

*Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you. **He is always struggling on your behalf in his prayers**, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. For I can testify that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and Hierapolis.*

- Paul's Letter to the Colossians 4:12-13

What is Prayerwalking? "It Is Praying On-Site With Insight."

In hundreds of cities around the world, God is helping Christians to pray as they pass through the streets of their communities. We've come to use the word "prayerwalking" to describe this kind of on-site intercession.

As you prayerwalk, your prayers extend beyond your own concerns, focusing directly on the needs of others and opening yourself to see them with God's eyes and heart. --- www.waymakers.org

Why we can intercede with enthusiasm and confidence:

- Because we want to love our neighbors as ourselves
- Because we have God's Spirit who prompts us to pray and gives us concern for others
- Because we are God's temple, the place of God's forgiveness and presence
- Because Jesus has made us priests, serving on behalf of others in the presence of God
- Because we are one with Jesus, and He lives to make intercession for others
- Because we know God will hear us if we ask anything at all according to His will

Try spending about 5 minutes praying with each of these prompts as you walk.

1. Pray for those who are lonely, grieving, weary, or discouraged
2. Pray for our neighbors' physical health
3. Pray for those with struggling families
4. Pray for those who feel far from God
5. Pray for the students and families at your local schools
6. Pray with Jesus from John 17:20-26
7. Pray for those who are poor, hungry, or struggling with finances
8. Pray for our neighbors' mental health
9. Pray for our neighbors' jobs & educations
10. Pray for God to make His love known
11. Pray for the teachers and staff at local schools
12. Pray with Paul from Ephesians 1:15-23

Some Helpful Tips

- Pray as specifically as you know to pray. Trust the Holy Spirit to lead your prayers no matter the case.
- Our simple goal is to meet your neighbors and pray for them. That's it. As we do that, God may open the door to further conversation.
- Listen to the Spirit. If the Spirit is prompting you to say or not to say something—listen!
- Your goal is prayer, not a sales pitch. But if they ask about Jesus, tell them. It's usually more effective and better conversation if you steer towards stories about Jesus instead of theological propositions (e.g., Jesus with Zacchaeus, Jesus with the woman at the well, Jesus with the woman caught in adultery, Jesus and the Pharisees, Jesus making wine at the wedding in Cana, **Jesus in your own life**)
- Your goal is prayer, not marketing. But if they ask questions about The Bridge, tell them about your house church and, possibly, the upcoming collective gathering. Don't forget **1.5.3** - 1 Mission. 5 Values. 3 Pursuits (see below) *You will not necessarily mention these but they can help you remember why we do what we do and what we have committed to be and do.*
- Some people you encounter won't be open to a conversation. Many will. Of those who do engage, some will result in fantastic conversations and some in mediocre ones. Don't take this personally. Pray earnestly in either case.
- If there's follow-up needed, please do it. Write down the name and address, and get some form of contact info (email, phone).
- Connect by listening as much as you can. Be warm and human. Try asking simple questions about how long they've lived in the neighborhood, their jobs and families, etc. If you'll listen, people will often open up more than you expect.

Here's a bare bones example script if you encounter people on your prayer walk:

1. Introduce yourself: 'Hi! My name is [Heath] and this is my friend [Curt]. We're your neighbors down the street. What's your name?'
2. [They may respond. Chat with them for a minute, trying to connect. ***Just be genuinely curious***]
3. Offer prayer: 'We're trying to meet some of our neighbors tonight/today and offer prayer. Is there anything that you need, or maybe someone in your household needs, that we could pray for right now?'
 - a. If they've say yes, we pray. Pray earnestly, compassionately, and with expectation that your Father in heaven hears you.
 - b. If they say no, we offer to pray for them in general ('That's perfectly fine! Then, would you be up for us praying for you and your family in general?')
4. Continue the conversation if appropriate, or move on.

Close with an open end: 'It's been great to meet you! We love being your neighbor.'

