

# Prayer Evangelism

Changing the Spiritual Atmosphere with Prayer Walks and Prayer Journeys. We must expand our prayer to eternal issues, lifting our eyes above our own needs to the needs of a lost world!

Prayer evangelism can be described as organized prayer that focuses on lost souls. There is an urgent need for us to lift our eyes above our own needs and unselfishly look upon the needs of a lost world. If we don't pray for them, who will?

Prayer evangelism takes prayer on location!

It is difficult to envision a need that we do not see. Sights, sounds, and smells help focus our mind and intensify our awareness. When we can actually see the object of our prayers, we can pray with heightened sensitivity, increased understanding, and a greater burden. When we pray on site, we gain insight. This insight allows us to see the spirit behind the bondage enabling prayer to be more specific and focused. We cannot change the will of a person, but we can pray to change the spiritual atmosphere where the person lives.

"I will therefore that men pray EVERY WHERE, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting" (I Timothy 2:8).

What is Prayer Walking?

Prayer walking is praying in the area of determined need. Volunteers meet at a specific site to cover a designated area with focused prayer. This can involve one person or a group. Those participating go on site to pray for a specified time, focusing on families, neighborhoods, cities, and needs.

Prayer walking does not necessarily mean walking all the time. A site, area, or neighborhood is selected and a meeting time and place is designated. The group then goes forth to pray...some walking, some standing looking over a site, some finding a place to sit while praying and some may drive around a specific area, meeting back at the designated place.

Does prayer walking draw attention? No. This is not a religious parade, a literature distribution effort, or a witness walk. There is not loud praying, singing or attracting attention in any way by actions, appearance or advertisement. This would turn the prayer walk into an attention-getting device and the purpose would be destroyed. It is vital to observe local ordinances, laws, customs, curfews and to respect private property and people who might find your presence offensive. The intention is to pray unobtrusively and quietly, but fervently, in an area without drawing attention to yourself or your activity.

"The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power" (Ephesians 1:18-19).

What is a Prayer Journey?

Generally, a prayer journey involves leaving your own area and traveling to another area, city, or mission field, thereby furnishing prayer power for effective prayer evangelism in target areas. It intensifies burdens and helps other such as foreign or home missionaries to pull down the strongholds over their area of burden.

Prayer journeys by intercessors to foreign fields have produced outstanding results. Participants have prayed for divine intervention over a specified area for up to six hours per day. Faith is stimulated when each step becomes an active prayer and we claim the land where we put our feet for the Lord.

"And the Lord said unto Abram...Lift up now thine eyes, and Look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward...Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee" (Genesis 13:14-17).

## Suggested Sites and Focus for Prayer Evangelism

### Government Centers

Focus: Pray for a godly nation, good government, religious freedom, and civil leaders. Pray against corruption, and anti-Christian activities.

### Financial District of the Area

Focus: Pray for financial blessings upon the people, provisions for spreading the Gospel, and against greed and corruption.

#### Business and Industrial Areas

Focus: Pray for jobs and provisions for the people and church.

#### Residential Areas

Focus: Pray for families, for salvation, and godly homes.

#### Schools and Libraries

Focus: Pray for protection over the minds and hearts of children and youth, that godly principles will prevail. Pray against corruption and evil.

### **Area around the Church and Other Evangelistic Sites**

Focus: Pray for open doors, for workers, and leaders. Pray for revival, and God's Kingdom to come. Pray against restrictive strongholds.

### **People Gathering Places and Sites Overlooking the City**

Focus: Pray for blessings, for truth to be revealed, and for conviction of sin. Pray against strongholds of cults, immorality, drugs, materialism, and blindness inflicted by the god of this world.

### **Drive Around the City Perimeters**

Focus: To cover the city with prayer:

When engaging in prayer evangelism, it is important to focus on God...making God's promises rather than Satan the center and focus of the prayer.

Be cautious in challenging or seeking out evil powers for they love attention. To do so can often cause more harm than good. Welcoming the Spirit of God, lifting up the name of Jesus, asking for a spiritual awakening and calling down blessings on the people or area is much more profitable.

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men" (I Timothy 2:1).

### **Other areas of Prayer Evangelism**

Prayer Evangelism Meetings are prayer meetings called for the specific purpose of spending time in prayer for the lost. Volunteers gather together under the leadership of the pastor or a designed experienced prayer coordinator who directs the group in focused, intercessory prayer. Effectiveness can be enhanced by engaging volunteers in fasting.

Prayer Support Partners commit to a designated amount of time daily to cover individuals and evangelism prayer teams before, during, and after prayer evangelism activities.

What preparation is needed?

Engaging in prayer evangelism is invading the enemy's territory. This should not be attempted without sufficient preparation and prayer covering. Fasting, coupled with seeking God's face before an extended prayer walk or prayer journey, helps humble and discipline the flesh in accordance with II Chronicles 7:14. Solicit other intercessors to become a Prayer Support Partner to cover you with prayer before, during and after the prayer evangelism activity.

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand" (Ephesians 6:13).

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