Prayer Walking Guide

How to Get Started Prayer Walking

- **Join with other believers.** Join your faith with others to help prayer flow in an engaging conversational style. Large groups sometimes fail to give everyone a chance to participate. Pairs and triplets work best.

- **Set aside time.** Allowing one or two full hours gives prayer walking a good chance to manage preliminaries and follow-up discussions, although much can be done in less time.

- **Choose an area.** Ask God to guide you. It's best by far to learn the joys of prayer walking in unfamiliar neighborhoods. You'll return quickly to your own neighborhood with fresh vision. Centers of commerce and religion are fascinating, but there's nothing like touching families, schools and churches in residential areas. Use elevated points to pray over a panorama. Linger at specific sites which seem to be key.

- **Pray with insight.** Pray for the people you see. As you do, you might find the Spirit of God recalibrating your heart with his own sensitivities. Enhance these responsive insights with research done beforehand. Use knowledge of past events and current trends to enrich intercession. Above all, pray Scripture. If you have no clear place to begin praying, select just about any of the biblical prayers, and you will find that they almost pray themselves.

- **Focus on God.** Make God's promise rather than Satan's schemes the highlight of your prayer. Your discernment of evil powers may at times exceed God's specific guidance to engage them in direct combat. Consider the simplicity of first making direct appeal to the throne of God before attempting to pick street fights with demonic powers. Seek a restraining order from heaven upon evil so that God's empowered people may bring forth God's intended blessings on the city.

- **Regather and report.** Share what you have experienced and prayed. Expressing something of your insights and faith will encourage others—as well as yourself. Set plans for further prayer walking.

- **Coordinate efforts.** Enlist other praying people to join with friends to cover special areas. Give leadership by forming and mixing prayer bands. Seek to collect written notes recording which areas have been covered and what kinds of prayers have been prayed. Pool your insights to ascertain whether God is prompting a repeated focus on particular areas. Eventually aim to cover your entire town or city, unless God guides otherwise.

[Appendix A from *Prayerwalking: Praying on Site with Insight* by Hawthorne and Kendrick]

Places to Pray for:

1. Government buildings, especially those that effect missionary presence and work
2. Churches or locations for possible new church starts
3. High places, such as mountains or tall buildings where you can get a perspective of the area
4. Neighborhoods or areas where there is no evangelical work
5. Schools
6. Hospitals
7. Business areas
8. Sites of other religions, sect groups, or cults

Scriptures to Pray:

- Peace for the city- Jeremiah 29:7
    - But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare
- Open hearts- Acts 16:14
    - One of them was Lydia from Thyatira, a merchant of expensive purple cloth, who worshiped God. As she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart, and she accepted what Paul was saying.
- Open doors- Colossians 4:3-4
    - And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ…
- Authorities- 1 Timothy 2:1-4
    - I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.
- Turned hearts- Luke 1:17
    - And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."
- Spiritual warfare- 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
    - For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God…
- Full Armor of God- Ephesians 6:10-18
    - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God…

- Salvation- Acts 26:17-18
    - I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins…
- Healing Revival- 2 Chronicles 7:14
    - If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

"Scavenger Hunt"

You DO NOT have to complete the list, and there is no particular order. It would be good for you to take a moment and think about what you think is most important to accomplish, as you may run out of time before all of the tasks are completed.

- Remember to pray at all times. Look for opportunities to share your testimony. If someone is open, share the gospel with them and invite them to trust Christ.
- Eat something you have never eaten before.
- Ask someone where you can find "cha" (tea) or "mango lassi" (cold drink). Be adventurous and get out of your comfort zone! Talk to at least one person—either on your way, as you are asking for directions, or to the people at the tea stall/store/restaurant.
- Find out 3 important traditions/customs from 3 different people (i.e., find out which village they are from, ask what is something that is very important to them, ask about holidays, etc.).
- Learn the names of 3 different people (remember to keep these names so that you can pray for these people).
- Find out what someone thinks of Jesus. Please have a dialogue, not a debate.
- Find out why someone came to the city. Ask the person how s/he likes the city, and if life is easier here or there in their village. Find out what they miss about their village. Ask how you can pray for them…PRAY with them right then and there!
- Ask someone about their faith. South Asians love to talk about their faith. Please have a dialogue, not a debate.
- Girls, shop, yes shop! Try on a sari, get your eyebrows threaded, get henna, or do something that will allow you to sit for an extended amount of time to talk with South Asian women. Make sure you take a picture.
- Guys, try on a South Asian shirt "kurta" or a scarf for men and take a picture. Buy it if you like it. Make sure you spend time conversing with the workers.

*Remember this is all about giving you an opportunity to engage with the community, so don't worry about completing the list; these are just ideas!