

# PRAYER

*\* The purpose of this manual is to provide a clear and specific guide to guarantee the optimal operation and development of the department, in order to serve as an instrument of support and institutional improvement.*

## **PURPOSE**

We pray for others because we want to lead them into a relationship with God the Father. We want to see them set free, restored, and healed. Praying for people is our way of representing the Father's heart to a hurting and lost world. Word of Life is a strong church bearing the burdens of the weak and praying for others is simply one way that we do this. Serving on our prayer team supports our values of **SERVE, CONNECT,** and **GROW** and is an extension of Word of Life. *"God will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of truth."* - 1 Timothy 2:4

## **GOALS**

1. To help people receive salvation
2. To help restore people to fellowship with the Father
3. To lead people to their next step in the church

## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

- ***Commitment:*** Being a part of any team is an honor and privilege, but it's also a great opportunity to display faithfulness and excellence. Arriving 30 minutes prior to service time to huddle with the team, pray, and receive your assignments is a must. This will allow you to check in, grab some coffee, and get your badge before the huddle. It's also encouraged to be both spiritually and naturally ready to pray before you arrive for service. This only comes from a consistent walk and relationship with the Father. Taking time every day to talk with Him, not to ask for things, but to bring thanksgiving and praise, is what keeps your heart ready to minister at any moment. The Holy Spirit is the teacher and when we are in tune with Him we flow and minister with a spirit of excellence. If you arrive late to the huddle, please see your team leader and let them know you've arrived. *If you have not attended the huddle and connected with your team leader, you cannot serve in the service.*
  - ***Flexibility:*** As part of any team, we expect you to be a team player and stay flexible when change happens. Remember, we lose grace for what we complain about, but we gain it through gratitude and humility.
  - ***Prayer Time & Etiquette:*** Once you come forward to pray, be sure to face the audience and look for people who are coming down for prayer. We always want them to feel welcomed and received as guests as they approach the altar. Please do not be a distraction or draw any attention to yourself or the person you are praying with. Remember to always cover and protect them as the Holy Spirit uses you to minister to them. Pray with your understanding (in English) when
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praying at the altar so that there is no confusion. Please take time to study 1 Corinthians 14 for guidance here.

