

Praying Toward His Passion

Biblical Blueprints for Evangelistic Prayer

Why Pray Evangelistically

The Bible teaches that prayer is vital to the Great Commission (John 17). It also teaches that lost people are blinded by Satan and do not understand God's love and purpose for their lives (2 Cor. 4:4). Christians should therefore pray evangelistically because the Bible mandates prayer's essential role in reaching people with the Gospel. Notice the following Biblical examples:

- Jesus commands His followers to pray toward the reign of Christ in peoples' lives (Matt. 6:9-10).
- Paul models a life of evangelistic prayer (Rom. 10:1-2).
- God's Word urges believers to pray evangelistically for all people (I Tim. 2:1-4).
- The Psalmist bears witness to the effect of passionate prayer for the harvest (Psalm 126:4-6).
- Jesus teaches Christians to pray for witnesses to be sent out to gather the harvest (Matt. 9:35-38).

"By prayer, the bitterest enemies of the gospel have become its most valiant defenders" R.A. Torrey

How to Pray Evangelistically

Praying for Lost People

- H** Pray for unbelievers' **HEARTS** to be receptive (Luke 8:5-12).
- E** Pray God will open their **EYES** and **EARS** (Matt. 13:15).
- A** Pray that they have God's **ATTITUDE** toward sin (John 16:8).
- R** Pray for the person to be **RELEASED** to believe (2 Cor. 10:3-4).
- T** Pray for the lost to have a **TRANSFORMING** life in Christ (Rom. 12:1-2).
- S** Pray for God to **SEND** witnesses into His harvest fields (Matt. 9:35-38).

(Adapted from *Praying Your Friends to Christ*, Alpharetta, GA: North America Mission Board, SBC, 1997)

Praying for Christian Witnesses

- Pray for witnesses to share their faith boldly and with confidence (Acts 4:29-31).
- Pray for witnesses to have open doors to share their faith (Col. 4:2-6).
- Pray for witnesses to live the faith they are sharing (Acts 10:38).
- Pray for witnesses to be protected from the evil one (John 17:15).



"Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is their salvation" (Rom. 10:1, NASB)

Praying For Personal Spiritual Preparation to Witness

- Pray for a cleansed life and a pure heart to witness (Psalm 51:10-13).
- Pray for a personal passion for Jesus and His mission (Luke 19:10).
- Pray for an unwavering faith to believe the Lord for a harvest (James 1:5).
- Pray for spiritual wisdom while witnessing (Col. 1:9-11).

Praying For Outreach & Mission Efforts

- Pray for believers to answer Christ's call in the Great Commission (Psalm 2:8).
- Pray for congregations to send witnesses out into the harvest (Acts 13:1-3).
- Pray for the Gospel to spread through evangelism and missions (I Thess. 3:1).
- Pray for intercessors to be raised up to pray for those on mission (Rom. 15:30).

"First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men" (1 Tim. 2:1, NASB)

Four Ways to Pray Evangelistically

List Praying

Make a list of persons to pray for. Specific prayer on behalf of others results in specific answers to prayer (1 Thess. 3:10-11; 2 Thess. 1:3).

Prayerwalking

Journey through your world and pray for others as you walk, run, bicycle or drive. As you prayerwalk pray according to what you observe and are inspired to pray for (1 Tim. 2:1-4).

Prayer Visitation

Visit homes, hospitals, etc. and ask for prayer requests. This allows open doors for believers to care and to share Christ. As we pray for people and their needs, God builds relationships and opens hearts to the Gospel (James 5:13-18).

Prayer Groups

Unite with other believers in focused prayer. There is power in united prayer toward the Great Commission (Acts 4:31).

Application

Create a list of prayer needs and pray evangelistically for those who are lost. Power comes with united prayer. *Ask of Me and I will surely give the nations as Thine inheritance and the very ends of the earth as Thy possession (Psalm 2:8, NASB).*

For more information contact J. Chris Schofield, PhD
Office of Prayer for Evangelization and Spiritual Awakening
www.PrayNC.org • (800) 395-5102 ext. 5514



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Baptist State Convention of North Carolina • Milton A. Hollifield, Jr., Executive Director-Treasurer
205 Convention Drive • Cary, NC 27511 • (800) 395-5102 • (919) 467-5100 • www.ncbaptist.org

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