

CONCERTS OF PRAYER

INTIMACY & INTERCESSION



AN INTIMATE EVENING WITH GOD

WAITING ON THE LORD TOGETHER

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. – 2 Chronicles 7:14

WHAT IS A CONCERT OF PRAYER?

This Concert of Prayer is based on the style developed by David Bryant in Concerts of Prayer International. Ours contains four areas of prayer 1) Rejoice 2) Repent 3) Requests 4) Renew. Music is part of our prayers as Paul exhorted the church to “speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, making melody in your heart to the Lord.” This is part of “ministering to the Lord.” Our purpose is to wait on the Lord, to listen to him, as well as to jointly carry our burdens to the Lord.

LEADER:

Someone must act as the director for the concert. This means he or she must remain at the platform area or at least near a microphone to coordinate the segments. Each division can be separated by a hymn or chorus appropriately chosen. Also, the leader needs to be time aware and ring a bell, lead a chorus, or announce between the segments to transition to the next.

MUSIC:

Music can be played softly on a CD in the background during prayers. This often enhances the prayer time and avoids uncomfortable silence. Keep it soft instrumental music. People should be encouraged to minister to the Lord as He leads. If a group senses a chorus arising in their hearts they should be free to lead out, others will join in as the Spirit leads.

SCRIPTURE:

God speaks! That is why we spend so much time in cultivating intimacy. Let God speak through his Word. An open Bible is a wonderful prayer tool whether with Psalms of praise, or admonishments and exhortations, or encouragement. Let it be Scripture read aloud so all can hear. Praying Scripture has a powerful effect on all of us. It is God speaking to the pray-ers.

SPIRIT OF GOD:

Be sure to let the Spirit of God lead. If there is a segment that lends itself to more fervent prayers and tears, don't interrupt it just to keep on schedule. The schedule is a guide, but Jesus is Lord! If revival breaks out in times of confession or burden bearing you don't want to quench the Spirit. Go with God and you cannot go wrong.

SOLOS, TRIPLETS, AND SYMPHONY:

We encourage you to divide the congregation up into sets of three, called "trio," for the purpose of focused group prayers. People should feel free at the beginning of the session to find their own group partners with whom they may be comfortable.

FORMAT

- Songs that Tune our Hearts
- Scriptures that Focus our Prayers
- Supplication in solos (1), trios (3), Symphony (all together)

PRAYER ROOMS:

During the prayer request time we have prepared separate rooms for prayer for the various concerns. Groups should circulate at the prescribed time to the next room on the list in this order, People, Missionaries, Unreached Peoples, and Our Nation. Spend about 5 minutes on each then move to another room.

IDEAS FOR A CONCERTS OF PRAYER

“Changing the Way We Pray”

We are asking that this morning you put aside your traditional format for corporate prayer and consider entering into another style. It is not a new style but an old appointed way that has been lost to the tradition of lecturing God in audible prayers. Many of our people shy away from prayer meetings because we have taught them by example that prayer is like giving a public speech. Prayer is not a performance or public speaking. Prayer is not boring, nor is it a monologue to God, while others listen in. Prayer is a relationship to be entered into, enjoyed, and experienced. Prayer should be a dynamic experience of the presence and power of God.

Our corporate attitude in prayer will be biblical, that is, multifaceted, active, with varied positions and voices. We ask you to avoid the ruts that have become our 20th century prayer meetings, which is primarily sitting, one-at-a-time praying. That is, one person leads out in prayer while the rest listen in. God never intended for prayer to be a one-man show. Corporate prayer is to be a symphony, not a solo performance. We invite you to join in the chorus of prayers being raised to God this morning.

GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

- ◆ Solo time (get alone)
 - ◆ Partners (2-3)
 - ◆ Small Groups (5-6)
 - ◆ Corporate (all)
 - ◆ Men/Women
 - ◆ Journaling
 - ◆ Listening in stillness
 - ◆ Leader led
 - ◆ At the altar
 - ◆ Unison praying
- Sing your prayer
 - Scripture prayers
 - Antiphonal prayers
 - Confess your faults to one another and pray.
 - Call for elders to anoint
 - Declaration of truths
 - Exercise authority
 - Declare loosing of captives

Our time is short with a mere two hours to pray. We have provided you with materials on prayer that can assist you in varying your prayer routine. Some of that material is in workbook form. Use it when searching your heart before God in confession. Use it to remind yourself of God's promises and precious comforting Scriptures that lift and encourage. Take it home with you and use it in your prayer times. Teach it to others in small groups, or even in your prayer meetings. Your people will appreciate the fresh new approach and will pick up new and more effective prayer habits. May God bless and encourage your heart as we share this time together.

Team Praying

- Lead out in prayer (Leader)
- Agreeing (Amen! Yes Lord!)
- Touching (lay hands on)
- Encouraging (Use Scripture)
- Conversational (Short sentences)
- Whispered (silent passion)
- Unison (holy buzz, in one voice)

Positions of Prayer

- Sit
- Stand
- Kneel
- Bend or bow
- Prostrate
- On the floor
- Hands raised
- Eyes lifted
- Walking - pacing
- Lay hands on
- Anoint with oil

Voice Your Prayers

- Say it
- Shout it
- Sing it
- Cry out
- Whisper it
- Keep silence
- Groan it
- Shed tears in it
- Write it out

Check out www.PrayerToday.org for more information on prayer.

TWO CONCERTS OF PRAYER

The Program

A Concert of Prayer is a solid block of time spent with the Lord, and/or with others in seeking the Lord in prayer. It is a time to slow ones pace of life and focus on the Lord alone for a few hours, or in some cases, a few days. It is a time to invite you people to join together for a refreshing time in the Lord's presence on Friday or Saturday evening, from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. You'll be glad you did.

The Schedule

Though we present a schedule you may feel free to pray any way and any where you like at anytime during the evening. It is your time alone with God. Make it special. Dress casually, and comfortably. Bring a walkman and earphones with worship tapes for times of worship without disturbing others. The pace is up to the individual. They can walk through all 6 steps in a 40 minute period or they can choose to go more slowly just visiting 3 steps. Do not hurry people just to reach all the steps. If you have a larger group you may find it easier to put people into four different tracks such as 1) God 2) You 3) Others 4) World, each having three step to them.

The Rooms

Throughout the building there will be rooms designated by titles. These rooms are especially equipped for intercessory prayer in that mode. There are two types, the OASIS rooms, that are rooms where you may be quiet and personally prepare your heart before God. Then there are OUTPOST rooms for intercessory prayer work. These room are equipped with helpful request sheets, maps, pictures, etc. that will help you in your intercessory prayer time.

Helpful Hints

There are 3 parts to the evening -

Part I is Intimacy with God using the first 6 steps of intercession. Study those steps to get used to it. Teach it in church prior to the prayer concert so it is not new. Practice praying these steps in your prayer meetings or in small groups using the 3-minute timer.

Part II is Intercession for Others using the last 6 steps of intercession. Again, practice makes perfect (or at least better). Equip each room (if you have a large group you many need several rooms for each step) with decorations appropriate to the prayer step. (See the hints provided on each)

Part III is Corporate prayer and worship. It can be quite intimidating and ultimately self defeating to expect people to be able to stand alone in a congregation and pray out loud in front of everyone. Designate men and women to pray over specific topics who are experienced in public prayer. Provide smaller groups for a more intimate setting but remember that even in that setting it can make people nervous to pray out loud.

Prayer Guides

The fact is that most people are lost at prayer. They don't know how to do it. Use this as a training time. Provide clear prayer guides like this one to allow them to go over the booklet while they are involved in prayer.

Tools for Prayer

You can make prayer easier for the novice by providing tools for prayer. At least ask people to bring these items and keep a supply on hand.

