supernatural peace.
- **Divine Exchanges.** When we “give” or “release” something to the Lord, (like fear, anger, anxiety, unforgiveness, addictions, etc.) Take a moment and ask God what He wants to give you in it's place. *For example: Jesus, I give you this fear that I have been carrying. I release it to you. What would you like to give me in it's place?*
- **If you're not sure if someone has given their life to Jesus, ask them.** What is your relationship with Jesus like? Have you ever surrendered your heart to Jesus? Or whatever wording the Holy Spirit puts in your heart.
- **If you pray with someone who accepts Jesus,** always follow-up well with them by talking about the importance of attending church regularly, getting connected with women in a Bible Study or Life Group. Encourage them to read the Bible, starting with Book of John.
- **When you are done for the day:** pray with another prayer team person, if possible, or pray on your own to release everything to the Lord. Pray for protection, covering, and peace. Don't carry the burdens with you—Give everything to Jesus.

Issues requiring Intervention – Refer to Darlene Cook or other prayer team lead

- 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.

Darlene Cook: darlenekcook@gmail.com

Possible Prayer Focuses

- **Prayer of Salvation/Reeducation**
 - Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I choose right now to turn from my sins and invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and give me the grace and strength to do this.... In Jesus Name

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- **Repentance for sin and/or Struggling with Addiction (Divine Exchange)**
 - Pray for forgiveness and renounce the addiction
“I choose today to renounce this [sin or addiction] in Jesus Name. Lord, I need your help to overcome this. Help me to grow closer to you and to receive the comfort and healing I need from you. Help me to find the right resources to help me in my healing journey and to build healthy relationships with people who can help me.
- **Forgiveness for others who have hurt them**
 - Forgiveness is releasing these people to our Father rather than continuing to hold the pain and judgements in our own heart. Freedom comes from releasing these things to God.
 - It doesn't mean what happened is ok. You don't have to go directly to that person.
 - This is a transaction between you and God to release it to HIM.
 - After giving this to the Lord, ASK HIM what He wants to give them in it's place.
- **Anger towards God**
 - Lord, I know you have never done anything wrong, but I confess that I have held judgements in my heart against you because of some of the bad things I have experienced, disappointments, and pain. I ask you to forgive me for holding those things against you and I choose right now to release that to you. Set me free from the anger and hurt that I have been feeling....
As I give all that to you Lord, what do you want to give me in its place?
- **Forgiveness of Self, Overcoming Shame, Struggling with self-hate or hopelessness**
 - Have them pray out loud, repeating after you, if they need assistance
Lord, I choose today to forgive _____ for the things they have done to hurt me, _____. I choose to release them to you in Jesus Name. I give you all my hurt, my disappointments, and my pain. What do you want to give in in their place?
- **Healing for a physical need**
 - Pray directly against the sickness
 - I command this (pain) to leave (susy) in Jesus Name
- **Believing a lie about themselves, or about God or anything else?**
 - Is there a lie I'm believing about myself?
 - Ask God to forgive you for believing the lie
 - Renounce/Reject the Lie and give it to God
 - Ask God to give you His truth in it's place – (DIVINE EXCHANGE)
 - Listen for the answer and thank Him
- **Prayers and Concern over their children or loved ones**
 - Ask how this is affecting them and pray for the person you are talking to in addition to praying for their concern for someone else

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Jesus' Prayer Model

How did Jesus pray for people? The Bible gives a lot of direction on how to pray through Jesus' example.

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

Scriptures to Pray Through:

- **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.*