- During Prayer Time:
    - Locate Them - What would you like for me to get in agreement with you about today? What scriptures are you standing on concerning your situation?
    - Share specific scriptures to base the prayer on and put their faith on.
    - Pray men with men, and women with women, unless they are unavailable. If you must pray with someone of the opposite gender, have the appropriate gender accompany you once available.
    - If you do not feel comfortable praying for someone, please do not hesitate to find a team leader to assist or take over the situation.
  - Do's and Don'ts When Praying for Others:
    - NEVER be negative or condemning.
    - ALWAYS be positive and encouraging.
    - ALWAYS be enthusiastic and excited about the things of God.
    - NEVER argue with people about anything. Simply let them know you would like to go ahead and pray.
    - NEVER pry into the private lives of people.
    - ALWAYS try to avoid listening to a lot of personal details. The less you know about people's situations, the better off you are. God knows and that is what is important.
    - NEVER betray someone's confidence.
    - ALWAYS keep secret the personal facts someone may tell you. This would not necessarily apply, however, if the information indicates possible harm to someone (i.e. suicide threat, harm to another, etc.). In such cases, the staff pastor should be notified. You should inform your team leader who handles it from there.
    - NEVER give people whom you are ministering to your personal contact information. Instead, give them the church office contact information (769-216-3650, thelife.cc). This protects you and your family. We don't want people to become dependent upon us, but instead, teach them to depend on the LORD.
    - NEVER encourage people who have a church home to leave and come to Word of Life instead. You should always encourage them to be a support of their pastor and to be a blessing in their home. We don't steal sheep!
    - ALWAYS deal with facts (the Word of God) instead of asking them how they "feel". The Word is true whether people "feel like it" or not.
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- NEVER assume responsibility you don't have and instead look to those in authority for direction.
  - NEVER use the word counseling. We are not counselors, nor do we counsel. We give spiritual advice based on the Word of God - not opinion.
  - **Baptism in the Holy Spirit:** If someone comes down to the Altar and asks to be filled with the Spirit and wants to speak in tongues, feel free to pray with them. You can use this prayer and have them repeat it: *"LORD, I believe I am your child. I have Your Spirit living in me and now I want You to fill me to overflow with the evidence of speaking in other tongues. I receive it, just like I received my salvation. Thank you, LORD, for filling me! In Jesus' Name, Amen."* Once an individual has been prayed for and received the Holy Spirit, make sure they fill out a response card, Take the member or guest and give them material on the baptism in the Holy Spirit so that they can grow in their new gift! Always encourage people who have questions that this is for every believer to have freely, just like salvation. If you do not feel comfortable praying for someone to be filled with the Spirit, please find your team leader and they can help you.
  - **Connecting:** Remember that you are a connector first. Great prayer team members are also great connectors. All huddles will end at or before the 5-minute countdown to service. This is a great opportunity to move through the auditorium and meet new people. This could influence someone to take the step and come down for prayer at the end of service.
    - **How to Connect:** The best way to connect is to simply introduce yourself to someone you have never met before. After talking with them, encourage them to get connected in the church by becoming a member, joining a LifeGroup or serve team, or pointing them to Following Jesus. Remember, before each service begins is the best time to connect with new visitors and members you haven't met before.
  - **Scheduling:** We use a system called CCB to schedule serve team members for service. Please take time to create an account. You will receive an email when you have been requested to serve and that is how you will be able to confirm and decline invitations. CCB is the best way to communicate with your team leader if you are going to miss a service you are scheduled to serve and is also where you will receive weekly reminders of serving.
  - **Personal Care:** Prayer Team members must dress in a conservative and respectful manner. Your appearance has the potential to enhance, or distract, from the messages ministered. Our biggest tip is to always wear a smile and have clean, fresh clothing.
    - Men: Dress nicely - neat hair, trimmed facial hair. Do not be unkempt.
    - Women: Dress modestly - no short or low-cut dresses or skirts.
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- Hygiene: Fresh and clean in body (check clothing for odors). Use deodorant and/or antiperspirants. Use mouthwash, breath freshener, or mints before serving. We always have mints available in the huddle.
  - **Check-in:** All serve team members are required to check in at a check-in kiosk or with your team leader prior to serving. You must have your name badge on at all times while serving to ensure the security and accountability of members.
  - **Seating:** We encourage you to sit as close to the front as possible so that you can be prepared to move forward as soon as the service closer or the speaker dismisses the service. There are no assigned seats or sections for the prayer team.
  - **Next Steps:** One of the most important things, second to praying for people, is helping them find their next step in the church. If someone has an encounter with the Lord that is amazing, but does not get disciplined and builds on the encounter, they will need another one soon. It is part of our role to lead them in their next steps based on the decision and request they make to you. After you pray for them, here are some key questions we need to ask when necessary, using your judgment on what their next step should be:
    - Have you been through our NEXT class? (*point to NEXT*)
    - Are you ready to build on your relationship with Jesus? (*point to Following Jesus*)
    - Are you looking to build your faith on healing? (*point to Healing School*)
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**PRAYER TEAM TRAINING: 101 INTERVIEW**

Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Serve Team Interviewee: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Ask if they mind you taking notes and let them know that this is just to help us get to know them a little better.*

- When were you saved? Can you tell us your brief testimony? What kind of church did you grow up in? How did you get to Word of Life?
  
  - Have you been filled with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues? How do you use this gift in public? Have you ever read 1 Corinthians 14?
  
  - Are you a member of Word of Life Church and have you been through NEXT?
  
  - Ministry background: How have you ever been involved in ministry in the past?
  
  - What's happening in your life now (job, faith, family, etc.)? Where are you in these areas?
  
  - What are your strengths? Introvert/extrovert/somewhere in the middle?
  
  - Why do you want to be on the prayer team?
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**CCB SCHEDULING INFORMATION**

Name:

Gender: Male or Female

Email:

Cell Phone Provider:

Cell Phone Number:

Date of Birth:

Service/Availability you can serve: 10 or 11:30AM