- Notebook and pen
- Familiar Bible
- 3-Minute Timers
- Cassette/CD Player with headsets
- Kneeling pads

CONCERT OF PRAYER SCHEDULE

Morning Session - 9:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

9:00 a.m. Begin promptly. Worship Chorus and Pastoral Prayer

9:10 a.m. Explanation of this prayer style. Brief instructions as to the concert of prayer activities.

9:30 a.m. Separate to the various prayer locations.

FOCUS ON GOD	<p>"OASIS" of Intimacy with God (10 minutes on each segment)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Be Still: Quiet Room - for silence, slowing down and preparing for prayer. 2.Be Worshipful: Adoration Room - for praise, exaltation of God's name, and worship. 3.Be Thankful: Thanksgiving Room - for giving thanks to God for everything.
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10:00 - 9:50 a.m. - Meet in sanctuary for corporate sentence prayers of Worship, Praise and Thanksgiving. (Keep the prayers focus on worship, praise and thanksgiving but not requesting.)

10:10 - 10:40 a.m. Separate to the various prayer centers.

FOCUS ON YOU	<p>"OASIS" of Preparation of Self (10 minutes on each segment)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Confession: Personal Room - for confession of sin, self examination, surrender to God. 2.Cover with Armor: Authority Room - for reading, applying promises, authority. 3.Cast your Care: Burden Room - for personal burdens to be laid down before the cross.
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10:40 a.m. - Assemble in sanctuary for a time of anointing, laying on of hands and prayer one for another for personal struggles, and physical needs. (Can be altogether or in groups of 3-4)

10:55 - 11:10 a.m. -- BREAK FOR TEA, COFFEE, JUICE

11:10 - 11:40 a.m. Separate to the various prayer centers.

FOCUS ON OTHERS	<p>"OASIS" of Intercession for Others (10 minutes on each segment)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Souls: Unserved Souls Room - plead with God for your 10 most wanted list 2.Saints: Church Family Room - for the body of Christ, the families by name 3.Sick: Healing Room - for prayer and anointing and for healing of mind, body, spirit.
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11:40 - 11:50 a.m. - Assemble in sanctuary. Use Corporate Sentence Prayers for Souls, Saints, Sicknesses. (Designate prayer leaders or volunteer who will take specific requests to the throne.)

11:50 a.m. Separate to the various prayer centers.

FOCUS ON WORLD	<p>"OASIS" of Intercession for World (10 minutes on each segment)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Ministers: Ministry Room - for servants leaders, pastors, S.Sch teachers, outreach, etc. 2.Missionaries: Missions Room - for prayer for the world's peoples and missionaries. 3.Magistrates: World Room - for our world and national leaders, President, Senate, etc.
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12:20 p.m. PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING in songs, hymns, and spiritual songs.

12:30 p.m. SHARING Scripture, Insights, Prayer Burdens

(What has God given you in the Word and through his still small voice?)

12:45 p.m. CLOSING: With joined hands in prayer - Everyone Dismissed

CONCERT OF PRAYER SCHEDULE

Evening Session: 8:00 p.m. - 11:45 p.m.

8:00 p.m. Begin promptly. Worship Chorus and Pastoral Prayer

8:10 p.m. Explanation of this Prayer Style. Brief instructions as to the concert of prayer activities.

8:30 p.m. Separate to the various prayer locations.

FOCUS ON GOD	<p>"OASIS" of Intimacy with God (10 minutes on each segment)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Be Still: Quiet Room - for silence, slowing down and preparing for prayer. 2.Be Worshipful: Adoration Room - for praise, exaltation of God's name, and worship. 3.Be Thankful: Thanksgiving Room - for giving thanks to God for everything.
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9:00 - 9:50 p.m. Meet in sanctuary for corporate sentence prayers of Worship, Praise and Thanksgiving.

(Keep the prayers focus on worship, praise and thanksgiving but not requesting.)

9:10 - 9:40 p.m. Separate to the various prayer centers.

