

Prayerwalking

Prayerwalking is exactly what it sounds like: *praying as you walk*. It is an intentional means of taking prayer into the streets, the marketplace, and residential areas.

The purpose of prayerwalking is not just to pray, but to help us view the world as God sees it. Prayerwalking is therefore a powerful research tool which can help you learn much about a given area. As you go with other people, prayerwalking is also an amazing way to develop stronger relationships with your fellow believers.

Here are three ways you can go prayerwalking:

1. **Just walk along and pray quietly**, observing the area and asking God to intervene.
2. **Walk and pray, but casually seek opportunities to start conversations**. You can mention to people that you're out praying in the area and ask how you can pray for them.
3. **Go out intentionally to search for persons of peace**, using prayer as a filter. This can be done on the streets or door to door as you seek people who may be receptive to the Lord.

Basic Prayerwalking Guidelines

- Identify a target area such as a neighbourhood or high street.
- Ask a fellow believer to go with you. Prayerwalking is best done with two or three people, so if there are more of you in a group, split up and go in separate directions.
- Be prepared to spend at least 30 minutes in the area.
- Wear comfortable clothing that is culturally appropriate.
- Seek to fit in, not to stand out. Don't be conspicuous and don't attract attention to yourselves. Be on the scene, but don't make a scene.
- Walk at a slow pace. Pray in a soft tone just as you would normally talk to one another.
- Smile and be pleasant. Show respect for authority and obey local rules.
- Listen to the Holy Spirit as He moves your heart in compassion for people and the places where they live and work. Take some time to be silent as you listen to the Lord speak.
- If someone asks what you are doing, explain that you're praying for their area and ask if there is any specific way that you can pray for them.
- Write down any observations that will be helpful in your research of the area, or anything that would be valuable for future prayerwalking teams to know.

Five Themes for Praying Broadly in a Target Area

Open Heavens – pray that people will hear from God

Open Hearts – pray that people will be receptive

Open Homes – pray that households and families will be open to the gospel

Open Highways – pray for channels through which the gospel can flow freely to others

Open Hands – pray for people's needs and be ready to serve and bless them

Use B.L.E.S.S. to Pray More Specifically for Individuals and Families

Bodies – for health and rest

Labour – for productivity as well as safety at work

Emotions – for joy and inner well-being

Social Relationships – for harmony and peace among people

Spiritual Relationships – for openness to the Lord and His leadership

