
Prayer Breakfasts

*A strategy for teaching
and leading children
in prayer*



Prayer Breakfasts

Vision . Purpose . Strategy

Purpose

To raise children's understanding of and participation in prayer as a ministry.

Vision

To raise up child intercessors across a city who will have a powerful role in furthering God's Kingdom.

Strategy

To empower local churches to implement children's prayer strategies through providing resourcing and networking, resulting in a citywide children's prayer movement.

Prayer Breakfasts

Prayer breakfasts provide a simple format for drawing children together for teaching and prayer. The format can be adapted to specific church situations, but the teaching can apply in all settings.

Typically, prayer breakfasts are held on a Saturday morning for about a two-hour timeframe. Included in that time is large group teaching on a specific prayer topic (evangelism praying, warfare praying, etc), and then small group prayer times where children apply the teaching by praying together in groups of four to five, with an adult leader. Breakfasts are geared for children ages 8-12 (third-sixth grades).

The morning ends with a trip to a fast-food restaurant for breakfast.

Prayer Topics

The prayer topics covered in this manual are prayer evangelism, praying for parents, fasting and praying for our nation, and spiritual warfare praying.

In this manual you will find promotional flyer ideas, teaching notes, and handouts for children. Any of these materials may be used for launching a children's prayer ministry in your own church.

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Prayer Breakfasts

Children as Intercessors

Children as Intercessors

Why an emphasis on children as intercessors? Children can have a tremendous impact through prayer because God delights in hearing the prayers of children. Jesus made it clear in Luke 18:15-17 that children are a welcomed part of God's Kingdom:

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the Kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.

That child-like faith is so crucial when coming before God. Typically, children are free of the doubt and logic that can hinder adults from boldly approaching God. If we could grasp the power of a child's prayer, we would make it a priority to train and encourage child intercessors.

God spoke clearly to Samuel when he was just 12 years old. But Samuel need to be taught to hear God's voice (1 Samuel 3). Today children are being encouraged to listen to a variety of "voices." It is crucial that we teach them to *discern God's voice*.

Shift in Thinking

We need a shift in our thinking about children and prayer. Rather than designing all our ministries to serve children, we need to stretch our children by teaching them to be actively involved in ministry. We need the foundational discipling ministries that most children's programs provide, but we also need to think beyond the traditional in terms of what children can understand and apply.

Here's what Bill Bright, president and founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, wrote about a group of children who gathered for the *Fasting and Prayer* satellite broadcast in 1998:

...The leadership in a church in Minneapolis invites elementary-aged children to come to the church on Saturday mornings for a "prayer breakfast." You might think that sounds ambitious for 8- to 12-year-olds. I thought so too, at first. But I underestimated these little ones....The leaders coordinated a prayer breakfast with the satellite broadcast and encouraged the kids to try "really, really hard" not to eat breakfast before they came—and assured them that they would "break the fast together" later at McDonalds...They explained to the kids the significance of fasting....and then asked these young prayer warriors what they should pray about for our nation. You would not believe their responses. Abortion. Abuse. Drugs. Gangs. Violence. Divorce. Hate Crimes. Even the President's sin. And then they prayed that people would come to know Christ—and for a revival!

It is time to challenge children to be part of the mighty moving of God through prayer!



Teaching Notes

The following pages include samples of teaching materials used for prayer breakfasts. Each teaching topic includes

- promotional flyer sample
- teaching notes
- handouts for children

You may copy or modify any of these materials. They are included in this manual as a resource for developing your own prayer breakfasts or other teaching opportunities.

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The Really Big Deal

Prayer Breakfast

Just for Kids!

- Can kids really be “prayer warriors”?
- Does God answer your prayers—or does He just hear adults?
- Are your prayers important to God?

If you would like to hear more about prayer—and actually pray with other kids—we invite you to a:

Prayer Breakfast Just for Kids!

Some of the things we’ll learn as we go:

- *praying for the salvation of family and friends*
- *prayer walking in your neighborhood and schools*
- *spiritual warfare praying*
- *praying for our city and the world*

And then, when we’re finished praying, it’s **Breakfast Time!**

Date:

Time:

Ages:

Place:

Special Instructions:

Prayer Evangelism

Prayer Evangelism: What do you think that means?

(Praying that people will know and accept Jesus as Savior and Lord.)

Think of someone who doesn't know Jesus. *(Friend, grandparent, neighbor, teacher)* Keep that person in mind as we go through our teaching today.

