

## Leading Men's Prayer Groups

### Our Culture Desperately Needs Godly Men We must call men to prayer and spiritual activity!

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

*“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].” James 5:16 AMP*

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

#### Prayer

- ♥ Enjoying our love relationship with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Al Vandergrind
- ♥ Prayer is as natural an expression of faith as breathing is of life. Jonathan Edwards

**Training men as praying disciples.** Where does it happen? Church? Family? Small Groups?

#### 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 Closeness With God

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Independence:</b> Living life on our own, apart from God.</li><li>• <b>Fear:</b> Flight, fear, terror.</li><li>• <b>Guilt:</b> Held in, bound by, liable to a charge or action.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Shame:</b> To dishonor, disgrace. “Intensely painful feeling or experience. <i>Believing we are flawed and unworthy of love and belonging.</i>” Brene Brown</li></ul>
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**False Views of Prayer:** In order for God to hear and answer my prayers, I must:

- **Pray “Right”:** Use the Right words, posture, mindset, etc.
- **Be “Right”:** Have right 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**

#### 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.**

#### Challenges With Creating a Culture of Prayer

- **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.**

## Leading Men's Prayer Groups

### How Did the Apostle Paul Lead People In Prayer?

● **Paul Prayed For Them: Paul's Prayers for the Churches were for Spiritual Growth and Maturity.**  
Colossians 1:9-14, Ephesians 1:15-23

● **Paul Requested Prayer: Paul's Requests Were For Partnership, Protection, and Spiritual Potency.**  
Romans 15:30-33, Colossians 4:2-4

**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: Critical Considerations for Leaders Who Develop Praying Disciples

● **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.

● **"The prayer level of the church or ministry never grows beyond the personal example and passion of its senior leaders."** Pastor Daniel Henderson

● **"Everything rises and falls on leadership."** Pastor John Maxwell. The "Goal of leadership is to **produce more leaders.**" Ralph Nader

### 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?**
- **Do you need to be disciplined to be a leader of men or a praying man?**

### Create a Male Context – An Environment Where Men Thrive From Why Men Hate Going to Church, D. Murrow, 2005, pp. 156-160

#### "Male Context" Characteristics:

1. **Men follow men.**
2. **Men will not lead** in areas where they **do not feel equipped and competent.**
3. **Men need male leadership.** They are **looking for men who will lead them to greatness.**
4. **Men need vision.**
5. **Men need purpose.**
6. **Men respond positively to being disciplined.**
7. **Men are visual and want to conquer territory.**

### We Must Engage the "Warrior Spirit" in Men

Born to Be A Warrior, Commander John R. "Barney" Barnes

**"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."**

### Marine Corps Organizational Structure

Developed by: Commander John R. "Barney" Barnes, Warrior Spirit Ministries.

**The Marine Corps organizational structure gives insight into how Men's Ministry structure and function could be a more effective.** Men cover, support and protect each other with accountability.

**Squad: 3 fire teams = 12 men (Lead: Sergeant) Fire Team: 4 men = 3 marines and their leader. (Lead: Corporal)**

**Buddy Team: 2 Men working together, covering each other, mutually accountable to be outstanding soldiers.**

## Leading Men's Prayer Groups

### Marine Corps Organizational Structure (con't)

- 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 and 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**.

### +++ Christian Parallels +++

In the Bible, God 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.

- 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 the **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**.

### Options for Men's Prayer Groups - Training is Needed at Every Level

Goal: Pray, care, serve and protect each other and our families.



**PRAYER BUDDY TEAM:**  
2 MEN

Pray for and serve each other. Each man is accountable to be an outstanding 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. Discipleship: Leader prepares men to lead their own group.

## Leading Men's Prayer Groups

### Learn Prayer Basics

1. Prayer "Basic Training":
- Prayer is a relationship with God.
  - Pray God's Word.
  - Learn God's attributes.
  - Train my ears to hear God's voice.
  - Learn God responds to simple faith.



### 2. Teach, Model, and Apply 4-Quadrant Prayer:

- Personal Prayer:** Seeking and knowing God personally.
- Personal Intercession:** Seeking God's will for me, interceding for others.
- Ministry Prayer:** Seeking God's best for others by praying for and with them.
- Corporate Intercession:** Seeking God's will for us as a congregation or ministry.

### 3. Praying Your Prayer Share: Engaging every man the privilege and passion of prayer in 7 areas:

Self, Family, Church Family, Pastor, Ministries, Community, and World



### 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.

**Ask:** How can I pray for you for your personal spiritual growth and maturity?

- **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 partner: **Serve, Listen, Compassion, Personal, Appropriate Touch.**

- **God is looking for Spiritual Ministers.** Galatians 6:1

Character qualities: Spiritual, with restoration, spirit of gentleness, considering yourself.

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