

Prayerwalking



Taking Your Faith Into The Real World



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A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR THE LOST

In 1 Timothy 2:1, the Word of God reveals that the church is to be a house of prayer, “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men.” The church is to pray for “all men” - for all kinds of people with all kinds of needs. As the church prays, God will unleash His transforming power into the lives and circumstances of people.

It is God’s will for the church is to pray for all kinds of people and their needs. Yet, praying for lost people is the greatest prayer concern of the church. Our God is the saving God. His great desire is to deliver people from their sin and eternal punishment and bring them into a right relationship with Himself. Of all the needs that people have, this is their greatest need. And this should be our priority in prayer. This must be our priority in prayer. Nothing can

substitute for this. God desires that your church be a house of prayer for the lost.

You may be wondering, “How can I lead my church to be a house of prayer for the lost?” You might consider the following suggestions:

- ✓ *Pray that God would give your church a spirit of prayer for the lost* (Matthew 7:7). Ask the Holy Spirit to burden your church and to unleash a spirit of prayer for those who need Jesus.
- ✓ *Preach regularly on praying for the lost* (Romans 9:1-3, Romans 10:1). Strive to keep this before the people.
- ✓ *Lead your church to pray the Scripture for the lost* (John 3, 6). Help your members forsake superficial prayer for the lost by showing them how to pray the Word for the lost.

- ✓ *Prayerwalk throughout your city or area (Matthew 9:36).*
- ✓ *Establish prayer triplets that pray specifically for the lost (Matthew 18:19-20).*
- ✓ *Have a "Praying For the Lost" Sunday or weekend.*
- ✓ *Encourage your members to pray for specific lost people.*
- ✓ *Develop a Fishbowl Ministry (Luke 5:10). Ask your members to write down the names of lost people on slips of paper. Place these in a fishbowl. Have your members draw out a slip of paper. Ask them to pray for the lost on the slip. After a month, have them put their slip back in the bowl and draw another.*

Why Should A Church Pray For The Lost?

- (1) **It is part of God's plan of salvation** (Romans 10:1, 17). God has purposed to save the lost through the believer's passion for the lost, the believer's prayers for the lost, and the believer's proclamation to the lost.
- (2) **It will glorify God** (1 Corinthians 10:31; Matthew 22:37-38). God is most glorified through the transformation of lives. Because of our desire to glorify Him, we

pray for the transformation of the lost.

- (3) **It is because of their condition** (Ephesians 2:1-3). The lost are bound, blinded, and headed to an eternal hell. Their only hope is the power of God released through prayer.
- (4) **It is the only way to overcome their enemy** (2 Corinthians 4:4). Satan is actively seeking to keep the lost bound and on the path to hell. The only way to overcome his schemes is the power of God released through prayer.
- (5) **It prepares us to witness to the lost** (Romans 10:17). Paul's burden and praying for the lost prepared him to share the good news with them. The same is true with all believers.

Prayer Guide

The following prayer guide is designed to help you pray for a house of prayer for the lost.

Burden – Pray that the Holy Spirit will create a heavy burden for the lost in the hearts of the people.

Understanding – Ask the Holy Spirit to teach the believers of your church how to pray for the lost. The following is a

basic outline to start with. It is based on the acrostic L.O.S.T.

Lostness - Pray that they will see and know that they are lost.

Obstacles - Ask that any obstacles to the lost coming to Christ will be removed.

Savior - Plead that they will understand who Jesus is.

Testimony - Pray that they will hear the Word and believe in Jesus.

Removal - Plead that God will remove any indifference and apathy that your church has toward those who need Jesus.

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