

Creating a Movement of Praying Men 1 Hour Zoom Session Overview

Part 1: Why Train Men to Lead Prayer Groups? Opportunities and Obstacles

Part 2: Creating A Praying Culture, Learning from the Prayer Life of the Apostle Paul

Part 3: Calling Men to be Praying Leaders – Insights from the US Marines

Part 4: Options for Men's Prayer Groups

Part 5: Ministry Prayer Strategy and Scripture-Based Prayers

Part 1: Why Train Men to Lead Prayer Groups?

Within men is the DNA of revolutionary impact. Training men to pray is a strategic kingdom priority.

How can we increase the impact of men in church and community? Call them to prayer and spiritual activity!

*“The **heartfelt and persistent prayer** of a **righteous man** (believer) can **accomplish much** [when put into action and made effective by God—it is **dynamic** and can have **tremendous power**].” Jam 5:16 AMP*

“He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart.” Luke 18:1 NKJV

**God's Invitation to Life-Long Fellowship With Him
God desires intimate, on-going fellowship with His people.
He wants us to make room for Him.**

“As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” John 1:12-13 NKJV

Obstacles to Prayer

- ▶ **Independence:** Living life on our own, apart from God
- ▶ **Fear:** Flight, fear, terror
- ▶ **Guilt:** Held in, bound by, liable to a charge or action
- ▶ **Shame:** To dishonor, disgrace

Shame: “intensely painful feeling or experience. **Believing we are flawed and unworthy of love and belonging.** Something we've experienced, done, or failed to do makes us unworthy of connection.” Brene Brown

False views of prayer: In order for God to hear and answer my prayers, I must use: Right words, posture, mindset, church position, training, status or level of spirituality, etc.

“People who do not pray will always be disoriented to the activity of God”

Pastor Mel Blackaby

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Part 2: Creating A Culture of Prayer in Our Churches and Ministries

“Whenever God calls His people to Himself, He uses His leaders” Henry Blackaby **Leaders who pray demonstrate their dependence on God.**

- **Prayerlessness is our declaration of independence FROM God.** Pastor Daniel Henderson
- **If we don’t have Biblical prayer in our ministries, that is a leadership issue.**

God **calls leaders to train, equip, and disciple** people in prayer. In order to **activate and deploy** praying disciples, we must **provide opportunities** for God’s people to pray **where we want to see God work.**

How Did the Apostle Paul Lead People In Prayer?

▶ 1. Paul Prayed For Them: Paul’s Prayers for the Churches for Spiritual Growth and Maturity.

A. Colossians 1:9-14...We pray that you may be filled with... Knowledge of His will, walk worthy of the Lord to please {Him}, bear fruit, increase in knowledge of God, be strengthened with all power according to His might

▶ 2. Paul Requested Prayer: Paul’s Requests For Partnership. Protection, Spiritual Potency.

A. Romans 15:30-33: Strive together with me in your prayers... that I may be delivered from those who are disobedient ... that my service is acceptable, that I may come to you in joy.

B. Colossians 4:2-4: Devote yourselves to prayer with thanksgiving; pray that God may open up a door for the word, that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, that I may make it clear in the way I speak.

Summary: Paul prayed for spiritual growth and maturity for God’s people. Paul asked for prayer for himself for partnership, protection, spiritual potency and for the effectiveness of his ministry.

Prayer Leadership: 2 Critical Considerations for Leaders Who Develop Praying Disciples

1. A **praying ministry requires praying leaders**. Leaders have the **greatest ability to affect the praying culture of the ministry**. Lead others to pray by praying with them.
2. **“The prayer level of the church or ministry never grows beyond the personal example and passion of its senior leaders.”** Pastor Daniel Henderson

Part 3: Calling Men to be Praying Leaders: God Calls Leaders First:

Has He or Is He Calling You to be a Leader of Men?

- ▶ Have you been disciplined in prayer? ▶ Could you disciple men to become men of prayer?

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Create a Male Context – An Environment Where Men Thrive¹

- ▶ Men follow men and need male leadership.
- ▶ Men need vision and purpose and want to be led to greatness.
- ▶ Men will lead when they feel trained and competent. Men respond positively to being disciplined in prayer.