Why wouldn't everyone in the world want to accept Jesus? It seems that if you asked some people if they would prefer to have a candy bar *(use candy bar as example)* or accept Jesus, they would choose the candy bar. Why is that?

Write 2 Corinthians 4:4 on the board or an overhead transparency.

"The god of this age [Satan] has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel..."

What does it mean to have blinded minds?

Use paper bag and flashlight as example. Place bag over volunteer's head and shine flashlight toward it. (Do not shine a bright light directly at the bag; use a small flashlight in the general direction of bag.) Ask if volunteer can see the light. (Why not?) Then ask audience if they can see the light. (Why?) Use this to illustrate that Satan has placed "bags" (blindness) over people's heads so that they cannot see the light of Christ.

So how would you pray for someone who doesn't know Jesus?

Here is an example of how you might pray for someone.

Prayer Example *(see handout on page 8 for salvation prayer):*

Dear God,

Thank you for my salvation. Thank you that you opened my eyes to understand Your truth. But I am concerned about others who are still blinded by Satan.

I bring before you _____. I ask, God, that You would remove his/her spiritual blindness so that _____ can see the need to accept Jesus as Savior and Lord.

I pray that Satan would not be allowed to keep him/her in spiritual blindness. I pray that You would set _____ free to know the truth.

Lord, I ask you to bless _____, and I ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.

Two Ways to Pray:

There are two great ways to pray for people who don't know Jesus. One way is to pray for *freedom from spiritual blindness and understanding of God's truth.*

The second way is to pray *that God will meet a need in their lives.* By praying for a specific need, God can show people how much He loves and cares for them.

Illustration: A man was having breakfast in a restaurant with some friends. When the server brought their food, John told the server that the men would be praying for their breakfast, and asked if she had a special prayer need they could include in their prayer. The server became teary-eyed and said yes, but that she couldn't share it right then. She went into the kitchen for a few minutes, and then returned to their table with a note in her hand. She had written on that note that she and her mother were not getting along very well, and that she needed prayer. So the men bowed their heads at their table and prayed for the server's special need.

A few minutes later another woman walked up to their table and handed the men a note. She explained, "I overheard your conversation about offering prayer for your server, and I was wondering if you would pray for me, too. I wrote my request down on this paper."

Of course, the men were thrilled to pray for her, too!

Remember, everyone has needs! You can pray and ask God to meet their needs. As God shows Himself to people, they are more open to hearing the truth of how much they need God. Be quick to offer to pray for people, and then trust God to work in their lives.

Small Group Prayer Time:

Divide children into groups of four to five, with an adult leader for each group. Have the children practice praying about spiritual blindness, as well as praying for the needs of others.

1.) Make copies of the prayer sample on page 8. Have the children choose one or two people who need to hear about Jesus. They can follow the prayer by filling in the blanks with names. Have each child share with group why he/she is praying for a specific person. Then have the children practice by using the prayer.

(*Note:* Emphasize that the written prayer is only a guideline and a help to get started. Children can also choose to pray their own prayers without following the written prayer.)

2.) Children can practice praying for other needs by praying for each other. Place a chair in the center of the small group and ask a child to volunteer to sit in the chair and share a personal prayer request. The other children can surround that child and take turns praying for personal needs. This helps children become comfortable in praying for others, as well as listening closely when someone expresses a need.

TIME FOR BREAKFAST!

PRAYER FOR SALVATION OF OTHERS

Dear God,

Thank you for my salvation. Thank you that you opened my eyes to understand Your truth. But I am concerned about others who are still blinded by Satan.

I bring before you _____. I ask, God, that You would remove his/her spiritual blindness so that _____ can see the need to accept Jesus as Savior and Lord.

I pray that Satan would not be allowed to keep him/her in spiritual blindness. I pray that You would set _____ free to know the truth.

Lord, I ask you to bless _____, and I ask this in Jesus' name,
Amen.

Verse to Remember:

“The god of this age [Satan] has blinded the minds of unbelievers so that they cannot see the light of the gospel....”

I'm praying for the following people:

Prayer Breakfast

Parents need prayer, too.

Really!

Do you ever pray—really pray—for your parents?

Do you even know how to pray for them?

They have special needs, too.

Learn how to pray for your parents.

That'll blow them away!

Date:

Time:

Ages:

Place:

Special Instructions:

Praying for Parents

Introduction:

As the leader, share an example of someone who prays faithfully for you. Tell about the impact that has had on your life. If either of your parents were faithful in praying for you, explain how you believe those prayers made a difference in your life.

