

How to Evaluate the Prayer Life of a Congregation



E – Evaluation – Assess the current state of your organizational prayer ministry

How to Evaluate the Prayer Life of a Congregation Questions by Daniel Henderson¹

<p>• HEIGHT: To what degree is the leadership team modeling prayer, cultivating prayer among their ranks, teaching on prayer, highlighting stories about prayer and training others to lead in prayer?</p>	<p>• BREADTH: Are we helping our people understand the need for a prayer culture beyond prayer “activities” as we encourage and highlight prayer as a pervasive reality in all we do as a church?</p>
<p>• WIDTH: How are we raising up other leaders to provide a broad variety of prayer opportunities that appeal to various interests and that are sustained [by] consistent and competent leadership?</p>	<p>• DEPTH: Are we encouraging and equipping our people to develop a depth in private prayer that will also be evidenced in marriage, family, work and community relationships?</p>

¹“GIVING OURSELVES TO PRAYER” Dan Crawford, pps 401–407. © 2008 America’s Nat’l Prayer Committee

Growth Levels for a Prayer-Saturated Church

Every church has at least some form of prayer ministry. But no matter where the church is on the spectrum of prayer saturation, it is always possible to move to a new level of prayer. “

Level	Characteristics
1. Foundational	Unified leadership base. Each leader , beginning with the senior pastor and the pastoral staff, must lead the way.
2. Motivational	Congregation must be awakened to the importance of prayer.
3. Preparation	Prayer leaders need to be trained , Identify more potential leaders.
4. Initiation	Begin praying with those who are willing to pray.
5. Ignition	Move beyond a single prayer focus to a multifaceted approach with many opportunities for the church to pray.
6. Expansion	Prayer ministry is broadened . Motivate members to pray more. Training people to pray effectively . Develop multiple entry points for people to get involved in prayer.
7. Invasion	Prayer ministry as mobilized command and communications center. Develop long-range strategies: prayer teams, gatherings, citywide and 24-hour prayer.
8. Saturation	Church becomes a house of prayer. All the leaders take responsibility for casting the prayer vision. Training opportunities are presented at all levels of one’s spiritual journey.

The Prayer Saturated Church: by Cheryl Sacks. © 2007 by Cheryl Sacks.

Evaluate: How could our prayer ministry be more effective?: _____

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Evaluate: How Are We Linking Prayer with Ministry – Following the example of The Book of Acts

Discipleship (2:42): Train members to have an effective prayer life, disciple others in prayer, train their children to pray, etc.

Evangelism (House to House 2:47) Train members to pray those the church is trying to reach, for the lost/those they are witnessing to, for opportunities to witness, for their neighbors, etc.

Ministry (2:43, 3:6) Train members to pray for ministries, train ministry members to pray for those they minister to and for, for their ministry leaders, etc.

Leadership (1:24, 6:4) Train leaders to lead in prayer, to pray for their ministries, to mobilize people to pray for their ministries, to train those they lead in prayer.\

Missions (13:1-3) Train members to discern who to call to missions, pray for missionaries, for missions outreaches and events, for local and global mission activity, etc.

Worship (2:43, 47; 3:10) Train members to pray as part of their worship, pray for the worship gatherings, pray for others to worship, pray for worship leaders, etc.

Bold Witness (Community 4:33) Train members to pray for the church to boldly impact the community, for God to open doors of opportunity, etc.