¹From Why Men Hate Going to Church, D. Murrow, 2005, pp. 156-160

We Must Engage the “Warrior Spirit” in Men

“Warrior Spirit: *The passionate desire and determination in the heart of a man to prepare and perfect himself for the stance against evil in the service of others.* (Born to Be A Warrior, Commander John R. “Barney” Barnes)

Marine Corps Organizational Structure²

The Marine Corps organizational structure gives us insight into how **Men’s Ministry structure and function could be a more effective Kingdom asset** in “spiritual warfare”.

Marines use principle of “3’s” and fight in “waves” of troops. Divisions = 3 regiments, Regiments = 3 battalions, Battalions = 3 or more companies, Companies = 3 or more platoons, Platoons = 3 squads.

Squad: 3 fire teams = 12 men (Lead: Sergeant) Fire Team: 4 men = 3 marines and their leader. (Lead: Corporal) Buddy Team: 2 Men. They cover, support and protect each other with accountability.

- A Marine is **never left to fight alone.**
- A Marine is **always in close relationship with three other marines one of whom is their leader.**
- The corporal [leader] is in a **mentoring relationship with his three-man fire team.**
- The three corporals in fire teams are in a **mentoring relationship with the sergeant leading the 12-man rifle squad.**
- Each fire team of four marines is in **close relationship with the eight marines** in the two other fire teams and they all have the same leader, the sergeant.
- Each person **knows** and is **accountable** for their role.
- Each man **knows the roles of others. Each man is training a person to take over his role.**
- Each group **fights as a team, communicates, serves, and protects each other.**
- All are **trained in first aid / carry needed equipment for each mission.**
- This structure **brings together young and old, senior and junior into a relationship-based unit with shared values and common goals.**

²Developed by: Commander John R. “Barney” Barnes

+++ Christian Parallels +++

God and Bible operates in principles of 3’s, 4’s, and 12’s. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit could be considered 3 “waves” of God’s activity. 4’s: Jesus, Peter, James, and John. 12’s: Disciples.

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- No Christian man serving Jesus alone, no leader serving alone.
- Every Christian man in a mentoring relationship with a leader.
- Every leader in a mentoring relationship with men.
- Know each other's roles, care about, serve, pray for and protect each other and their families.
- Each man is training a man to take over his role as a backup.
- Pastors / Men's Ministry Leaders are in mentoring relationships with men's prayer leaders. Each leader leads his group, informs men of their role and informs men on how to participate effectively. The leader develops, models, and implements prayer training and activities.
- The leader considers spiritual growth of each man.
- The Leader and his men have shared values and common goals of supporting each member and preparing them to lead their own group.

Part 4: Options for Men's Prayer Groups

Prayer Buddy Team: 2 men. Pray for/serve each other. Each man accountable to be man of prayer.

Prayer Fire Team: 4 men = A Prayer Fire Team leader and 3 members. Leader leads group to pray, care, serve and protect each other and their families. Leader prepares men to lead their own group.

Men's Prayer Groups – Pray for, care, serve and protect each other and our families.

1. Prayer Foundation: Relationship with Christ.

- We enjoy privilege of prayer** because of our relationship with Christ. Romans 8:15-17
- God loves to hear your voice. He can** tell your voice from others!

2. Biblical Prayer - Learning to Pray The Scriptures

"Praying the scriptures give us the right vocabulary for prayer" Pastor Daniel Henderson

- Pray God's Precious Promises:** 2 Peter 1:3-4, Ps 119: 1-2, 11, 89-90, 2 Tim 3:16, Heb 4:12, Mt 7:7, Jam 4:2, Isa 55:10-11
- God's will is in His Word** *"Your word, LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens."* Ps 119:89 NIV
- "It is written..." Jesus's example when tempted in the wilderness:** Luke 4:4, 8, 12

3. Personal Prayer: Seeking / knowing God as His disciple – thru His Word, His people, and prayer.

4. Praying for Others: Learning to pray effectively for others –bringing people to Jesus so He can minister to them.

Everyone needs prayer. Help God's people seek God and bring their own needs to Him. **How can I pray for you for your personal spiritual growth and maturity?**

5. Praying for a Need: What do I pray for? Matthew 20:29-34 **Ask: What do you want Jesus to do for you?** **Characteristics of a prayer intercessor:** Serve, Listen, Compassion, Personal, Appropriate Touch.

- Praying for Others** - God is looking for Spiritual Ministers – Gal 6:1 Character qualities: Spiritual, with restoration, spirit of gentleness. considering yourself