

What is Prayer Walking?

There is value in praying in the places that we live, work or frequent. We've come to call this sort of on-site intercession "prayer walking." Certainly, this can occur while driving, biking or even simply looking at the focal place of prayer. The main idea is "on-location prayer."

Although the Bible never mentions prayer walking as a term, it does offer many models of effective ways to pray although prayer walking.

1. Jesus prayerfully looked over the city of Jerusalem (Matt. 23:37-39).
2. The Apostle Paul's "...spirit was being provoked within him as he was beholding the city [of Athens] full of idols" (Acts 17:16).

As we prayerfully look at our neighborhoods and city, God will burden our hearts, provide discernment, and release strategies to bring the city to Jesus.

Biblical Background

The Old Testament has many passages relating to walking an area for God's glory. Three passages give us a spiritual picture connected with walking.

1. The story of Joshua taking the city of Jericho (Josh. 6) is probably the most familiar Old Testament account of the powerful act of walking and praying.
 - Walking around the city seven times before the walls fell flat is a model of extending God's Kingdom through man's humble availability and faith joined by God's miraculous ability.
 - Our prayers and obedience can be a means of releasing God's power to cause the walls of unbelief, violence, strife and evil to come down.
2. God spoke to Abraham, "Arise, walk about the land through its length and breadth; for I will give it to you." (Gen. 13:17).
3. Speaking to Joshua, God said, "Every place on which the sole of your foot treads, I have given it to you..." (Josh. 1:3)

These passages obviously refer to God's promise of the Holy Land to the Jewish nation. Nevertheless, the physical act of walking was a prophetic statement of declaring God's sovereignty over the earth.

Modern Day Application

DEFINITION: Prayer walking is simply praying in the very places we expect God to bring forth His answers.

PURPOSE: Prayer walking a city, neighborhood, or workplace is to claim or take dominion over the area for God's glory and to pray for the spiritual freedom of those living or working there.

MOTIVE: It is important to catch the *spirit* of prayer walking rather than simply adopt the *method* of prayer walking.

RESULTS: As you pray God's promises with specific geographical regions, homes or worksites in view, expect results!

- You will find that hope for those people begins to grow.
- You will begin to see people as God views them.
- You will find yourself becoming more interested in the welfare of the people you are praying for. You can find yourself becoming the kind of person, neighbor or coworker that you always wanted to be.
- Expect God to impress you on ways to display His love in practical acts of kindness.
 - As opportunity may arise, be ready to offer to pray with people in general as well as your neighbors and coworkers in particular.
 - Ask God to give you an opening to explain clearly how people can enjoy friendship with God by the power of the gospel.

A Call to Action

“And seek the peace of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its peace you will have peace” (Jer. 29:7)

Although this verse does not indicate walking and praying through our city, there may not be a better way to systematically cover a community with prayer than to literally walk and pray through its neighborhoods.

As the church, we are the hands and feet of the Gospel. The Kingdom of God advances as we GO. We must fill the earth with HIS Glory. Both pray and live “Thy Kingdom come!” Let us pray for a spiritual awakening in our midst.

Prayer Points

- Worship the Name of Jesus- Isaiah 12:4
- Pray for God to remove the powers of darkness- Ephesians 6:12
- Pray that God’s light would bring revelation of Jesus- Matthew 11:21-24
- Pray for a spirit of repentance to come on souls- Acts 2:37, 3:19
- Righteousness to be established so blessings can flow- Proverbs 14:34
- Relationships to be restored - Ephesians 2:14-18
- Pray for an open door to speak with boldness the Word- Ephesians 6:19
- Pray that the Word of God would be understood- Acts 26:18
- Pray for our eyes to see our city as Jesus sees it- Matthew 9:36-39
- Pray that reconciliation would flow to our city- 2 Corinthians 5:18-20
- Pray for the Glory of God to be made known- Habakkuk 4:14