

PrayerWalking

PrayerWalking is praying on-site with insight. It is seeking to see our community as God sees it and then praying for its people accordingly.

PrayerWalk Day Has Two Parts: The PrayerWalk and the Bus Prayer Tour.

We generally scheduled our PrayerWalk on Super Bowl Sunday afternoon—not that we had many pro football fans, but it worked out well that way. We sometimes invited other churches to join us.

We prepared a list of the neighborhoods in town. We tried to keep the list even so that one neighborhood would take the same amount of time to walk as the others. We asked them to sign up for their neighborhoods. That way, the participants knew how to spread out. It also let us know where to go looking if someone didn't report back. We asked participants pray in small groups of at least two, but to spread out so we could cover as many neighborhoods as possible.

As people walked instead of driving, they had time to see and the opportunity to hear things that gave them insight into each neighborhood. This helped them know how to pray.

There was a report back session at the end. We asked what they saw and experienced. Often, people had significant insight into their assigned neighborhood and others would have a story of someone who asked for prayer.

***Call the Police Chief in advance and make him aware of what you will be doing.
People will see strangers walking in their neighborhoods and think danger.***

What About Long Country Roads?

When the road is too long to walk, ask members to drive down that road and pray for those in the homes they pass. If the devil can have drive-by shootings, we can have drive-by prayer!

What About Those Who Can't Walk?

We provided a **Bus Prayer Tour** for seniors and the handicapped. The bus went to the *strategic locations* in town and stopped for specific prayer, relevant to that place. These stops might include: City Hall, the Police Department, the local hospital, the Schools, the local industries which employed the most people, pregnancy center, the gateways into the city, athletic facilities, etc.. It would be best to have someone offer prayer guidance to the passengers for each place.

A sample Instruction Sheet follows on the next page.

Instructions for PrayerWalking

Today, we are PrayerWalking the neighborhoods of our town to pray for our neighbors and their families. Home is where people spend the most time and where people's lives are most shaped. The Prayer Bus will be going to the strategic places in town including the schools, City Hall, and police station. If PrayerWalkers go to those places instead of neighborhoods, that will leave entire neighborhoods un-prayed for. This is our only neighborhood PrayerWalk each year. So, please sign up for a neighborhood and PrayerWalk there.

- Walk (or drive) slowly. Be alert to what you see and hear.
- Turn on your "spiritual radar." Listen for promptings from the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pray.
- Don't talk to each other. Conversations distract us from God's prayer promptings.
- Pray for children in each home as well as the adults
- If anyone asks what you are doing, explain that we are praying that God will bless our town and our neighborhoods. Ask, "Is there anything we can pray for you today?"
- If someone comes out to ask you to pray for him or her, stop and pray for the person on the spot. Then, ask if it will be OK if you write down the request so you can continue to pray about it. Assure the person that you will keep the request confidential.
- Pray for the Whole Person:
 - ◇ Ask God to prosper the honest labor of our neighbors and local businesses
 - ◇ Ask God to protect children from physical harm and abuse of all kinds
 - ◇ Ask God to bless marriages and to intervene in marriages in crisis
 - ◇ Ask God to call people to Christ and to arrange circumstances in their lives to bring them to Jesus
 - ◇ Ask God to bless the growth and witness of believers
 - ◇ As you pass other Bible-believing churches, ask God to strengthen them in their mission and to bless their fellowship
 - ◇ Pray for people who suffer with mental health or emotional issues
 - ◇ Pray for those who may have substance abuse issues
 - ◇ Pray for caregivers who have an elderly parent or other person in the home
- ***Meet back at the church for a brief report time by 4:45. Please be courteous; others will have to go look for you if you do not arrive for the Report Session.***