

# **PRAYER WALKING**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The main objective of a prayer walk is to "spy out the land" and to provide an awareness of the area spiritual needs. *"I will give you every place where you set your foot" Joshua 1:3*

This is a time when you become Gods eyes for your church in the area. It is not a time to evangelize people along the route. If you pass people do not stop praying, greet them politely and carry on praying for that area.

The only time you pray for someone is if there is a demonic manifestation (deal with it right there) or if someone asks you what you are doing (reply to them that you are walking the area praying for spiritual needs).

Do not close your eyes while praying. Keep them open and take in what you see. Pray for what you see and trust God to reveal the underlying spiritual problems in the area. As He reveals these things, pray short focused prayers for this.

Do not pray long prayers, although there is nothing wrong with this it does prevent people keeping focused and concentrating on what you are praying. Remember to keep agreeing with the person praying.

You may pray in tongues but remember to keep it short and allow everyone to get a chance. Also do not forget to pray loud enough so everyone can hear.

Do not wait for someone to start, you start praying the moment you are in the street and continue till you return home. Do not talk about anything unless it is an emergency.

Walking in such a way that you are protected from other vehicles and that other vehicles can see you. This means walk on the right side of the road facing on coming traffic. Do not walk on the pavement unless necessary as this will cause you to loose concentration.

A prayer walk has four distinct phases:

### **1. Team Creation**

Each team is formed from the group of people who have arrived to take part in the prayer walk. Each team is allocated a leader and a specific area is defined for them to prayer walk in. Remember to try and vary the teams and leaders for each different prayer walk.

Remember one team will stay at home. Some will prayer for the others teams safety and some will look after all the children.

### **2. Preparation**

The whole group gets prepared for the outreach, Spiritually by praise and Worship.

During this time we focus on God. Short prayers, about God's greatness and for the areas are necessary during this time.

The leader of the group prays for protection and effective ministry of the whole Group and sets a specific time limit for all teams to return.

### **3. Each team**

The teams start out towards their designated area. Each member must remain focused and continually praying. The leader must not allow any idle chatter.

Pray focused prayers, one at a time, as God leads about the area. The rest of the team must agree in prayer or pray in tongues and look around.

While looking around ask God to help you identify and take note of what the spiritual strongholds of the area are. Especially look out for or ask God to reveal:

- People loitering around, walking through the area. Street children.
- Any form of substance abuse. Like people drinking, drug abuse or usage, glue sniffing, smoking.
- Look for possible strongholds (or the evidence of) such as prostitution (escort agencies etc), gambling, crime, bars, hotels, shouting, swearing, cursing, divorce, and substance abuse.
- Specific Buildings such as shopping centers, schools, police, fire stations, churches, parks, municipal or government buildings. bars, recreation ground, movie houses, hospitals, doctors, dentists, clinics, and nursery schools.
- Look at the people; assess their spiritual position. Access the homes and area, a general condition (spiritually and physically)

### **4. Feedback Session**

The groups arrive back at the prearrange time. Once back the teams will share in an informal environment about their individual experiences. What they prayed for, what God showed them, and what they believe are, the stronghold in the area.

During this time the pastor or leader must take notes of the feedback for further prayer walks. The evening is closed with prayer of thanksgiving and fellowship.

### **Definitions**

**Teams** - The teams should be no larger than four people should. Due to safety it is advisable that one member of the team be a male for safety reasons. It is possible to have a larger team but the leader must keep the team focused. The smaller the team the more involved the whole team will be with praying for the needs of the area, but the minimum size for an effective prayer walk is two.

**Group** - The group refers to everyone who arrived on that night to participate in the prayer walk.

**Prayer Walking** - Prayer walking is the physical walking of the land and praying for the needs of an area, so that you can received insight in to the spiritual condition and strongholds of an area, individuals.

**Team Leader** - Someone who is familiar with prayer walking (what to do and not to do). Can pray out loud in their normal language and tongues, and who is not intimidated by this.

**Team member** - Any person who joins a team to prayer walk and area.

**Leader** - A pastor or someone who has the vision to see their area changed through prayer and faith in God. They will keep track of the area and what is fed back to the group.

## SCRIPTURES

<sup>11</sup> Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? <sup>12</sup> Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. Ecclesiastes 4:11-12

<sup>19</sup> "Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:19-20

<sup>7</sup> Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. <sup>8</sup> Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. <sup>9</sup> Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:7-9

When your people go to war against their enemies, wherever you send them, and when they pray to the Lord toward the city you have chosen and the temple I have built for your Name, 1 Kings 8:44

<sup>9</sup> The Lord has heard my cry for mercy; the Lord accepts my prayer. Psalm 6:9

<sup>7</sup> Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." Jeremiah 29:7

<sup>5</sup> "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. <sup>7</sup> And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Matthew 6:5-8