

TILLING THE SOIL: PRAYER

August 15-September 11

Prayer Walking Step-by-Step

For the prayer walking coordinator

Thank you for committing to mobilize people in your congregation to prayer walk. Over the course of the four weeks, August 15-September 11, **we are praying for every person across every mile of Montana, focusing specifically on those who need a relationship with Jesus.**

- 1. Create prayer walk routes.** Divide your community/town into areas that can be covered in one walk or drive. Number the routes to be assigned. NOTE: The routes will serve a double purpose, being used later for the Gospel distribution blitz.
- 2. Consider a variety of types of prayer walks.** You may choose to have one church-wide prayer walk, with groups going in different directions, to kick off the initiative on August 15. You may have coordinated prayer walks every week during the four-week emphasis. You may even encourage your congregation to pray as they walk daily for their physical fitness.
- 3. Enlist prayer walkers within your church.** Have a sign-up sheet for people to commit to prayer walk. Encourage members of all ages—from the youngest to the oldest—to participate. Remind them that they can walk, run, bike, hike, or even drive!
- 4. Organize people in prayer walking groups.** Keep the groups small in size (3-4 people) and coordinate each group with a particular prayer walk route. To involve children, assign families to prayer walk together. Partner adults with youth. For senior adults and others who may not be able to walk a route, have drivers take them.
- 5. Prepare prayer walking materials.** Provide participants with sample prayers they may use while prayer walking. Copy and distribute the sample prayers on this flyer.
- 6. Plan an organizational meeting to answer questions from participants.** Distribute materials and resources. Review prayer walking principles. (Feel free to distribute the information to everyone who participates.) Assign prayer walk routes to groups. Take a practice prayer walk together, if appropriate.
- 7. On the given day(s) at the given time(s), prayer walk!** Keep track of all miles, using pedometers. For groups, add the miles contributed by individual members. For instance, if a group of three walks ten miles, then they will report a total of thirty miles. Use this information to celebrate group accomplishments in walking and praying.

TILLING THE SOIL: PRAYER

August 15-September 11

Prayer Walking Principles

For the prayer walking coordinator

Before you begin, you may be asking the question, “**What is prayer walking and how do I do it?**” Here are some thoughts as you prepare yourself and other participants:

Prayer walking is praying with *insight*. Prayer walking is praying on-site with insight. Keeping your eyes open is important while prayer walking. Be aware of where you are praying. What do you see along the journey? Do you see children’s toys? Then pray for that family. Do you see a street lamp? Pray that people will discover the light of Christ and that believers will be a light to the world.

Prayer walking is praying with *intentionality*. While we should always be sensitive to how the Holy Spirit leads us to pray, the day(s) of the prayer walk is a day to intentionally pray for those who need a personal relationship with Christ. Begin now to pray specifically for those in your community who need to hear the Gospel.

Prayer walking is praying with the heart of an *intercessor*. An intercessor is someone who “stands in the gap”—a gap between one person and their need for God or for God to work in their life. As you prayer walk, look for opportunities to pray specifically *with* people and *for* their needs.

Prayer walking is praying with *information*. Do you know who lives in your community? You want to consider a variety of demographics, such as

- How many single parents are there?
- What kind of crime rate is in your community?
- What unreached people groups are living in your town?

Learn about the “hidden” needs in your community and then pray specifically for those needs. The more you know, the more effectively you can pray.

Prayer walking is praying with *inspiration*. Prayer walk with Scripture verses printed on cards. Or prayer walk with your Bible and refer to passages as God brings them to mind. Pray God’s promises. Remember: The way to pray the will of God is to pray the Word of God!

Prayer walking is praying for the *impossible* and expecting God to answer. Do we limit God and His ability to answer prayer? Are you praying with faith that God can do anything and redeem anyone? (Ephesians 3:20 and Hebrews 11:6)

TILLING THE SOIL: PRAYER

August 15-September 11

Sample Prayers for Prayer Walkers

For the prayer walking coordinator

You want to encourage prayer walkers to pray according to Biblical principles. If possible, provide each participant or each group with a set of sample prayers. Number and write each of the following prayers on one side of an index card (odd numbered prayers on the front and even numbered prayers on the back for a total of 12 cards). Laminate each card and hole punch the top left-hand corner of the odd numbered prayers. Then, use yarn, a twist tie or small key ring (through the holes) to bind all of the sample prayers into a set.

Prayers for Powerful Prayer Walking

1. Lord God, I ask in the name of Jesus that You would draw the people here into a personal relationship with Your Son Jesus (John 6:44).
2. Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that You would grant the people here a hunger and thirst for You and Your Word (Psalm 42:1-2).
3. Father, I pray that You would meet the emotional needs of the people in this place. Heal their emotional wounds (James 1:17; Psalm 147:3).
4. Father, I ask You to give physical strength to the people here. Meet all of their physical needs (Matthew 7:7).
5. Lord God, I plead that You would bind the evil one and the demons assigned to this area. Render them ineffective in their evil plans (Mark 1:23-26).
6. Father, I plead that Your Spirit would encourage and strengthen the believers in this area (Acts 2:42).
7. Father, I ask that You would open doors for the Gospel in this area. I pray that many would hear and receive Jesus (2 Thessalonians 3:1-2).
8. Father, I pray that You would remove any racial or social barriers between the people in this area (Acts 10:34).
9. Father, I plead that this place will be filled with the knowledge of Your glory. As the waters cover the sea, let the knowledge of You cover the place (Habakkuk 2:14).
10. Father, I ask that You would bless the pastors of this area. Grant them power, insight, and protection as they minister (1 Timothy 3:1-7).

- 11.** Father, I plead that You would fill the believers here with the Spirit and enable them to witness concerning Your Son Jesus (Acts 1:8).
- 12.** Father, I pray that justice would prevail and that crime would be annihilated in this area (Psalm 82:3; Romans 13:4).
- 13.** Father, I ask that You would destroy the poverty in this area. Grant economic growth and meet the financial needs of people (Ecclesiastes 2:24).
- 14.** Father, I plead that Your Spirit would do a powerful work in the families of this area. Strengthen and bless every family (Ephesians 5:22-6:4).
- 15.** Father, I ask You to have mercy on the people in this area. Deliver them from their sin (Lamentations 3:21-24).
- 16.** Father, release a spirit of prayer and fasting among the believers in this place (Colossians 4:2).
- 17.** Father, deliver the believers in this area from self-centeredness and indifference toward those who need Jesus (Matthew 20:28).
- 18.** Father, I plead that Your Kingdom would come to this area. I ask that many will come to a saving knowledge of Jesus (Matthew 6:9).
- 19.** Father, I ask that Your will for this area will be done (Matthew 6:10).
- 20.** Father, I plead that the people of this area will turn to You and will praise Your name. Let them see who You are so they can praise You (Psalm 66:4-7).
- 21.** Father, build and empower the church of Jesus in this area. Enable them to smash the gates of hell (Matthew 16:18).
- 22.** Father, I plead that repentance and forgiveness of sins would be powerfully proclaimed in this area (Luke 24:47).
- 23.** Lord Jesus, I ask You to give the weary and the burdened of this area Your rest. Grant Your hope and joy to them (Matthew 11:28-30).
- 24.** Father, I pray that the people in this area would hear Your voice and that they would not harden their hearts toward You (Psalm 95:6-8).