



Effective Corporate Prayer Participation: Seeking God Together

1. Introduction.

Key Results of Prayer:

- a. **Intimacy:** Drawing Near to God. James 4:8
- b. **Revelation:** God revealing His purposes, plans, and ways to us. 1 Corinthians 2:9-16

2. Overview.

- a. We enjoy the privilege of prayer because of our relationship with Christ as his children. *Romans 8:15-17, John 17:3, Philipians 3:10, Hebrews 11:6*
- b. **Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit** are involved when we pray. *Matthew 7:11, Hebrews 7:25, Romans 8:26-27*
- c. We pray according to the **promises in God's Word**. *John 15:7, Isaiah 55:11*
- d. We pray according to God's will, in Jesus' name and authority, with all prayer and perseverance. *1 John 5:14-15, John 14:13-14, Ephesians 6:18, Luke 18:1*

3. Leadership.

Corporate Prayer is **most effective with a designated leader**. This allows the leader to plan and facilitate the prayer time and allows others to participate well in the corporate prayer process.

The Harmony of Praying Together: "The moment we unite in prayer we become a symphony. As such we blend together in unity respecting the fact that we represent all of Christ's body." Dick Eastman

4. Corporate Prayer Activities – Praying and Listening to God and Each Other.

a. Praying to God

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| i. Ask: For some needs we simply ask for what is needed. | <i>2 Samuel 5: 19, 23
Psalm 2:8, 27:4</i> |
| ii. Seek: When we don't know what to do, we seek God for answers. | <i>Matthew 7:7,
Isaiah 55:6-9</i> |
| iii. Knock: Sometimes we persist in prayer to receive God's answers. | <i>Matthew 7:7,
Luke 18:1, 5-8</i> |
| iv. Intercede: Claim God's promises. Intercession: Prayer that "hits the mark", reflecting the Lord's specific will. Standing before God and between God and others. | <i>James 5:16</i> |



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b. Listening to God and Each Other

i. Listen: Listen to the Lord for **what to pray**, listen to each other **as we pray**, listen to the **Holy Spirit's response to our prayers**.

Psalm 81:8-14

ii. Hear: Hear the Holy Spirit response to our prayers. **What themes is the Holy Spirit highlighting?** Is what we hear **consistent with God's Word and character?** Does it enhance our relationship with God and His people?

*John 10:27, James 1:19,
Rev 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22*

iii. Obey/Be prepared to act: Watch expectantly for God to reveal His answers. Be ready to do what God reveals when we pray. Be available to God to be an answer to our prayers.

*John 10:27, Phil 2:13,
James 1:22-25*

5. Corporate Prayer Group Dynamics - Use "Spiritual Brainstorming" approach.

- a. **Follow the leader.** Focus on current topic.
- b. **Pray together as team**, not as individuals.
- c. **Vital prayer focus: God's word and character.**
- d. **Pray briefly enough** so that all can participate.
- e. **Pray loudly enough** so all can hear, agree and be edified.
- f. **Pray with humility.** We can always pray for the Lord to reveal "truth, wisdom, insight, clarity, etc." about our topic.

6. Reflection: After prayer, consider:

- **How do we respond to what God revealed during corporate prayer?**
- **What promises are we expecting God to fulfill because we prayed?**