

LEADERS NEED PRAYER!

Establishing and Sustaining a
Leader's Prayer Team

Goal of Workshop:

Equip prayer leaders and prayer coordinators to gather praying people and mobilize groups to stand united in spirit in intercession for leaders.

Outline of Workshop

- Scriptural examples of supporting leaders
- What a Prayer Team is NOT
- Building a Prayer Team
 - Why?
 - Foundational values
 - Finding, gathering, training
- Role of the Team Coordinator
- A Functioning Prayer Team
- Sustaining Motivation
- Personal Experiences
- Q & A, handouts

Scriptural Examples of Support

- Ex. 17:8-13
- 1 Sam. 14:6-7
- Col. 4:12

- The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, “Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands.” So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. When Moses’ hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword. Ex. 17:8-13

Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, “Come, let’s go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. Perhaps the Lord will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few.”

“Do all that you have in mind,” his armor-bearer said. “Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul.” 1 Sam. 14:6-7

Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. Col. 4:12

What a Prayer Team is NOT

- A prayer team is not a substitute for the leader's prayer life
- A prayer team is not an inside information group
- A prayer team is not a gossip group
- A prayer team is not a controlling board
- A prayer team is not a guarantee against all trials and hardship

Why build a prayer team?

- Many have very limited prayer lives
- Encourages accountability
- Build unity on a small scale (1 Sam. 14)
- Basis for trust and deeper communication (but not an “exclusive club”)

Foundational Values

- Commitment
 - To God
 - To the leader and the vision
 - To the team
- Communication
- Confidentiality

Gathering & Training Praying People

- Leader must believe in the necessity and benefit of prayer (Ps. 72:15; Rom. 15:30; 2 Cor. 1:11; Eph. 6:18-19; Phil 1:19; Col. 4:2-3; 1 Thes. 5:25; 2 Thess. 3:1; 1 Tim. 2:1; Philm. 1:22; Heb. 13:18; Jam. 5:16; 1 Pet. 3:12)
- Leader or Prayer Coordinator Initiates
- Use relational circles without fostering elitism
- Communicate expectations
- Provide training

Outline for Training

- Function: Service, support, teamwork
- Responsibilities
 - Maintain prayer life
 - Pray regularly for leader
 - Attend meetings
 - Communicate input
 - Avoid criticism
 - Maintain confidentiality
 - Receive correction if needed
 - Model a life of prayer
- Revelation Protocol
- Response commitment

Role of Prayer Coordinator

- Provide training
- Communication between team & leader
- Discern trends, warnings, seasons
- Nurture unity
- Encourage the team, reinforcing foundational values
- Guard against criticism & other pitfalls
- Work to resolve conflicts - within the team, with the leader
- Facilitate update meetings

Sample Meeting Agenda

- Make sure meetings occur
- Note attendance
- Intro, affirmation, preliminary news items
- Gather input, prayer burdens, dreams, etc.
- Draw out member's prayer burdens and insights
- Facilitate Interaction with leader: Keep focus and momentum. Leader shares issues, schedules, problems, opportunities, testimonies, family stuff.
- Group prayer
- Compile and distribute notes

- The right people with right motivation.
- Covering all aspects of leader's life & ministry in relational context.
 - Spiritual life, surrender to God, deep relationship
 - Physical health and protection
 - Wisdom, clarity of direction, boldness
 - Favor, divine appointments, awareness of HS leading
 - Family life and relationships
 - HS guidance in scheduling meetings, travel
 - Protection from snares and temptation
 - Personal development, character, holiness, purity
 - Ministry: preaching, teaching, training, writing, safety in travels, HS empowerment
 - Scheduled events and ongoing projects
- Praying the Scriptures
- Prophetic revelation

Sustaining Motivation

- Consistent communication
- Appreciation from the leader
- Testimonies!
- Confirmed prophetic revelation
- Prayer gatherings
- Team-building events

- Conclusion
- Personal Experiences
- Questions