FOCUS ON YOU	<p>"OASIS" of Preparation of Self (10 minutes on each segment)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Confession: Personal Room - for confession of sin, self examination, surrender to God. 2.Cover with Armor: Authority Room - for reading, applying promises, authority. 3.Cast your Care: Burden Room - for personal burdens to be laid down before the cross.
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9:40 p.m. - Assemble in sanctuary for a time of anointing, laying on of hands and prayer one for another for personal struggles, and physical needs. (Can be altogether or in groups of 3-4)

9:55 - 10:10 p.m. -- BREAK FOR TEA, COFFEE, JUICE.

10:10 - 10:40 p.m. Separate to the various prayer centers.

FOCUS ON OTHERS	<p>"OASIS" of Intercession for Others (10 minutes on each segment)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Souls: Unserved Souls Room - plead with God for your 10 most wanted list 2.Saints: Church Family Room - for the body of Christ, the families by name 3.Sick: Healing Room - for prayer and anointing and for healing of mind, body, spirit.
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10:40 - 10:50 a.m. - Meet in sanctuary. Use corporate sentence prayers for Souls, Saints, Sicknesses.

(Designate prayer leaders or volunteer who will take specific requests to the throne.)

10:50 a.m. Separate to the various prayer centers.

FOCUS ON WORLD	<p>"OASIS" of Intercession for World (10 minutes on each segment)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Ministers: Ministry Room - for servants leaders, pastors, S.Sch teachers, outreach, etc. 2.Missionaries: Missions Room - for prayer for the world's peoples and missionaries. 3.Magistrates: World Room - for our world and national leaders, President, Senate, etc.
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11:20 p.m. PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING in songs, hymns, and spiritual songs.

11:30 p.m. SHARING Scripture, Insights, Prayer Burdens

(What has God given you in the Word and through his still small voice?)

11:45 p.m. CLOSING: With joined hands in prayer - Everyone Dismissed

A Concert of Prayer

Developing Intimacy With God

Focus on God

Focus on God	<p>BE STILL</p> <p>10 minutes on each (Solo Time)</p> <p>Songs: <i>Sweet Hour of Prayer</i></p> <p>Scripture: [Psalm 46:10, Psalms 27:13-14, Is 30:13-21, Is 40:28-31]</p> <p>In holy awe get alone with God for quieting your heart. Kneel before him, lay prostrate. Be still, keep silence, slow down and put away your list of to-dos. Sweep the cobwebs of your mind so you can focus only on the Lord. Wait on the Lord, and again I say, WAIT on the Lord. Listen for his still small whisper - "Peace be still."</p> <p>Songs: <i>Open My Eyes Lord</i></p>
Focus on God	<p>BE WORSHIPFUL</p> <p>10 minutes on each (Corporate Celebration)</p> <p>Songs - <i>Bless the Lord, I Love You Lord, Crown Him With Many Crowns</i></p> <p>Scripture: [Ps 100, Rev. 1:12-17, 5:8-14]</p> <p>Adoration together lifting our eyes toward the Lord - "I saw the Lord high and lifted up." Praise his name together, tell of his excellent greatness, and sing to the Lord, and worship at his footstool. Make it a time of ministering to the Lord. Magnify him!</p> <p>Songs - <i>As the Deer, I Exalt Thee</i></p>
Focus on God	<p>BE THANKFUL</p> <p>10 minutes on each (Group Time)</p> <p>Songs: <i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i></p> <p>Scripture: [Neh 12:27, 31, 40, 43 Ps 103,]</p> <p>Give thanks to God for everything! Literally exhaust all the possibilities of things to be thankful for. Tell the Lord. Thank Him! For Creation, for your body, life, health, for friends, for provisions, answers to prayer, your church, your ministry, your family. Then give thanks for the hard things - the trials, the sicknesses, the failures, the good, the bad, and the ugly.</p> <p>Songs: <i>Give Thanks</i></p>

