

# Prayerwalking



## Taking Your Faith Into The Real World



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## Kingdom Praying 101

Kingdom praying requires that you pray for the missionary endeavor of the church of Jesus Christ. In this issue of the *Prayerwalking* newsletter, we will look at the basics of praying for the spread of the gospel not just across the street but across the sea. This is in preparation for dealing with “prayerwalking” across the world. There are several reasons why you should intercede for missionaries and the spread of the gospel across the world.

*The first reason that you should do this is because God is worthy to be made known to the nations.* Our God is the glorious God of heaven and earth. He is righteous, holy, wise, and sovereign. He abounds in goodness and mercy. He forgives sin and grants eternal life. He blesses with good and perfect gifts. He hears and answers prayer. There is no other God but Him and Him alone. All other gods are false and are unworthy comparisons to the true and living God of the Bible. The nations need to hear of such a glorious and good God. They need to know about His character and His commands. God is worthy to be proclaimed to the nations of the world (**Psalms 67, 86:8-10, 97:1, 117**). Those who know His glorious character and commands are the best equipped to share this knowledge with the world. Since God is worthy to be proclaimed and we know His glorious character, it is our responsibility to pray that His character is made known. You should be pleading that the nations will know intimately this glorious and living God. It is our privilege to pray that the

nations of the world will come to know the awesome God of the Bible.

*Another reason that you should pray for missionaries is because of the command of Christ.* In **Matthew 28:19-20**, the Lord Jesus Christ has commanded His church to carry the Word of God to the very ends of the earth. This is the marching order of the church. This is the task that has been assigned to us by the Lord Jesus Christ. An essential part of this task is intercessory prayer. To fail to do this is to sin against the Lord Jesus Christ. The good news about Him and His sacrifice on the cross is to be declared to the whole world. This can be accomplished by people going and by people praying. In order to do what Jesus Christ has commanded, we must pour ourselves out in intercession for missionaries and the spread of the gospel.

*A third reason that you should pray for missionaries is because people must hear the Word of God.* If a person is going to be brought into a right relationship with God, that person must hear the Word of God. This is Paul’s point in **Romans 10:13-15**. People must hear the Word of God and respond to its truth in order to be brought into a right relationship with Him. The Holy Spirit creates faith and repentance in people as they hear the Word of God (**Romans 10:17**). If people do not hear the message, they cannot exercise true faith in God and repentance toward Him. For this reason, people must hear the Word of God. It is absolutely crucial that missionaries are sent to proclaim the Word of God so that people can

hear and respond to its truth. A part of sending missionaries is praying that God will empower them to proclaim the message and cause those who hear the message to respond in faith and repentance.

*Another reason for praying for missionaries is that people need Jesus Christ.* In **John 14:6**, Christ declares that He is the only truth, the only way, and the only life. He states that He is the only way to the true knowledge of God and of a personal relationship with Him. In **Acts 4:12**, the Bible announces that it is only by Jesus Christ that a person can be saved from sin and delivered from the eternal wrath of God. Without Jesus Christ, people are perishing in their sin. They are going further and deeper into sin and rebellion away from God (**Romans 1:17-32**). They will be cast into an eternal hell unless they come to know and surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ is the Savior of sinners. He is the only anointed and appointed Savior of sinners. People must be encountered with Him and His claims. This can happen only if someone goes and someone prays.

*You need to pray for missionaries because of their utter need of intercession.* The Apostle Paul, the great missionary of the Christian faith, pled with Christians to pray for him, his co-laborers, and their work on the mission field (**Romans 15:30**). Paul realized the magnitude of having other Christians praying for him and his labors on the mission field. He understood that he could not be effective in doing what God had called him to do without the intercession of Christians. On the mission field, Paul faced numerous problems--opposition, financial concerns, sorrow, hardship, laboring to share the gospel plainly and clearly with people. The same is true today. Missionaries must have other Christians interceding for them, their needs, and their ministries. They cannot be effective in doing what God has called them to do without the prayers of other Christians. You can join these missionaries in their labors, share in their victories, and help meet their needs by praying for them.

*You should pray for missionaries because it glorifies God.* God is the most glorified when people are turning to Him in faith and repentance (**John 15:8; Ephesians 2:4-10**). God receives glory and praise when the Word of God and the work of the Holy Spirit transform people. God is shown to be a powerful and gracious God when peoples' lives are changed and they become followers of Jesus Christ. By praying for the effectiveness of missionaries, you are praying that God will be glorified. You are praying that God will show Himself to be the sovereign and wise God of heaven and earth. Your prayers for the effectiveness of missionaries in proclaiming the gospel and transforming lives is actually a way of glorifying God.

