Prayer Walking Guide

(This may also be modified if a street needs to be driven-just keep everyone's safety in mind)

Prayer walking: Praying on-site with insight. (Hawthorne and Kendrick, Prayerwalking)

By seeing firsthand the state of the neighborhood we can pray more clearly for the needs of the community and ask God to bring forth His answers.

THE INS AND OUTS OF PRAYER WALKING

- 1. You can prayer walk alone, but many find their prayers become more focused when expressed with another believer. Two people walking side by side works best. It is easier to hear each other. (Two wide on a sidewalk is the norm. If someone is walking behind the one praying, they may not be able to hear.)
- 2. Pray with your eyes wide open physically and spiritually.
- 3. Rely on the Holy Spirit to give insight into the needs for which to pray.
- Look for items that can help you to pray, i.e. Children's toys, indicators of who live in this house, etc. Watch the people you encounter and look for what God is doing. Pray with your eyes wide open
- 5. Pray out loud regardless of whether or not you have a partner.
- 6. Stop and concentrate as you pray. Pursue conversational praying. Pray Scripture. Perhaps even read Scripture at times. Stop to talk about what you are feeling, seeing, and sensing. Prayerwalking is not about praying constantly.
- 7. Meditate on Scripture that seems to be appropriate for the area. Remember the battle is not against flesh and blood.

A FEW "DON'T'S" OF PRAYER WALKING

- 1. Don't draw attention to yourself (Be on the scene, without making one)
- 2. Don't pray against the people or community (us against them attitude)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- 1. Give basis instructions about Prayerwalking
 - (a) Ask if anyone has prayer walked before let them explain how they do it.
 - (b) Go over the ins and outs of prayer walking
- 2. If possible, team up a rookie with a veteran
- 3. Have maps of area where they will be prayer walking
- 4. Mark the spots on the map:
 - (a) Where to start the prayer walk
 - (b) Where they are to return at the conclusion of the walk.
 - (c) Where to find water if needed
 - (d) The time to return to the meet or pickup location

5. Everyone should have your phone number, presumably your cell phone, so you can pick them up if they run into difficulty.

- 6. Make sure you have the names and cell phone numbers of all participants. At least one person on a prayer team should have a cell phone.
- 7. Make sure everyone returns to the place of origination. *People can drive to the neighborhood, but they MUST check in when they leave.*

DEBRIEFING YOUR PRAYER WALK

- 1. How did your *vision* change?
 - Do you see the area differently? How?
 - What was new or surprising?
 - What did you perceive about God's will regarding the community?
 - Recount a significant experience during your prayerwalk.
- 2. How did your *praying* change?
 - What happened to your focus in view of the surrounding people and issues?
 - How did God's Word impact your prayers?
 - Share a prayer that seemed particularly significant, and why you think so.
 - How will this prayer time effect further prayer times?
- 3. Who did you meet?
 - Were there any encounters with people? What did it lead to?
 - Who did you sense needs further prayer or other assistance?
- 4. What did you hear or learn?
 - Did you sense God teaching or speaking to you about anything?
 - What new insights have you gained that will help you or others in further prayer?

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS

PRAY FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD

- 1. For God's blessings upon the community (our hopes for **<u>them</u>**)
- 2. That God would reveal Himself to these people and lift the darkness/deception to which they are subject.
- 3. That God would reveal His goodness to these people.
- 4. That God would destroy the works of Satan in their lives.

- 5. That God would cause them to become dissatisfied with the ways they are seeking satisfaction and purpose in life.
- 6. That God would reveal to them their true spiritual condition and need.
- 7. That God would draw them irresistibly to Himself.
- 8. That God would convict them of their sin, His righteous standard, and the judgment to come.
- 9. That God would reveal who Jesus is and that only He can deliver from sin and its consequences.
- 10. That God's kingdom would come to this people/community as it is in Heaven, and that His will would be done.

PRAY FOR POLITICAL LEADERS AND PASTORS

- Pray for just leaders who will rule in the fear of God.
- Pray for leaders who will be free from covetousness and immorality and will not misuse power, position, or possessions.
- Pray for leaders who will be wise and have a teachable spirit.
- Pray for leaders who will lead with mercy and truth.
- Pray for leaders who will be free from bribery, corruption, and flattery.
- Pray for leaders who will be charitable and compassionate and have a heart for the poor.
- Pray for others who will have opportunity to influence leaders for good.
- Pray for God to raise up leaders who have the wisdom and courage to lead.

SCRIPTURE PRAYER (<u>www.waymakers.org</u>)

*God continually gives of his life and goodness to every person every day.

John 1:4-5 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. (*NIV*)

Lord, you shine here, this very day, upon the lives of every single person of this community. We live because of you. Though our friends may not yet understand that you are their source and their survival, we honor you gladly. Receive thanks from us on their behalf.

John 9:5 While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." (*NIV*)

We acclaim you, the Lord Jesus Christ, as Light of the world. You are God's Son. You died for the sins of the people for whom we pray. You were raised from the dead to be their leader and life-giver.

John 9:39 Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the

blind will see and those who see will become blind." (N/V)

We welcome you into this part of your world. Bring sight to those who are blind. *Ask God to overwhelm evil's power so that people are free to follow Jesus.

Isaiah 9:2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. For those who lived in a land of deep shadows-- light! sunbursts of light! (*The Message*)

Bring on a display of your Son as wide and clear as the dawn? Reveal the presence, the power and the truth of Jesus so greatly that people speak of him openly in homes, schools and workplaces.

Luke 1:77-78 Present the offer of salvation to his people, the forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸Through the heartfelt mercies of our God, God's Sunrise will break in upon us, ⁷⁹Shining on those in the darkness, those sitting in the shadow of death, Then showing us the way, one foot at a time, down the path of peace. (*The Message*)

We declare your truth. Impart your hope upon this neighborhood. A hope that releases these people from the paralyzing power of sin. Bring forth heaven's peace upon this neighborhood, this city. Lead us and them as never before in hope.

*Ask God to bless the neighborhood/city with the good things which he desires.

Psalm 103:1-3 ¹Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. ²Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits - ³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, (*NIV*)

Release them from sin. Restore their health. Remind them of your goodness.

Psalm 103:4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, (*NIV*)

Lift them from troubles and traps they may have dug for themselves. Give them a taste of the life in your love.

Psalm 103:5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. (*NIV*)

Realign their desires as you have designed so that they enjoy every good thing you give. Grant peace in their homes.