A Concert of Prayer

Developing Intimacy With God

Focus on Self

Focus on You	<p>CONFESS SIN</p> <p>10 minutes on each (Solo & Group Time)</p> <p>Songs: <i>Change My Heart O God</i></p> <p>Scripture: [Psalm 51, Daniel 9:4-19, Is 6:1-8]</p> <p>Use half the time for personal introspection and confession of sin, self examination and surrender to God. The other half to share with each other. "Confess your faults (failures & frustrations) one to another and pray one for another."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">My Personal Sin - My Church's Sin - My Nation's Sin</p> <p>Songs: <i>It Is Well (My sin O the bliss!)</i></p>
Focus on You	<p>CLOTHE YOURSELF</p> <p>10 minutes on each (Group & Corporate Time)</p> <p>Songs: <i>Spirit of the Living God Fall Fresh On Me</i></p> <p>Scripture: [Eph 6:10-20, Matt 18:18-20, Is 44:11-17]</p> <p>Spend half the time in groups identifying strongholds, areas of attack in your church. Then stand together in a large circle and apply the promises and principles of authority of the believer. "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven." "Stand in the gap...make up a hedge."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reckon Your Sin Covered • Reckon Your Position in Christ • Resist the Devil <p>Song: <i>A Mighty Fortress</i></p>
Focus on You	<p>CAST YOUR CARE</p> <p>10 minutes on each (Small Groups)</p> <p>Songs: <i>I Cast All My Care</i></p> <p>Scripture: [1 Peter 5:7, Heb 4:16]</p> <p>Share personal burdens and heartaches to be laid down before the cross. Then either assemble (in sanctuary or in small groups) for a time of anointing, laying on of hands and prayer one for another for personal struggles, and physical needs. (Can be altogether or in groups of 3-4)</p> <p>Songs: <i>Burdens Are Lifted At Calvary</i></p>

AN EVENING CONCERT OF PRAYER

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Orchestrated Prayer

Each segment of prayer will be between 10-15 minutes in duration. A bell will sound for changing the flow of our prayers from solo, to trio, to symphony. A musical chorus will close each segment.

1. Rejoice (10-15 minutes)

Suggested Songs - *My Tribute, Bless the Lord, I Love You Lord, My Jesus I Love You*

Scripture - Psalm 100

- (Exaltation) Lord you are my... _____ (God's name) therefore I can (or will)...
- (Adoration) I love you because you are ... _____ (attribute)
- (Thanksgiving) I thank you for ... _____ (what he has done)
- Share Psalms of Praise

Suggested Song - *How Great Thou Art, I Exalt Thee, As the Deer, Thou Art Worthy*

2. Repent (10-15 minutes)

Suggested Songs - *Refiners Fire (Purify My Heart)*

Scripture - Daniel 9:4-19

Supplication - Share among yourselves some sins we need to confess

- Sins of my heart (solo)
- Sins of my church (trio)
- Sins of my nation (symphony together)

Suggested Song - *It Is Well (My sin O the bliss!)*

3. Requests & Petitions (20 minutes)

Suggested Songs - *I Need Thee Every Hour, What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Scripture - Ephesians 1:16-23

Supplication - Rooms are provided for solo and trio prayers (see insert)

Intercession: Focus on the World (5-8 minutes on each segment)

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>Church Family</u>: Pray for people and ministries2. <u>Missionaries</u>: for prayer for the world's peoples, missionaries.3. <u>Unreached People</u>: for those who have never heard the Gospel4. <u>United States</u>: for revival and our national leaders, President, Cabinet, Judges |
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Sharing - burdens - personal burdens, church burdens, missions burdens

Suggested Song - *Great Is Thy Faithfulness, Burdens are Lifted At Calvary*

4. Rest & Renewal (10 minutes)

Suggested Song - *I Surrender All*

Scripture - Isaiah 40:28-31

Supplication - Listen to God in Silence and use Scripture "thus saith the Lord."

Surrender - Come to the altar and light a candle with your final requests.

Closing Song - *Cares Chorus, I Cast All My Care Upon You, Learning to Lean*

Leave quietly and carry the burdens and requests God has placed in your heart.