Ask children to name someone who prays for them by name. (*Likely answers: parents, grandparents, Sunday school teacher, pastor, etc.*)

We all need people to pray for us. But have you ever thought about the difference you could make in your parents' lives if you were praying for them every day?

Panel of Parents

Tell the children you have invited a panel of experts to help them understand how to pray for parents. Invite two or three parents to answer this question:

“If you knew your children were praying for you, name one or two prayer requests you’d like to put at the top of their prayer lists.”

Use an overhead projector/transparency to record some of their answers. Then discuss the handout and written prayer on page 11.

Prayer Role Play

Divide the children into small groups and assign an adult leader to each group. Have the groups create role play situations using the following ideas. Give about 20 minutes for children to discuss and practice acting out their situation. Then bring them back into the large group to demonstrate for everyone.

Possible situations:

- When leaving for school, child stops and asks parent about his/her day—and then asks how to pray for parent. Child then prays for parent before heading out the door.
- Family is gathered around the dinner table. Child volunteers to pray for the meal, and then asks parents for specific prayer requests.
- Child is preparing to go to bed. When parent comes in, child asks if he/she can pray for parent.
- Parents seemed concerned about situation at home. Child observes, then goes to his/her room, closes the door, and prays for parents.

Small Group Prayer Time:

Divide children into small groups again, each with an adult leader. Using the handout, have children practice praying for their parent by reading through the prayer with a partner. Emphasize that the written prayer is an idea of how to pray, and that children can use that prayer as a help, or can pray in their own words.

TIME FOR BREAKFAST!

HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR PARENTS

Parents need prayer, too, you know. Here's one idea of how to pray for them.

Dear God,

Thank you for my parent(s) _____. You have given me parents to keep me safe. Please keep them safe, too. You have given them the job of training me to be a follower of Jesus. Help them to teach me and show me what that means.

They have to know a lot to be parents, so please give them wisdom and understanding. Help them to make good decisions for our family.

They also have a lot of pressure on them as parents. I pray that you will give them peace, patience, kindness, and gentleness. I also pray that they will have joy and happiness in all they do. Help them to show me the love in their hearts—and help me to understand how much they love me. Help me to love, respect, and obey them.

As it says in Joshua 24:15 “As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” I pray that my parents will serve You, God, and obey You in everything You ask of them. Help them to have strong faith in you. And when they are discouraged or fearful or concerned, I pray that they will come to You in prayer.

God, I ask that you bless and protect my parents.

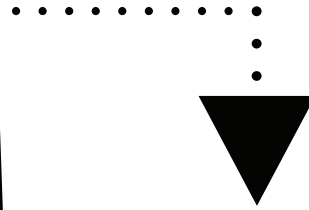
In Jesus' name, Amen.

OTHER WAYS TO PRAY FOR YOUR PARENTS:

- Do you have a parent who doesn't know Jesus? Pray for his or her salvation.
- Before you leave for school, stop and ask your parent about a concern he/she has for today. Then pray right there before you go out the door!
- Volunteer to pray at supper time. Ask your parents how you can pray for them.
- Ask your parents to pray with you at bedtime. Ask them to give you a special request.
- Pay attention around home. If you hear a concern expressed, go to your room and pray.

Remember, parents need prayer, too!

Try really, really hard
not to eat
before you come!



Prayer Breakfast Just for Kids!

Fasting and Praying for our Nation
is our topic.

Fasting is a way of showing God
we really, really mean it when we pray.
You can fast by not eating before you come—
and then we will break our fast together with
Breakfast!

Date:

Time:

Ages:

Place:

Special Instructions:

Fasting and Prayer for Our Nation

Introduction:

Special Note for Leader: For the past several years, there has been a growing call to fast and pray on behalf our nation. During the 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday, many Christian organizations are joining in special prayer and fasting, asking God to bring revival and spiritual awakening to our cities, state, and nation. Revival is the term used for “waking up the Church to be all that God intends, or bringing the church back to life,” whereas spiritual awakening applies to society awakening to their need for Jesus as Lord and Savior. Help the children have a broader understanding that their prayers and sacrifice for our nation are part of the calling that God is putting on thousands of people around the world. If you choose to do a lesson on fasting, please take care to present your teaching very sensitively. Children should always have their parents’ permission to fast, whether it is from a particular food, television, etc. Children should not be allowed to fast extensive time from meals (although one meal might be OK with parents). Pray for wisdom as you teach this lesson, and be aware the children might be tempted to fast for wrong reasons—especially with the prevalence of eating disorders. This should not discourage you for talking about fasting, but you need to be clear on what is appropriate and what is not.

