

# Establish Prayer Groups in the Work Place

## Saturating the work place with prayer

"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.

For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

(Matthew 18:19-20)

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7)

"He was appalled that there was no one to intervene" (Isaiah 59:16)

"You do not have, because you do not ask God" (James 4:2)

"... that they should always pray and not give up." (Luke 18:1)

"And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night?" (Luke 18:7)

"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)







"I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land" (Ezekiel 22:30)

### Practical Guidelines

- ‡ Look for at least one other person to pray with, in your workplace or among your friends. Then ask others to join you in prayer, contacting them one by one.
- ‡ Start by praying together once a week. If you feel confident to add another prayer session after a couple of weeks, increase it to twice a week. Many prayer groups stagnate or stop because people attempt to meet for prayer on a daily basis. It seldom succeeds.
- ‡ If you have established a prayer group in the marketplace, ensure that the prayer meeting is held either before work or during a tea break or lunchtime. Only use time within business hours in exceptional cases and only if you have the clear go-ahead and support of management. Keep the time limit of the meetings to 30 minutes. Sometimes an hour or hour and a half would be possible.

- ‡ Please do not organize speakers for the prayer meetings; focus on prayer itself. Speakers often preach, which may discourage prayer and you may find after a while that nobody is attending any more.
- ‡ Read a few relevant Scripture verses and make one or two short comments about that (do not spend more than 5 minutes on this). Allow time if someone wants to share what he/she learned about prayer.
- ‡ It is important to give time for 1-2 testimonies of answers to prayer, stressing that it should be a testimony and not a sermon.
- ‡ Give opportunity for people to share prayer requests at the start of the meeting, but be careful to avoid only praying for personal needs and physical healing during the time of prayer. Our responsibility is to pray for more than our own problems.
- ‡ If you would like to drink coffee/tea, do it afterwards. Complete your time of prayer and have your times of fellowship afterwards.
- ‡ Encourage each one in the group to pray for the salvation of at least 3 people (friends, family, colleagues, etc.)
- ‡ Be focused during the time of prayer. Do not just let people pray randomly. Decide beforehand on things that you want to pray about. It is not a problem to set aside some portion of time where the group can listen to the Lord and pray about the things that the Holy Spirit is laying on their hearts. Pray for issues at your work (decisions to be made, a crisis, contact with clients, etc.); What about each person in the prayer group taking 3-5 people and pray for their salvation. Make time to pray for personal needs but be careful that the group's personal needs do not take all the available time.
- ‡ There are various practical ways of praying. Make room for spontaneous prayer – where people pray randomly for issues on their hearts, one person after the other. If the group consists of 8 or more, divide the group into groups of 3-4 and pray for different issues. You could also ask an individual directly to pray for a particular issue. Everyone may pray simultaneously (not all groups are comfortable with this, but in some cases it will work effectively). It is advisable to use a combination of these ways of prayer in a particular prayer session. Remember that praise and worship is also a form of prayer. Do not sing more than 2-3 songs per prayer meeting, as it may limit the time for prayer.
- ‡ Encourage people to pray Scripture. There are a variety of books available for guidelines. Several booklets are available that list promises found in Scripture. They are very effective to give guidelines on what to pray about.

## Some prayer focuses that can be included in your prayer time

-  Ask the Holy Spirit to show you the personal needs of each individual person and how to serve them. *Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. (Col.4:6)*
-  Bless the people that work with you, pray for their protection and that they will see God's love for them and also experience it personally. *The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. (Num.6:24-26)*
-  Pray for the salvation of the people around you. *He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. (2 Peter.3:9)*
-  Pray that the Holy Spirit will help you to be honest at all time, act with integrity and serve the course of others. *The integrity of the upright guides them... (Prov.11:3) The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out. (Prov.10:9) Use honest scales and honest weights, an honest ephah and an honest hin. (Lev.19:36)*
-  Pray for the needs of these individuals without judging or compromising them.
-  Pray that the staff of different companies will work together in peace and harmony and that there will be no bitterness, hostility or dishonesty.