

# Prayerwalking



## Taking Your Faith Into The Real World



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### John 3 Prayerwalking

**John 3** is the most amazing, and most staggering chapter, in all of the Word of God. In this chapter, the Lord Jesus Christ declares the truth of salvation and eternal life. He states that it is solely through Him that a sinner is saved and given the gift of eternal life. Yet, he also points to man's utter inability to save himself or to make himself right with God. Along with this, He shows the consequences of refusing to surrender to Him.

This passage reveals the doctrines that are so crucial to Christianity. The truths found in these verses are the bedrock of the Christian faith. In these verses, you have a description of what takes place in the life of an individual if he or she is to receive eternal life and become a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ.

For this reason, this passage provides excellent guidance in how to pray for a lost person. From these verses, you are given guidance in how to

intercede for a person who does not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Since Jesus Christ describes what must take place in order for a sinner to be saved and given eternal life, we must plead for these things to become a reality in the lives of the lost people as we prayerwalk.

The following is a list of suggested requests that one can use to intercede for lost people as you prayerwalk. These are offered simply as a guide to help you in pleading for their souls before God as you go out on the road and streets of your area.

- *Plead that this person will be receptive to the truth of God's Word and the person and work of Jesus Christ (3:1-2).* Pray that the people of this area would be like Nicodemus. Ask that they will think about and struggle with spiritual questions. Plead that the Holy Spirit

will prepare their hearts to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ.

- *Plead that God would cause this person to be born again by the power of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God (3:3-5; James 1:18).* Salvation is a work of God in a person. It is wrought into a person's life by the power of God. Man cannot change himself. God must give him a new heart and a new life.
- *Pray that this person would have no confidence in the flesh and would realize that it is God's power that must change them (3:6-7; Jeremiah 17:5, 9).* There is nothing that sinful man can do to earn or merit God's favor or love. No amount of works can ever prove pleasing or acceptable to God as long as a person is outside a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Call on God to cause this person to forsake any confidence in the flesh.
- *Ask God to show this person that it is not religion that makes a person right with God, but the Lord Jesus Christ and the working of the Holy Spirit (3:9-13).* Nicodemus should have understood from the Old Testament that he was a sinner, and in need of new life; and he must have known the prophets, who, promised that God would remove their hearts of stone and replace them with hearts to do His will. Yet, he missed this. Religious rituals and knowledge of the Word of God are not enough. There has to be the transformation of

life through Jesus Christ. Ask God to burn this truth into the heart of the person.

- *Plead that this person will understand that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, fully God and fully man (3:13; John 14:6).* This person has to come to an understanding of who Jesus is. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal Christ to this person and to teach the person about who Christ is and what He has done. The Holy Spirit testifies to the person of Christ and gives certainty concerning who He is and what He has done. Plead with the Holy Spirit to grant understanding about Christ and certainty concerning His person and claims.
- *Pray that this person will believe in Jesus Christ (3:14).* When praying for this, you are asking for more than just assent or agreement with a set of propositions. You are asking for more than the acknowledgment of facts. You are calling on God to bring this person to the place of personal surrender to the person and work of Jesus Christ. Ask God to enable this person to turn from his or her sin and to Jesus Christ. Plead that this person will see who Christ is and will bow before Him in trust and surrender as the Lord and the Savior of his or her life.
- *Pray that this person will know that God has sent His Son as a Savior and is determined to have mercy on sinners (3:15-17).* This person needs to realize that

God has sent His Son as a revelation of His love and mercy. The Cross is the symbol of God's love and mercy. It reveals that God is determined to save sinners regardless of how sinful, how lost, how moral, or how hardened they are. Ask God to show them the power of His love through the death of Jesus Christ on the Cross for unworthy sinners. Plead that they will see just how God loves-totally, sacrificially, and unconditionally.

- *Call on God to convince and convict this person of the consequences of the refusal to trust Christ and turn to Him (3:18).* The Lord Jesus Christ reveals that the person who does not believe in Him is "already condemned." This phrase refers to a particular point in time. It can be translated "even now" or "now, at this time." The person who refuses to turn to Christ in trust and repentance is condemned even now. It is certain and fixed that they will receive everlasting damnation in hell. They do not have to await the final judgment for condemnation; they are condemned and headed for hell even now.
- *Plead that God will give this person a hatred of his sin; ask God to cause this person to lose interest in what is keeping him or her from coming to Christ in faith and repentance (3:19).* The Lord Jesus Christ states that men love darkness rather than the light because their deeds are evil. People do not come to Christ because they love their sin more than they love

the Savior. They have chosen to cling to their sinful pleasure rather than forsake it and receive Christ and His salvation. Many people refuse to come to Christ because of possessions, positions, people, drugs, alcohol, sex, and the list could go on. These types of things are often the obstacles that keep them from listening to and considering the gospel. Pray that this person will lose interest in whatever is keeping him or her from Jesus Christ. Ask God to remove whatever obstacles are in the way of this person considering the claims of Jesus Christ and following Him.

- *Pray that this person will see that his or her only hope is in Jesus Christ (3:27).* John declares that man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven. Salvation is not something that man works up; it is given by God and received by man through faith in Christ and repentance toward God. Christ has been sent from heaven by God to be the Savior of sinners. There is no other way. God has not given numerous ways to Himself. Jesus Christ is the only hope for any sinner. Plead that this truth will strike to the very core of the person for whom you are interceding.
- *Pray that this person will understand that Jesus is declaring God's Word to him or her (3:34).* Jesus Christ declared what the Father told Him to say. The teachings of Jesus are from the very heart of God and represent the will of God. Ask God

to give this person certainty that what Christ is saying is the very Word of the living God to him or her.

- *Ask God to convict and convince this person of the certainty of his or her fate without Christ (3:35).* John the Baptist clearly states that every person is in one of two categories: believing or unbelieving. For those that believe, they are guaranteed of everlasting life. For those who are living in a state of unbelief, they are guaranteed of facing the wrath of God for eternity. He or she will never experience the eternal life that Christ offers, but will experience an eternity of lostness, insignificance, and damnation. Pray that this person will “feel” their lostness. Pray that they will experience the loneliness and the purposelessness of life without Christ and the eternal life that He gives. Call on God to show them the fearful reality that is awaiting them: an eternity of hopelessness coupled with the righteous wrath of God for rebelling against Him and surrendering to His blessed and holy Son, Jesus Christ.

These prayer pointers are suggestions to help you in prayerwalking and praying for the lost. When you are doing evangelistic prayerwalking, ask God to give you a burden for the lost people where you are prayerwalking. A burden will move you into the spirit of prayer for this person. There is a difference between the practice of prayer and the spirit of prayer. In the practice of prayer, the believer seeks God

and has fellowship with God. It is a fruitful and blessed time in the presence of the Lord. Yet, the spirit of prayer is different. It is intense and fervent, requesting gives way to pleading. A holy and desperate boldness characterizes this kind of praying. When you are interceding for lost people, you need the spirit of prayer. Call on God to give you the burden that will lead you to the spirit of prayer in the area that you are prayerwalking.

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