

Hourly Prayer Leader Preparation

By Gordon D. Venturella

General Guidelines

- We want to spend more time praying than talking about prayer.
- Recruit anyone, anywhere, to pray during your hour - This is your main job.
- Create a way for people to sign up for specific hours at the weekend services.
- Arrive 50 minutes after the hour and greet people as they arrive. Make sure there is no loud talking to distract those who are finishing their hour our prayer. Coffee may be served during the night and early morning. No refreshments in the prayer room.
- At 55 minutes after the hour, stand up and announce that "our time is up, you may stay for the next hour if you wish". Thank everyone as they exit.
- There should be security during the nighttime hours. Consider notifying the local police of this activity.

Once everyone has entered the room for prayer

- Get everyone seated and thank them for joining you.
- You may read a brief scripture and pray to begin if you wish.

Give these brief instructions

- Pick up some of the prayer cards at the front of the room.
- When you are finished, replace the cards at the bottom of the stack.
- I will notify you when our time is up.
- Don't concern yourself with time while you are here.
- Take your watch off if you're tempted to look at it.
- Feel free to change postures during the hour.
- You may sit, kneel, stand or lie flat on your face. All are appropriate.
- Use the prayer program if you are having a hard time getting started.

Nehemiah's Prayer For A City

Nehemiah 1:5-11

I. Focus On God

O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and obey his commands, let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel.

Praise God for who He is and what He has done on your behalf.

II. Confess And Repent

I confess the sins we Israelites, including my father's house, and myself have committed against you. We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.

Confess personal and corporate sins. Sins of our country, state, city and church.

III. Make A Bold Plea

Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name. They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name.

Boldly plead before God for the unfinished business in various quarters of His kingdom to be finished, especially for this church and the campaign.

IV. Get Specific

Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man.

Bring your personal requests before God and ask for success, as God would define it, in your circumstances.