

Prayerwalking



Taking Your Faith Into The Real World



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VOLUME 2

JULY/AUGUST, 2010

ISSUE 4

SATURATION PRAYING

Saturation prayer is covering an area with intense prayer. It is saturating an area with prayer. By saturating an area in prayer, we are asking God to unleash His power and blessing in an area. It is praying fervently that God's power and blessing would saturate every person and home in an area.

It is incredible what God does when one believer prays. God's ear is always open to the believer who will seek Him. He will not only hear but also respond in significant ways. In the Bible, we see many examples of powerful answers to the prayers of His children. Church history is filled with amazing accounts of God's responses to the prayers of His people.

Yet, nothing seems to move the hand of God as much as praying in agreement. When believers join together in prayer, it delights the heart of God. He will hear and respond to the individual believer. However, there is something about believers praying in agreement that touches and stirs God like nothing else.

Saturation prayer takes place when believers join together to pray for

their neighborhood or area. It is believers praying in agreement for God's will and work where they are. This kind of prayer is the result of believers joining together to make a difference in the lives of all those around them. In this issue of *Prayerwalking*, you will learn about the basics of saturation prayer.

EXAMINING THE WORD

Read and meditate on **Matthew 18:19-20**. According to Jesus, who has to agree if the Father is to respond?

What do they have to agree on?

If two believers agree and ask, who will respond?

What do you think that the phrase “in heaven” at the end of verse 19 refers to? How should this affect your praying?

What promise does Jesus give in verse 20?

Matthew 18:19-20 is clear and straightforward. Jesus gives two distinct promises to those who will pray in agreement. He promises:

- The Father, who is sovereign over all, will hear and respond.
- The Son will be in their midst strengthening and helping them.

Praying in agreement is a powerful way to impact your area. Your Father will hear and respond in miraculous and awesome ways. Your Savior, Jesus, will be in your midst, helping and encouraging you. As you pray in agreement with other believers, you can forever change your neighborhood, community, and city. You will have a righteous impact for Jesus on those around you as you pray in agreement.

How does **Matthew 7:7** apply to praying in agreement?

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This verse reveals that God will respond to our asking. If we will ask God, He will save. He will bless. He will heal. He will transform. Our heavenly Father invites you to ask for your neighborhood, your community, or your city.

How does **James 4:2** apply to praying in agreement?

James 4:2 reveals that we must ask if we are going to see our communities and cities changed. If we do not ask, we cannot expect God to move. God does not bless wishes or hopes. He blesses and honors the fervent asking of His people.

APPLYING THE TRUTH TO MY LIFE

According to **Matthew 18:19-20**, how should we view believers praying together? How should it make us feel about praying in agreement with others?

Consider using the following guidelines for this:

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Do you feel there is hope for your area – your neighborhood, community, city – experiencing God’s transformation and blessing? How should **Matthew 18:19-20** shape your attitude and hope for your area?

- ✓ Commit yourself to seek God for an area.
- ✓ Make a covenant before God for this area.
- ✓ Discover who is in your area; find out what needs are in the area.
- ✓ Develop a prayer strategy.
- ✓ Pray together at various points.
- ✓ Share insights that the Holy Spirit gives.
- ✓ Pray for one another.

How do you believe God will respond when you pray for the blessing and transformation of your area (**Matthew 7:7**)? What can hinder the blessing and transformation of your area (**James 4:2**)?

You might consider using the following prayer strategy for your area:

The H.O.M.E.S. Model

Health (Exodus 15:26)

Office (1 Corinthians 10:31)

Money (Matthew 6:33, Philippians 4:19)

Emotions (Psalm 147:3)

Spiritual Life (John 3:16; 1 Peter 2:1-2)

Praying Through John 3

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

PRAYING THE TRUTH INTO MY HEART

Call on God to burn the truths of **Matthew 18:19-20** into your heart. Plead that your church will have the burden and heart to pray in agreement for your community or city.

PUTTING THE TRUTH INTO PRACTICE

Seek out at least two other believers that you can pray in agreement with concerning your city or community.

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 pages, 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 for whom we are praying. The following is a list of suggested requests that one can use to intercede for lost people. These are offered simply as a guide to help you in pleading for their souls before God.

Plead that this person will be receptive to the truth of God's Word and the person and work of Jesus Christ (vv.1-2);

Plead that God would cause this person to be born again by the power of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God (vv.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 (vv.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

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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 (vv.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 a 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 (v.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. It is the Holy Spirit who 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 (v.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 (v.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 (v.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

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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 (v.19).

The Lord Jesus Christ states that men love darkness rather than the light because their deeds are evil. Jesus is declaring that 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 (v.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 (v.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 (v.35). John the Baptist clearly states that every person is in one of two categories: believing or unbelieving. For those that are believing, 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.

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These prayer requests have been suggestions to help you in interceding for the lost people for whom you have a burden. When you are doing evangelistic praying, there are always two things that you need to remember and put into practice. The first thing is that you need to ask God to give you a burden for the lost people for whom you are interceding. 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 for this person.

When you are doing evangelistic praying, you also need to keep in mind the particular person and his or her particular situation when you are praying for him or her. The preceding guide was given to help you focus in on the content of your prayers for the lost person. Yet, you need to make specific requests based on these truths. An example of this is number 4. It may be that the lost person that you are praying for is religious. They may have very settled beliefs that their religion is

enough to be accepted with God. Perhaps the key factor in this is self-righteousness. You need to plead that his or her self-righteousness would be

stripped away and that he or she would see that Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit is necessary to his or her salvation. You need to pray about the specific point of need in this person's life. You need to zero in on those things that are hindering this person from a genuine relationship with Jesus Christ.

The “W.A.R.F.A.R.E.” Of The Believer

Every believer will have to face the opposition and hostility of our enemy, the devil (**1 Peter 5:8**). This is especially true when you seek to win the lost to Jesus Christ. Satan will boldly come against any attempt to reach a person or an area for the Lord Jesus Christ. It is essential that every believer be prepared to face and deal with the enemy.

The following acrostic will give you a basic outline in how to deal with the enemy. It is a simple reminder of how to face the enemy. By keeping these things in mind and practicing, we can face and overcome the enemy and all his devious schemes.

Willingly refuse the lies of Satan (**John 8:44**)

Assert your righteous position in Jesus Christ (**2 Corinthians 5:21**)

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Rest in the sovereignty and grace of God (**Romans 8:28**)

Feed your faith through the Word of God (**Ephesians 6:16**)

Appropriate your deliverance through Christ (**Romans 6:11**)

Respond to Satan's temptations with the Word of God (**Matthew 4:1-11**)

Engage in intercession; Go on the offensive against the enemy (**1 Timothy 2:1-2**)

The Top Ten List

Perhaps you are already praying specifically for lost people. I would encourage you to continue to be faithful in this practice. However, maybe, you haven't been as diligent. I want to encourage you to begin praying specifically for the lost. I want to challenge you to begin praying for at least ten lost people. Record their names here and begin interceding them. You might even consider placing them in a journal. Nevertheless, the most

important thing is to target ten lost people for whom you will pray.

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