

→ What is Prayer Ministry?

Inviting Jesus to love His children, like only He can.

→ Key Elements of Prayer Ministry:

- Loving the Person

- Listening to the Holy Spirit and the Person

- Grounded in Scripture

- Praying with Authority

→ Three Disciplines of Prayer Ministry:

- Heal

- Bless

- Send

→ Goal of Prayer Ministry:

IT IS ALL FOR GOD'S GLORY!!!

- Not for the excitement or emotional experience
- Not for healing's sake
- Not for a power trip
- Not for intimacy with others

(Taken from Laura Thiel's "Overview of Prayer Ministry" and from John Wimber's "Power Healing")

5 Step Prayer Ministry Model

→ ZERO [Pre-Prayer]

Prepare yourself spiritually. Before Large Group, ask God to enlarge your heart and fill it with His love. Remember that you can only give out what you've first received from God!

→ ONE [Interview]

1. Ask them how you can pray for them or why they came down for prayer. If you don't know them already then ask them about themselves, get to know them. Have a normal conversation with the person. Don't be weird!
2. Listen to God's voice as you listen to the person.
 - a. Make note of themes and connections.
 - b. The issue that they raise may not always be the root issue!
 - c. Keep your ears and your heart focused and open to God's voice. Be alert to impressions, perceptions, sudden insights, images, words, verses-these may be the Holy Spirit's leading.
3. Don't focus on gathering every bit of information about the person. Once you have enough information engage in prayer. The goal of this time is not counseling.

→ TWO [Diagnosis]

In your mind, begin to diagnose what is the cause or the root of the problem? Some common root issues are:

1. Sin Issues

- a. Symptoms- guilt, avoidance, shame, torment, resistance toward God, reaping consequences, hardness
- b. This is not just sin you committed, but can also be sin that has been committed against you.

2. Past Wounds

- a. Symptoms- fear, hopelessness, confusion, tainting, powerlessness, rejection, abandonment
- b. Common Sources of Wounding:
 - i. Family issues (including generational sins)
 - ii. Past relationships
 - iii. Authority figures
 - iv. Abuse, violence, rejection

3. Ungodly Belief

- a. Distorted perception of God
Symptoms- Inability to receive Father's love and care, little spiritual intimacy or passion, untrue religious belief, distant from God, view of God as demanding and harsh
- b. Distorted perception of self
Symptoms- Shame, self-hatred, lack of healthy self-acceptance, performance driven, Self-image wrapped up in things, people, positions, ministry, etc.

→ THREE [Prayer Selection]

1. What kind of prayer will be most effective in dealing with the root problem?
 - a. Sin Issues → Prayer of repentance and forgiveness.
 - b. Past Wounds → Prayers of healing, blessing, peace, and renewal
 - c. Ungodly Beliefs → Prayers of repentance and renouncing false belief
2. Other types of Prayer Ministry available:
Inner Healing, Physical Healing, Deliverance Ministry

→ FOUR [Prayer Engagement]

1. Invite the Holy Spirit.
 - a. Open up the prayer time by inviting the Spirit's presence and guidance.
 - b. Keep your eyes open during the prayer and remain observant of their comfort, receptivity, etc.
 - c. Always ask the person permission before you lay your hands on/over them in prayer. This is of particular importance if they are the opposite gender as you.
 - d. Explain and interpret every thing you do during prayer ministry.
2. Listen to God.
Explain to the prayee that you will take a moment to listen to God together in silence. Listen to God to gain a deeper understanding into the direction God wants to take you. Don't feel rushed or awkward. God may not speak right away or give you an immediate direction.
3. If needed, ask the prayee further questions to gain insight into what you are hearing.
4. Share and pray out verses, words, pictures, images, or impressions that you receive.
 - a. It is worth the risk to pray it out in faith!!! Take risks!!!
 - b. If what you receive is uncertain then you can say "I feel as if the Lord is saying..." and "I think..." instead of "Thus sayeth the Lord..." You can also ask the person, "does that mean anything to you?" in order to gain more understanding into how the person is responding to the prayer
 - c. God's grace is sufficient to cover all of your weaknesses and/or mistakes. Ultimately our success or failure in prayer is irrelevant, rather it is more important that we are obedient in responding to God's leading.
5. Pray the type of prayer selected from step 3.
 - a. Prayers you can pray over the prayee
 - i. Prayers of healing
 - ii. Prayers of blessing
 - iii. Prayers of petition
 - b. Prayers you can lead the prayee to pray
 - i. Prayers of repentance and forgiveness
 - ii. Prayers of renouncement of lies or ungodly beliefs
 - iii. Prayers of declaration of truth

6. Stop praying when it is time to stop. Don't force it!
7. End with a prayer of blessing and sending.
You can say something along the lines of "In the name of Jesus, I bless you with His peace, love and forgiveness." You could also add an exhortation of sending like "Go and reach the lost full with His authority and boldness."

→ FIVE [Post-prayer Counseling]

1. Debrief the prayer time with the person.
 - a. Ask them how they feel after talking together and praying together.
 - b. Ask if they have any questions about their situation or what was prayed over them.
2. Use this time to give insight into what happened or any advice you feel is necessary.
3. If you need to talk with them more feel free to schedule a meeting with them.
4. Connect them and introduce them to other ministry leaders that might be of help or they might be interested in.

→ Further Reading

- *Freedom Tools: For Overcoming Life's Tough Problems* by Andrew John Reese
- *Deep Wounds Deep Healing: An Introduction to Deep Level Healing* by Dr. Charles H. Craft
- *Inner Healing: A Handbook for Helping Yourself and Others* by Mike Flynn and Doug Gregg
- *Power Healing* by John Wimber and Kevin Springer