

Corporate Intercessory Prayer

Engaging in God-focused, Scripture-centered, promise-driven prayer

God's People Praying Together - Matthew 18:19

We can't accomplish all God has for His people by praying alone.

1. Praying Together: When Jesus taught on prayer, 33 out of 37 times He did so in the plural”¹

Examples: Acts 1:14, 1:24, 2:42, 3:1, 4:23-31

¹“*And the Place was Shaken,*” pp 181-188 Pastor John Franklin, 2005, Broadman and Holman Publishers.

“Effective corporate prayer is **shining the light of God's word and Spirit on a given topic**. When we see the refracted light that comes from offering prayer on a given topic, God, the “Master Jeweler,” gives us **glimpses of His glory as we gaze on Him together**.

As we **pray and listen together, focused on God's Word and character, the “brilliance” and wisdom of His revelation** can give us an **awareness of God's will, purposes and ways that we can discern and respond to.**”
Thomas Bush

2. Corporate Intercessory Prayer: Leadership: A prayer group is most effective with a designated leader. This allows the leader to plan and facilitate the prayer time and allows others to participate well.

“Again I say to you, that if **two believers on earth agree** [that is, are of one mind, in harmony] **about anything that they ask [within the will of God]**, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.” Matt 18:19 AMP

3. Corporate Intercessory Prayer Group Dynamics - Use spiritual “brainstorming” approach.

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| a. Follow the leader. Focus on current topic. | d. Pray briefly enough so that all can participate. |
| b. Pray together as team, not as individuals. | e. Pray loudly enough so all can hear, agree and be edified. |
| c. Prayer focus: God's word and His character. | f. Pray with humility . We can always pray, Lord reveal "truth, wisdom, insight," about what we are praying about. |

4. Agreement in Prayer: We pray in agreement with the topic and the scriptures the Lord reveals to us. As **instruments of a great concert** under the direction of a concert master, so **the Holy Spirit blends together the lives of members of Christ's church.**” (Greek Lexicon)

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

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5. Corporate Prayer Activities – Praying to God

a. Ask: For some needs we simply ask for what is needed	<i>2 Samuel 5: 19, 23 Ps 2:8, 27:4</i>
b. Seek: When we don't know what to do, we seek God for answers	<i>Matthew 7:7, Is 55:6-9</i>
c. Knock: Sometimes we persist in prayer to receive God's answers	<i>Matthew 7:7, Luke 18:1, 5-8</i>
d. Intercede: Intervention led by God, intersection between heaven and earth. Prayer that " hits the mark ", reflecting the Lord's specific will. Standing before God and between God and others, as a friend approaching a king with an intimate petition.	<i>James 5:16</i>
e. Remove Obstacles: "Build up, build up, prepare the road! Remove the obstacles out of the way of my people.	<i>Isaiah 57:14-15</i>

6. Listening to God and Each Other

1. 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	<i>Psalm 81:8-14</i>
2. Hear: Hear the Holy Spirit response to our prayers. What themes is the Holy Spirit highlighting? Is what I hear consistent with God's Word and character? Does it enhance relationship with God and His people?	<i>John 10:27</i> <i>James 1:19</i> <i>Rev 2:7, 11, 17, 29. 3:6, 13, 22</i>
3. Obey and be prepared to act: Be ready to do what God reveals when we pray. Be available to God to be an answer to our prayers. Watch expectantly for God to reveal His answers.	<i>John 10:27</i> <i>Philippians 2:13</i> <i>James 1:22-25</i>

7. After prayer, reflect:

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