Theme Verse:

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and will heal their land.”
2 Chronicles 7:14

(Put up on overhead projector; handout on page 15 can be made into transparency.)

Questions:

Why should we pray for our nation? Do things seem good or bad in our country?
Would it really make a difference if we pray? (Discuss 2 Chronicles 7:14.)

Illustration:

Dick Eastman, director of Every Home for Christ, tells of a time when God called him to put aside the day-to-day duties of his job, and to spend a month in prayer. At the end of that time, God told Dick to do something very unusual. He told him to get on an airplane and fly to West Berlin, Germany.

Dick was obedient to God and went to Germany, not really knowing why he was going. When he arrived, God again showed Dick what he was to do. Dick sensed God telling him to make his way to the Berlin Wall—a wall that had divided the city of Berlin for years. On the west side of the wall, people lived in freedom. On the east side of the wall, people suffered under communism leadership.

God’s instructions to Dick were very simple. Walk up to the wall, touch it, and pray just five words: “In Jesus’ name come down.” He felt a little strange doing such a simple thing, but he obeyed God, touched the wall, and prayed. Then Dick knew he was supposed to return home. He traveled all that way because God had just one assignment for him—to pray five simple words about the great dividing wall.

Several weeks later, Dick was surprised to read in the newspaper that the Berlin Wall was coming down, and that the Soviet Union (a communist country) was breaking up into free nations. He was in awe of God’s work through his obedience—and the obedience of thousands of Christians who had been praying for many years for the end of communism.

(From the Jericho Hour by Dick Eastman, pages 10-12)

Walls in Our Nation that Need to Come Down

Can you think of any “spiritual walls” in our nation that need to come down? These would be walls (or strongholds) of things that affect our country—but are not from God.

(List their answers on the overhead transparency on page 15. Some examples to help them get started: violence in schools, drugs, crime, etc.)

In the large group, have children come forward and pray a simple prayer like Dick Eastman’s. Suggest each child come forward and pray for the “wall” that he/she suggested. Their prayers can be as simple as: “In Jesus’ name, the wall of violence in schools come down.” Work through the list one at a time.

What’s the Big Deal About Fasting?

Now ask the kids how many are feeling hungry. Hopefully most did not eat before they came, so they can experience just a little of what fasting is like. If you watched a portion of the *Fasting and Prayer* broadcast, point out many of those people have already been fasting for almost three days.

Ask the question, “We know praying is important, but why is fasting such a big deal?”

Fasting is letting God know we are really serious about our prayers. By giving up food (or something else), we are sacrificing something that is important to us. It emphasizes to God that we really want Him to answer our prayers. It also helps us focus on what we are praying for because we feel hungry—and that reminds us to pray.

But as kids you need to have few rules about fasting.

- 1.) This is not an excuse to skip a meal because you can’t stand what you’re having. If you think God would like you to fast (not eat a meal), you must first have your parent’s permission. And you need to make your decision *before* you know what’s being prepared for that meal. If it turns out to be your favorite meal, then you are *really sacrificing!*
- 2.) You must always have your parent’s permission to fast from a meal.
- 3.) You can fast from others things for a day or week, such as candy, television, computer games, etc.

Ultimate Fasting Sacrifice!

Ahead of time, place two cookies in a plastic bag or baggie to give to each child. Recommendation: *Double-stuffed Oreos*. Tell the children that this will be the ultimate fasting sacrifice. They are to take their bags of cookies home and place them on their bedroom dresser. Determine a time of how long they must not eat the cookies—two days or so. Tell the children that every time they look at the bag, they should pray about a “spiritual wall” in our nation to come down. After two days, they can break their fast by eating the cookies!

Small Group Time

Divide the children into small groups of four to five, with on adult leader. Have the children name one thing they will specifically pray about over the next two days. Then encourage them, as a small group, to continue praying through the list of “spiritual walls.” Also guide them in praying through 2 Chronicles 7:14—that we will humble ourselves, pray, seek God, and turn from wicked ways. Pray also that God will heal our land.

TIME FOR BREAKFAST!

FASTING AND PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and will heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

List here ways to pray for our nation:

Prayer Breakfast just for kids!

