



Prayer Walking is prayer that is targeted for the place you are walking.

Prayer Walking falls under a category of prayer called Intercession. Intercession is praying on behalf of others; bringing their needs before the Lord as if they were your own. Examples include Moses' intercession with the Lord on behalf of the Israelites (Exodus 32:9-14), Daniel's prayer (Daniel 9:4-19), and Amos' appeal (Amos 1-6).

What is my purpose? Exactly what do I want to see accomplished?

You are to bring light to the darkness. Jesus said in **Matthew 5:14-16**: *"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*

Ask God to give you humility, compassion and alignment with His will as you intercede with the Lord on behalf of this community and those we serve.

The scripture says; *"Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken."* **Ecclesiastes 4:12**. There is strength in numbers and this is so true in prayer. Prayer power increases with each person that is added.

Pray for protection before every prayer walk.

There are many beautiful portions of scripture that lend themselves wonderfully for the purpose of God's protection, and **Psalms 91** is a favorite.

Scripture reference for protection

"From my distress I called upon the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me in a large place. The Lord is for me; I will not fear; what can man do to me? The Lord is for me among those who help me; therefore I shall look with satisfaction on those who hate me." **Psalms 118:5-7**

"If I say, 'Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, and the light around me will be night,' even the darkness is not dark to Thee, and the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to Thee." **Psalms 139:11-12**

"Great is our Lord, and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite. The Lord supports the afflicted; He brings down the wicked to the ground." **Psalms 147:5-6**

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"The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runs into it and is safe."

Proverbs 18:10

Why is protection so important? The Bible says; *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."*

1 Peter 5:8. As you disrupt the devil's territory through your targeted prayer, he may target YOU to devour. Be wise spiritually and leave no opening in your fence that he can get through.

Promoting Prayer Walks

One of the main reasons for the success of a prayer walking project is in the way it is presented to the church or group. The other thing (and this cannot be overestimated) is that a Pastoral Advisor is solidly behind the initiative.

Have announcements in the bulletin and from the pulpit. Another big plus is the use of cameras. Visit many of the sites on your own or with a small prayer group and take pictures. Do not take any pictures during your prayer walks because that is too distracting.

After the prayer walks are over, go back to locations that people mark on their route sheets, or areas they mention during the debrief meeting, and take additional pictures. In that way you have an accurate picture of each walk. Compile the pictures and the route sheets with notes from the prayer walkers and make them into scrapbooks.

Afterwards, a member of the church can create a large poster showing the city skyline or building site and display it in the back of the sanctuary or fellowship hall along with the pictures and route sheets. These route sheets are very interesting to read because the walkers are asked to mark them up and make comments of their impressions. After Sunday service people may congregate around the display and that will generate excitement for future walks.

Here are some additional tips for planning a successful prayer walk.

- Be prepared. Organize all your behind-the-scene information so people are not standing around waiting to discover what is going to happen.
- Keep on schedule. Start ON TIME.
- Make sure to plan for one or two "driving" routes for anyone who may not be physically able to walk. No one should be left out because everyone can pray.
- Since you don't know how many people will show up the first time, be flexible with the number of routes available. Be ready to condense or expand plans.
- Encourage every prayer walker to record their thoughts and impressions on the route sheets.

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- Space the walks about once a month so people are not overburdened and they maintain interest.
- Take pictures and provide follow up so people realize they made a difference.

Prayer Walk Handout

Before the children of Israel crossed the Jordan to take possession of the land of Canaan, "Joshua the son of Nun sent out two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly, saying, 'Go, view the land, especially Jericho.'" Just as the two spies did then, we will be surveying the city or location before we take possession for the Lord Jesus.

What are we up against?

What are the spiritual, dark forces in high places with which we will battle?

Why is the city/location closed/shut up against the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Prayer walks are designed for us to observe the spiritual climate of the city/location so that we can pray and devise strategies to defeat the enemy. The city/location is ours to take so let us "be wise as serpents and harmless as doves." (**Matt. 10:16**) Listed below are some guidelines for you to follow which will protect you as you go out and will bring optimum results for God's purposes.

1. Remember, this is not a race; please take your time so that the Holy Spirit can show you whatever God's direction.
2. Follow the Team Leader assigned to you. Stay within the spiritual and physical boundaries you are given.
3. Walk inconspicuously and pray quietly. Don't carry Bibles, tambourines, etc. Don't use this as a witnessing opportunity.
4. Don't socialize with your fellow walkers or request personal ministry. This is a time to pray and keep your spiritual eyes and hearts open. God may give YOU a key to taking the city. Listen and pray as the Lord leads.
5. At the end of your walk, gather together and share your impressions and observations with your Team Leader who will use the back of the route sheet to record them. (Leaders, please turn these in to the Organizer.)
6. Keep praying daily about the things the Lord has shown you. No one person will have all the pieces of the puzzle.

Thank you for coming! The Prayer Team Organizers are excited about the vision they have for making this city/site "Holy". By your support you show that you share that vision. May God richly bless you.

References:

<http://www.hannahscupboard.com/prayer-walking.html>

<http://www.newchurches.com/mediafiles/PrayerWalkManual.pdf>