

Tips for School Prayerwalking

Prayerwalking is talking with our Heavenly Father through His Son Jesus Christ while walking. Our focus is upon our neighborhood schools. Praying near a campus brings us in close proximity with our prayer target; we begin to see with the eyes and compassion of Jesus the needs of the young people for whom we are interceding.

Three components that work together while prayerwalking:

- **Worship.** Proclaim the excellencies of the name of Jesus or softly sing a song which exalts the Lord and His mighty power.
- **Warfare.** Prayerwalking is spiritual battle. You may experience an indirect onslaught of the enemy: confusion or pestering of the mind, causing thoughts to wander or telling you this isn't doing any good. Press through these roadblocks. Realize that the Lord has given you authority over the evil one. Remember, that every place you walk, you have been given spiritual authority to restrain, limit, and displace evil forces (Luke 10:19; Joshua 1: 3).
- **Welcome.** Invite God's transforming presence to permeate the school for which you are praying.

*Integrate these three "W's" in a good balance,
though at times one or another may seem to dominate.*

DO'S AND DON'TS OF PRAYERWALKING SCHOOLS

Do:

- **Worship God** as you prayerwalk or prayer drive the school's perimeter.
- **Welcome God's Holy Spirit** to the school for which you are praying.
- **Pronounce blessings** upon the teachers, students, and staff.
- **Pray salvation, healing, and spiritual freedom** for the students who attend there.

Don't:

- Do not **draw attention to yourself.** You have an audience of One - Jesus Christ.
- Do not **prayerwalk during school hours** (go before or after school or on weekends).
- Do not **go on campus** (even during off-school hours; even if the gate is open, it is considered trespassing).
- Do not **engage in dialogue with students.** Your mission is "vertical" - talking to God.

IN PREPARATION

...It is important that we prepare our mind, body and spirit.

You are about to become a bridge of blessing between heaven and earth. Don't allow any feelings of inadequacy to plague you. You have indicated your willingness by your presence and God is always faithful to take us where we are and lead us. In prayer, there is no failure.

The book "Prayerwalking" by *Steve Hawthorne*, offers the following tips to prepare for a prayerwalk:

1. **Open your mouth before you open your heart.** Whether you sing, shout or whisper, warm up your vocal cords with praise before setting out. Put the name of Jesus on your lips. Seek to position your heart before God in fresh gratitude and blessing.
2. **Take charge of the directions your mind will go.** Fix your attention on the purposes and ways and thoughts of God before you launch out. If you find your mind wandering, read Scripture out loud.
3. **Seek God for guidance at intervals;** then trust that He is guiding you!
4. If you are prayerwalking with others, **take a few minutes to connect and pray.** Find out if anyone is sensing/hearing anything from the Lord.
5. **Take your stance before the Father,** enthroned in highest heaven through the blood and priestly excellence of Jesus.

WHAT TO DO DURING THE PRAYERWALK

1. **Open your eyes;** ask God to help you see with His eyes.
2. **Open your ears;** listen for God's whispered cues - expect Him to highlight truths you have hidden in your heart and apply them to what is around you. Practice silence as you listen to God's Spirit.
3. **Pray together.** Seek to consciously follow and reinforce prayers lifted by others on the prayer team.
4. **Pray with Scripture.** You can be confident of praying the will of God when you are praying His Word. God has breathed life into His Word and loves to bless it. He has promised that His Word will not return to Him void. Read it over and over again.
5. **Pray with relevance.** Pray with sensitivity to the people and places you are actually encountering. Don't try to feel equally for every person and place you pass. Feel the freedom to extend your empathy unevenly knowing that the Lord is guiding you.

WHAT TO PRAY ... based upon Luke 11:2-4

1. **Pray for God's Glory.** Pray that God would work so that He would be honored, adored, lifted up, revealed and praised by name among our students and in our schools.
2. **Pray for God's Kingdom.** Pray with expectance for the coming of some measure of heaven's liberating dominion amidst the students and schools here in Arizona.
3. **Pray for Reconciliation.** Ask God to reconcile every student to Himself. Ask God to bring reconciliation where there are offenses or breeches among students themselves, and among students and teachers.
4. **Pray for God to Release His Spirit and to Lead.** Pray that God would lead students, families, neighborhoods into the light of His truth, rescuing them from darkness and destruction

SCRIPTURES FOR PRAYERWALKING

(All scriptures are in the New International Version)

PSALM 66:1-4

¹ Shout for joy to God, all the earth! ² Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious. ³ Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you. ⁴ All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of your name.

ISAIAH 6:3

³ And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."

PSALM 67:1-3

¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us ² so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations. ³ May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you.

ISAIAH 40:3-5

³ A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

PSALM 102:18-20

¹⁸ Let this be written for a future generation, that a people not yet created may praise the Lord: ¹⁹ "The Lord looked down from his sanctuary on high, from heaven he viewed the earth, ²⁰ to hear the groans of the prisoners and release those condemned to death."

ROMANS 15:21

²¹ Rather, as it is written: “Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand.”

PSALM 86:11-13

¹¹ Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. ¹² I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. ¹³ For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead.

LUKE 11:2-4

² He said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. ³ Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴ Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.”

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-4

¹ I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people ² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

LUKE 10:2

² He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

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