**There's power in prayer!
But there's someone who doesn't
want us to pray—
and he'll do anything to stop us.**

**That's why we need to learn about
"spiritual warfare" in prayer. That
means making sure Satan doesn't win
the fight against us.**

Come and learn to pray with power!

Date:

Time:

Ages:

Place:

Special Instructions:

Spiritual Warfare Praying

Introduction:

Use the transparency on page 19 to highlight Ephesians 6:10-20. Read through the Scripture passage together as a group. Use some creativity—and humor—to illustrate the different parts of the armor of God (*tennis shoes, football helmet, Supersoaker, etc. Look around home and see what you can find!*)

After you have read through the passage with the children, highlight some of the key points:

Belt of truth: “You gotta know the truth.” That means studying and knowing the Bible so that when lies of Satan come, you can recognize them. People who are taught to recognize counterfeit money learn by studying real \$20, \$50, or \$100 bills. (*Use one as example.*) They don’t study counterfeit bills, but they become so familiar with the true money that they can immediately recognize the false bills. It’s the same with knowing the truth of God’s Word!

Breastplate of righteousness: Keep a clean slate, confess sin, be righteous. 1 John 1:9 says that “if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” That helps keep us from being wide-open to Satan’s attacks.

Gospel of peace: Like a good pair of tennis shoes. They’re comfortable, they feel good. Kind of like being a peacemaker. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts (Colossians 3:15).

Shield of faith: Use your shield to deflect all the stuff Satan throws your way. Don’t let it affect you. Believe (have faith) that God is more powerful and you are safe in God’s hands.

Helmet of salvation: Salvation—having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ—protects your mind, just like a football helmet protects your head. Wouldn’t want to be without it in going “head-to-head” with Satan in spiritual warfare.

Sword of the Spirit: The Holy Spirit-inspired spoken Word of God—the Bible. Jesus used the Word of God against Satan. He quoted Scripture to Satan to put him in his place (Matthew 4:1-11).

If you are a believer in Jesus Christ, you have the authority (the right) and the power (using the above weapons in the name of Jesus), to tell Satan to leave you alone. But most Christians live in fear and let Satan intimidate them because they don’t call upon the power of Jesus Christ to help them.

Spiritual Protection Prayers

Give the children the handout on page 20 to teach them more about praying “spiritual protection prayers.” Read through the examples of the bedtime prayer, prayer for resisting spiritual attack, and prayer for daily life. As the children become familiar with praying through these prayers, they will become more confident in taking authority over Satan. Encourage them to use these prayers and commands every day.

Please note the instructions for the “Prayer for When You Feel Spiritual Attack.” Although you do not want to frighten the children by being overly dramatic, you do need to impress upon them that they need not fear. It is very common for children to have frightening dreams or experiences at night, so reassure them that they can win that battle in Jesus’ name!

Small Group Prayer Time:

Divide the children into groups of four to five, with one adult leader for each group. For their small group prayer time, they will prayer walk around the church, praying for protection from Satan's attack.

Emphasize that just as Satan can attack us personally, he can also attack the church. As they prayer walk around the church, encourage them to think about all the ministries that go on in each room they enter. They should pray for those ministries to grow, as well as pray for protection from Satan's attack.

If you are comfortable doing this, a special activity children enjoy is anointing doorways with oil. (Any cooking oil will do just fine.) If you choose to do this, start out at the front entrance to the church. As the leader, dip your finger in the oil and make the symbol of the cross above the door and on each of the side doorframes. Explain that there is nothing magical about the oil, but that it is a symbol of your desire that your church be a holy place. (*Exodus 30:25-29 explains the significance of using anointing oil.*) Then pray that God would protect your church and make it into a holy place for His honor and glory. Pray a very simple pray that the children can follow—and then encourage them to anoint other doors in the church. It is a blessing in the weeks after to see the evidences of their faith and prayers represented by the faint oil marks above the doors throughout the church!

TIME FOR BREAKFAST!

BE STRONG IN THE LORD

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.”

Ephesians 6: 10-20

SPIRITUAL PROTECTION PRAYERS

A Prayer for Bedtime:

Dear God,

Thank you for being my Heavenly Father and for loving me so much. Now as I go to sleep, I know that You will be present with me at all times. You are here with me in my bedroom, and I can go to sleep without fear! I know You will protect me, and I trust You. If I become fearful tonight, or if I have trouble sleeping, help me to call out to You. Protect me and my family tonight. Bless my parents, brothers, and sisters. I love You, and I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

A Prayer for When You Feel Spiritual Attack:

Have you ever felt afraid in your room at night? Sometimes fear can come from Satan trying to scare you. You can be free from the fear by speaking out Scripture, calling out the name of Jesus, or telling Satan to leave you alone. You must say this out loud, so that Satan knows you mean business!

