A person is walking on a beach at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, with a large, dark blue, textured shape in the center. The person is a small silhouette on the horizon line.

A GUIDE TO

Prayer Walking





Five Things to Remember When Prayer Walking

Be alert.

If you are prayer walking with a partner, don't get distracted by conversation with each other. It's helpful to agree ahead of time that you will keep conversation to a minimum to keep the focus on prayer.

Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit.

Just as your five senses gather information from your surroundings, remember to keep your heart open to what the Holy Spirit is telling you as well. Perhaps you feel impressed to stop and talk to someone or to go down a new street. Listen to and obey the promptings of the Holy Spirit as you go.

Be ready.

You may encounter someone who needs prayer or is willing to engage in a spiritual conversation with you. Be ready to interact with those around you. Be willing to ask people if you can pray for them. Find out what is heavy on their heart and be ready to listen and pray.

Be a doer.

You can't really learn to prayer walk unless you *just do it*. Even if you feel apprehensive or you don't feel that you can wrap your mind around it, go ahead and try it. Put your shoes on and put yourself in the neighborhood!

Be on the lookout for God at work.

Make your prayer walk an opportunity for thanking the Lord. Be assured that you didn't beat God into the neighborhood. He has been there working long before you arrived. What an awesome privilege we have to join God as he draws people to himself.



*Walk around your neighborhood praying
over every house, every neighbor.*

If you see signs of children in the house, pray for those children to grow up knowing God. Pray for parents to have wisdom and patience in their job of parenting.

If you see signs of teenagers in the house, pray for safety as those kids begin to stretch their wings. Pray they will find a sure path and stay well-grounded as they grow and leave home.

If you see a "For Sale" sign in the yard, pray for a smooth transition and move for the family and the new neighbors who will move in.

If you see signs of neglect in the house, pray for any financial struggle that may be present. Pray that the Lord would provide for that neighbor's needs financially, physically and spiritually.

Pray for people as you pass them! If they ask what you're doing, be prepared to respond "We're praying for the neighborhood. Is there any special way we can be praying for you?"

Pray over the teachers, administrators, and children in your school district.

Pray for government, leadership, and authorities over your community. Ask the Lord to grant them wisdom in decision making and hearts that are in tune with Him.

Ask the Holy Spirit to direct you as you build relationships with neighbors.

Pray for the unsaved in the community:

- Ask God to remove the blindness from their minds.
(See 2 Corinthians 4:4-5)
- Ask God to bring light into the darkness they are experiencing.
(See Ephesians 5:8)
- Ask God to deliver them from the spirit of disobedience.
(See Ephesians 2:1-2)
- Ask God to reach through their hardened minds.
(See 2 Corinthians 3:14)
- Ask God to set the captives free.
(See 2 Timothy 2:26)

Pray for the saved, but uncommitted.

(Believers who have become apathetic or complacent)


- Ask God to convict them of sin, righteousness, and judgment.
(See John 16:8)
- Pray they will become obedient.
(See Hebrews 10:25)
- Pray they will overcome any bad church experiences.

Claim your community for Christ.

(This is the crowning step in putting feet to our prayers!)

- Ask the Lord to give you opportunities to share His love to your neighbors.
- Pray that Satan's hindering of God's work in your neighborhood would be stopped.
- Pray for boldness to speak truth to those you have contact with.

Close with a time of thanksgiving and prayer. Thank the Lord for placing you intentionally in your neighborhood. Praise Him for his lovingkindness and compassion on ALL who would call on His name.



*After your prayer walk, take time
to reflect on your observations.*

Think about or discuss the following:

What positive qualities, opportunities and benefits does the community have to offer? What are signs that God is already at work in the neighborhood? Identify potential partners (people, churches, organizations) that the church could come alongside in serving the community.

What needs and concerns are evident? What challenges are people likely to face as they go about their daily life?

How might community residents view your congregation? Would you be perceived as allies, foreigners, friends, helpers, annoyances, or simply irrelevant?

Do you sense any barriers to “fitting in” between yourself and the community—language, culture, class, ethnicity, age? What stereotypes about people and places might you have to address to build healthy relationships with people here?

How is the Good News of salvation through Christ relevant here? What might it look like if God’s kingdom were realized “on earth as it is in heaven” here in this community? Imagine how your congregation, working alongside members of the community, might participate in helping the neighborhood experience God’s design for their life.

Did your prayerful observations spark any ideas that will help you put your faith into action in this community? Identify how you could follow up with organizations or individuals in the community.