*You should be prompted to pray for missionaries because it should be an essential part of your prayer life.* It is the responsibility of Christians to pray for the various leaders and authorities (**1 Timothy 2:1-2**). Surely this should include missionaries. In **1 Thessalonians 5:25**, the apostle once again calls on believers to pray for him and his missionary labors. This was Paul's desire and God's will. This provides the model for believers today. Believers are to pray for those who have been called by God to give their lives to sharing the gospel in other nations. In **Colossians 4:2**, the Word of God commands believers to be earnestly devoted to prayer. This includes praying for the spread of the gospel throughout the world and those who labor to do this. When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He taught them to pray for the coming of the kingdom (**Matthew 6:10**). Jesus is teaching that His people should pray for the gospel to spread across the world and bring people under His reign through their faith in Him and their repentance. This is how Jesus Christ is teaching us to pray. For this reason, every believer should be devoted to praying for the spread of the gospel and the salvation of the nations. From all these verses, it should be clear that a distinct part of the believer's prayer life is to be devoted to praying for missionaries and their labors. This is not something that a believer can choose to do or choose not to do. It must be a vital part of every believer's prayer life.

***The death of Christ should motivate you to pray for missionaries and the spread of the gospel.*** In **Isaiah 53:10-12**, the prophet declares that Jesus would see His offspring. He announces that Christ would see the fruit of His work. This chapter deals with the death of Christ on the cross. The offspring and the fruit of His work are referring to the people who will be saved due to His work on the cross. Isaiah is prophesying that Jesus would see people from every language, race, and nation on the earth saved and surrendered to Him because of His death and resurrection (**Psalm 2:8; Revelation 7:9**). This should motivate you to pray for the nations of the world. People from every language, race, and nation are going to be saved and surrendered to Christ because of His death and resurrection. This should give you the confidence and motivation to pray for the nations and the missionaries who labor in them.

## Praying For Laborers

An essential part of praying for the spread of the gospel is to pray for laborers. In **Matthew 9:37-38**, Jesus says, “The harvest is truly plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” The Lord Jesus Christ teaches us to plead with God to call, equip, and send laborers into the harvest. The nations must hear the gospel. Yet, this can happen only as people go out and proclaim the gospel to the nations. It is our responsibility then to pray for laborers who will do this.

The following prayers can help you follow Jesus’ command to pray for laborers. You can use these prayers to pray for God to raise a generation of laborers who will evangelize the world. You can also use these prayer requests to pray for God to call and send laborers into a particular country or people group.

Father, I plead that You will raise up believers who have a heart for church planting. I ask You to call and equip believers who have the skills and determination to plant godly, growing churches (**Acts 13:1-3, 26-28**).

Lord, I ask You to raise up evangelists who can preach the gospel powerfully and clearly on the mission fields around the world. Mold and shape evangelists who can communicate the gospel to all the cultures of the world (**Acts 6:10**).

God, I pray that You will raise up believers with the gift of teaching. I plead that they will be sent into all the nations to teach believers the Word of God and how to put into practice its teachings (**Ezra 7:10**).

I ask You, the Lord of the harvest, to raise up believers who will have a burden about and a call to translating the Bible into the languages of the peoples of the world. Call and equip believers so that the nations can read and hear Your Word (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**).

Father, I pray that You will call and equip believers who are trained in medicine, agriculture, and business. Let them enter the nations of the world, minister to their needs, and share the gospel with them (**Matthew 20:28**).

Lord God, I plead that You will burden and convict college and seminary students about surrendering their lives to Your call to missions (**Proverbs 3:5-7**). I pray that You will:

- Enable them to have a deep and intimate relationship with Christ;
- Mold them into powerful witnesses for Jesus Christ;
- Grant them spouses that have a clear and definite call to missions;
- Train them through college and seminary for their work on the mission field.
- Removal of anything that would hinder their service for Jesus Christ.

Father, I ask that You will convict churches about missions and that You will give them a burden for missions. I pray that they will have a “Great Commission Church” that is conducive to people being called to the mission field (**Matthew 28:19-20**).

Lord, I pray that You would enable Christian groups in other cultures and nations to develop

and send missionaries to their own people in both their native land and around the world (**Acts 21:37-22:21**).

Father, I pray that You will burden believers to be involved in all facets of missions. Give Your people a heart to support missions. Burden them and move them to be involved in mission trips (**Matthew 28:19-20**).

Father, I ask that You would bless the groups and organizations in the churches that encourage and teach people about missions. Bless their labors. Give them fresh and relevant ideas to motivate believers to be on mission. Cause the young people who come through these groups or organizations develop a consuming passion for missions (**Acts 13:1-3**).

God, You are the Creator and owner of all things. All the money in the world is Yours. I pray that You would cause money to flow into the missions agencies and organizations of Christianity. Move upon the hearts and the minds of people to give generously, joyously, and sacrificially to the cause of the gospel across the world (**Proverbs 21:1**).

Father, I ask You to raise up churches that will have a burden to pray for the harvesting of the nations. Mold and shape churches so that they will be houses of prayer for the nations. Grant them an unceasing burden to pray for missionaries and the nations of the world. Give them insight and understanding how to seek You for the fulfillment of the Great Commission (**Matthew 28:19-20**).

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