

# PRAYERWALKING

## **INTRODUCTION:**

1 Timothy 2:1-8 provides us a Biblical foundation for Prayerwalking. Verse one tells us that we should pray for everyone. Verse eight tells us that everyone should pray.

Cp. Acts 16 – Paul and Silas in Philippi and Acts 17 – Paul in Athens

## **What is Prayerwalking?**

“Prayerwalking is simply praying in the very places where you expect God to answer your prayers.” (What Would Jesus Pray”, by Waymakers)

It is a type of intercessory prayer where you pray in the very place in which you seek God to work.

The concept of Prayerwalking brings the person who is praying into direct contact with the community.

Prayerwalking brings us into close contact with the people in the community for whom we are passionately praying.

## **DEFINITION:**

In the book, Prayerwalking, written by Steve Hawthorne and Graham Kendrick, the activity of Prayerwalking is defined as praying on-site with insight. The walking is incidental. It is only the vehicle which enables us to pray in close proximity of those in the community who need our prayer. It is on-site intercession.

**Prayerwalking is not new.** All of us have done it in the pasts and continue to do it in the present.

**The terminology is new.** Prayerwalking is so simple that the only teaching you need on the subject is that which would keep it from getting complicated.

## **Prayerwalking is praying on-site.**

- ◇ Prayerwalking is not devotional walks with God.
- ◇ Prayerwalking is praying on behalf of other people.
- ◇ Prayerwalking is not just getting in close proximity to those for whom you pray so you can get clarity for what you should be praying. It does however, enable your heart to identify with what you are praying for so you can put your heart in the line of fire with all the spiritual dynamics that need to and will happen.
- ◇ Prayerwalking helps sensitize you to the issues. The sounds, sights, and smells help to engage our spirit in intercession.

## **Prayerwalking is praying with insight.**

- ◇ It is responsive insight. What you pray for is in front of you.
- ◇ It is researched insight. It is praying with a knowledge of the history of the areas or community in which you are praying.
- ◇ It is revealed insight. We need to pray and ask God to reveal to us what needs should be pray for as you pray. We need to let the Holy Spirit direct us as we pray.

## **Prayerwalking is being on the scene without making a scene.**

- ◇ You do not have to make a scene.

- ◇ It does not require you to be the center of activity.

**Prayerwalking is being in the public square without being in the public eye.**

- ◇ The only time you should make a scene or be in the public eye is when you really have clear guidance from the Lord.

**Prayerwalking balances:**

- ◇ Worship, which exalts God;
- ◇ Warfare, which contends with evil; and
- ◇ Welcome, which builds Christ's reception among the people.

**Three General Types of Prayerwalking**

- ◇ Home-zone Prayerwalking. Walking around your neighborhood.
- ◇ City-wide prayer walking. This is usually organized and participated in by several churches. It may be around significant sites in the city or a comprehensive walk.
- ◇ Specialized Prayerwalking. This may be a Prayerwalking journey to another town or area. It may be a Prayerwalking expedition where you walk all the way to or through an area. "Operation Restoration" a walk that followed General Sherman's path through Georgia and the Carolinas is an illustration. The walk through the Holy Roman Empire is another illustration.
- ◇ Church prayer walks
- ◇ Camp prayer walks

**Practical Prayerwalking:**

1. Pray with a partner
2. Pray with a purpose – God's desire
3. Pray with God's Word – pray God's promises more than problems
4. Pray with God's Spirit
5. Listen and watch for God

**CONCLUSION:**

- ◇ **Focus on God and not the technique.** We can get deluded into trusting in our ability to pray and follow certain methods.

- ◇ **Seven basic prayer skills:**

1. Use conversation prayer when praying with a group.
2. Responsive prayer, responding to the people and things you encounter.
3. Pray the Scripture.
4. Pray in the Spirit, allow the Spirit to come and search the depths of your heart.
5. Pray blessings.
6. Identification prayer, identifying with other situations and people. We have a larger identity than just one individual. We have country identity, people, race and gender identity.
7. Contact prayer. Sometimes you will be able to meet and talk with people. You may ask them questions to gain information. You may also want to ask them if you can pray for them.

(Much of this material courtesy of Bob Tremaine, Director of Missions, Parker-Palo Pinto Associations)