If you have fear, try saying something like this:

“Satan, in Jesus’ name, leave me alone.” And then pray, “Jesus, please protect me and help me sleep in peace.”

Memorize this Scripture verse and say it out loud:

“I am a child of God, and the evil one cannot touch me” (1 John 5:18).

A Daily Prayer:

Dear God,

You tell us that we should be strong in You, and so today I choose to walk with You in all things. I choose to stand against temptation, sin, and fear, and instead I will walk in strength, love, and peace.

Today I stand against Satan and all his lies, and instead I ask that You fill my mind with Your peace. I choose to believe the truth that You love me and that I am a special child of God.

I choose to honor my parents and family, and to speak loving things to them. I choose to obey my parents, and to pray for them and bless them.

I choose to be a peacemaker with my friends, and to let my life show how much I love Jesus.

I love you, God, and I pray that today my life will be pleasing to You. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Other Prayer Ideas

There are so many wonderful ideas for teaching and leading children in prayer. On page 22 you will find some excellent resources from other prayer ministries.

Here are some other prayer ideas that can help your children grow in their prayer ministry:

Concert of Prayer with Adults: If your church holds concerts of prayer for the adult congregation, encourage your leadership to include children for at least part of the time. Structure the concert of prayer so that children can join with adults in praise and worship—and at least some of the opening prayer activities. A wonderful component can be added by having adults gather around children and pray blessings over them, individually and by name. This is a powerful demonstration to children that they are a valued part of the church.

After a period of time, you might want to dismiss the children to their own prayer activities. Create stations for the children to rotate through. Some stations can include:

- **Teaching children to pray through Scripture:** Psalm 86 works well. Encourage children to pick out some sentences and pray, using some of the same words—but inserting their names.
- **Prayer walking around the building:** Stop to pray at key places such as the senior pastor’s office door, Sunday school rooms, the worship center, etc.
- **Prayer for friends:** Set a chair in the middle of a circle. Have each child sit in the chair while the other children pray for that child.
- **Spiritual warfare prayers:** Use the prayers on page 20 of this manual.

Jericho Prayer Walk: Using the story of taking the city of Jericho by marching around its walls (Joshua 6), take the children outside to march around the church seven times. Play praise music and have the children sing as they march.

Trash Prayer Walk: Divide children into groups of two or three (with an adult) and give each child a trash bag. Encourage them to walk around the church property or neighborhood, picking up trash. As they pick a piece of trash, have them pray something that comes to mind. Example: Perhaps they find an old glove—and then pray for the person who wore that glove. The adult in the group should watch carefully and keep them from picking up unsafe items. And everyone should wash their hands afterwards!

Spiritual Tour: Take the children on a van ride throughout your community. Stop at various places and have them pray for the things they see. You might stop in front of another church and pray for that church. You might drive downtown and ask the children to think of what they might pray for regarding downtown activities. Teach children to pray with “spiritual eyes.”

A Citywide Vision

As your children grow in their roles as intercessors, you will want to connect with other churches that are also establishing prayer ministries for children. Consider bringing your group together with other churches for a concert of prayer designed especially for children. Give your children the understanding that they are a part of a growing movement of prayer. And begin praying now for a citywide children’s concert of prayer. The spiritual impact of children praying together across a city would be “immeasurably more than all we could ask or imagine” (Eph. 3:20)! Join us in this vision for every city in our nation.

PRAYER RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN

BOOKS/PUBLICATIONS:

When Children Pray, by Cheri Fuller. Multnomah Press.

Teaching Your Children to Pray, by Rick Osbourne. Moody Press.

Let the Children Pray, by Esther Ilnisky. Regal Books.

Pray Kids!, a children's publication produced by staff of *Pray!* Magazine and Navigators. To order bulk copies, call (800) 366-7788.

WEBSITES:

Pray Kids! Magazine. Website is www.praykids.com

Families Pray USA, associated with Cheri Fuller, author. Website is www.familiesprayusa.org.

Harvest Prayer Ministries. Website is www.harvestprayer.com

Children's Global Prayer Movement. Website is www.cgpm.org