

HILLSIDE CHURCH PRAYER WALK GUIDE



ASK GOD TO REVEAL

READ ACTS 4:24-31

24 And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, 25 who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

"Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? 26 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed'

27 for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, 28 to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. 29 And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, 30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." 31 And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

ASK GOD WHAT HE'S ALREADY DOING THERE

Do some listening prayer, asking God questions such as,

- "Lord, what are YOU already doing here?"
- "Who are you moving in right now?"
- "What are the barriers to your work here?"

Spend time listening and write down anything you hear or feel.

HOW TO PRAY

PRAY AND LISTEN

Ask God to show you what is on His heart for this area. Write down anything you see or feel.

PRAY POSITIVELY

Focus on God's plan, purpose and destiny for the place and the people that live there. "Your Kingdom come, your will be done..." is an excellent start.

PRAY IN OBEDIENCE TO THE SPIRIT'S LEADING

Learn to recognize and respond to His voice as you prayer walk. God's Spirit may even direct you with ideas of prayer. Be obedient.

PRAY WITH AN ATTITUDE OF WORSHIP

Worship fosters faith inside us because worship focuses on the character of God. Three elements that should be a part of our prayer-walking worship experience are, (1) thanksgiving, (2) praise and worship, and (3) repentance.

PRAY WITH A LOW PROFILE

Prayer-walking is usually a low profile event. Once in a while, the prayers can demonstrative, but usually prayer-walking is being on the scene without making one.

PRAY WITH HIGH HOPES

Pray with hope by dreaming of the good things that God desires to do for the people you see. Try to express what's in God's heart with your words. That's what praying blessings is all about: God's great love, expressed in prayer by ordinary people like us.

PRAY WITH EMPATHY

See and feel what the residents live with every day; offer intercession for those things that express brokenness and grieve God's spirit; give thanks to God for the blessings and gifts that exist in the community.

HOW TO PRAY

PRAY FROM SCRIPTURE

Prayers based directly on God's word can be especially powerful. You may want to bring a Bible with key passages highlighted, or copy verses onto note cards.

PRAY IN GOD'S POWER

Allow times of silence for God's spirit to speak to you, or through you (Romans 8:26). Ask with confidence in the power of Jesus' name (John 14:12-14).

PRAY WITH OPEN EYES AND EARS

Someone once said that prayer walking is 'praying on site with insight'. The fact of walking or standing in a particular place brings an immediacy to our prayers. We're not just imagining that place from the comfort of our prayer room, we're actually there, seeing it, hearing it, experiencing it, and that means God can speak to us through the things we see and hear there.

WHAT TO PRAY

PRAY FOR:

- every home you walk by
- the Holy Spirit to work on hearts of neighbours
- compassion for those that are broken and hurting
- the schools in your neighbourhood, teachers, and administrators
- opportunities to boldly and clearly reach out with the Gospel
- those dealing with loneliness, isolation, and depression
- local City Government
- hospitals, first responders, medical workers
- local businesses in the area

PRAYER PROMPTS:

- **Notice the trees, clouds, sun, or animals.** Thank God for His marvelous creation. Recognize that He created man in His image
- **Notice children's toys.** Pray for the family unit. Pray that God would restore the family unit. Pray that the parents would raise their children to fear the Lord.
- **Notice a stop sign.** Acknowledge that God is in control; Be still and know He is God.
- **Notice the flowers and the new growth of Spring.** Pray that God will bring fresh, spiritual growth in the hearts of those in the neighbourhood. Pray that people would find hope in Christ and not live in fear and brokenness.
- **Notice another family.** Pray for the love of Christ to be known among them.
- **Notice children playing.** Pray the people of the community would have the faith of child.
- **Notice anything broken.** Understand that this world is broken because of sin. Pray that the God who makes all things new would restore His creation.

PRAY FOR GOD'S LEADING

- Look for a nudge from God to do something to influence the Kingdom? (Pray for someone, share the Gospel, call a friend, help a neighbour, get involved in service, send a check?)
 - Take notes in your journal; write down action items.
 - Pray for courage to act on your action items.
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WHAT TO PRAY

PRAY FOR SALVATION

Pray that those who have not yet accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour to come to a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

PRAY FOR GOOD GROUND

Pray that people hearts would be made open to the working and leading of the Holy Spirit.

PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS

Pray that Christians already in this area would be bold, have faith, and be courageous. If there are any Christian groups or churches , pray this for them as well.

PRAY FOR PEOPLE IN POWER

Pray for administrators, government, and other leaders.

PRAY FOR EDUCATION

Look for and pray over educational centres. Pray for righteous educators to teach God's truth and protect the minds of their students. Pray that God would intervene in every effort to promote lies or confusion. Pray that these places would send out wise citizens who have a heart to serve and lead.

PRAY FOR BUSINESS AND COMMERCE

Look for and pray over commercial centers such as financial districts or shopping area. Pray for righteous investments and good stewardship of resources. Pray for economic justice and opportunity and for generous and godly givers who put people before profits.

PRAY PRAYERS OF WARFARE

All people belong to the kingdom of Satan until God sets them free. We need to understand that the enemy has blinded the minds of people, so they are not able to see the light of the gospel (2 Corinthians 4:4). Jesus is the light of the world and has defeated Satan. (1 John 3:8)

WHAT TO PRAY

PRAY FOR BLESSING

pray over every person, home, and business you encounter; pray for God's intervention in each life, so that each one can be fruitful in God's kingdom; pray for God's will to be done in this community "as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10)

PRAY FOR DISCERNMENT

Pray to see the community through Christ's "lens," and to discern what God is already doing there; ask God to show you how you can pray with greater insight for the people, events, and places in the community.

Pastor Jack Hayford prayed this prayer of blessing for Los Angeles: "Now Lord, we are the seed of Abraham and we speak blessing upon the people of this community. Let your salvation, healing, deliverance and reconciliation settle over this community."