

## Leaders Who Develop Praying Disciples – Leaders’ Summary

### *Prayer Is:*

- ♥ Enjoying our love relationship with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Al Vandergriend
- ♥ Prayer is as natural an expression of faith as breathing is of life. Jonathan Edwards

**Important principles: Disciples pray. Leaders equip disciples to pray.**

### **Prayer Ministry Leadership: Considerations for Leaders Who Develop Praying Disciples.**

1. “Whenever God calls His people to Himself, **He uses His leaders.**” (Blackaby) **We must call our people to prayer and spiritual activity.**
2. Leaders have the **greatest ability to affect the praying culture of the ministry.**
3. A **praying ministry requires praying leaders.** The **greatest factor in mobilizing prayer** in your ministry **is the leader himself.** We must **lead others to pray by praying with them.**
4. “The prayer level of the church or ministry never grows beyond the **personal example and passion of its senior leaders.**” Daniel Henderson

### **Biblical Prayer**

- Biblical prayer shows our **dependence on God** and **connects us to the mission God** has for us
- If we don’t have **Biblical prayer** in our ministries, that is a **leadership issue.**
- “**Prayerlessness**” is our **declaration of independence FROM God.** (Daniel Henderson)
- “**People who do not pray** will always be **disoriented to the activity of God**” (Mel Blackaby)

### **Learning from Prayer Lives of Jesus / Apostle Paul:**

- **Jesus’s prayer life was an expression of His close, personal relationship with the Father.** He **only did what He saw the Father doing.** (John 5:19) He **prayed with and for His disciples, taught and modeled prayer** for them and focused them on **praying for laborers, the harvest, and people.**
- **Paul prayed passionately for spiritual growth and maturity for God’s people.** Paul asked for prayer for partnership, protection, spiritual potency and for the effectiveness of his ministry.

### **Local Church Prayer**

- **Everyone needs prayer:** Focus on **Spiritual Growth and Maturity.** Help God’s people to **seek and love the Lord** with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. Encourage God’s people to ask for prayer and pray for each other based on their **own needs for spiritual growth and maturity.**

#### **Seek The Lord With All My Heart**

Psalm 27:4, 8: **Seek Lord with my Heart**

Luke: 10:27: **Seek to love Lord with Heart, Mind, Soul, Strength**

Psalm 105:4: **Seek Lord, His Strength, His Face**

2 Corinthians 3:18: **Seek to be transformed by Holy Spirit into His image**

#### **Seek Spiritual Growth and Maturity**

Romans 12:2 **Be transformed by God’s word** Eph 3:14-21 **Strengthened/filled up to fullness of God**

- When we **pray for each other**, we allow **give the Holy Spirit an opportunity to work.** When we pray and care, **God’s love and power flow between us.**

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### Ministry Prayer Strategy

To implement a Ministry Prayer Strategy, there must be prayer training at every level.

#### 1. Leaders Lead the Prayer Strategy.

- Every Leader a Praying Leader and Every Leader a Prayer Advocate.<sup>1</sup>

#### 2. Pastors Model and Lead Their Churches to be Houses of Prayer.

- Every Pastor a Praying Pastor and Every Church a House of Prayer.

#### 3. Train Men to Pray.

- Every Man a Praying Man. Pastors and Men’s Leaders train men to pray.

#### 4. Train Church Members to Pray

- Every Member a Praying Member. Pastors and Leaders train members to pray.

**Potential Prayer Topics:** Every Deacon a Praying Deacon, Mom a Praying Mom, Child a Praying Child, etc.

### Prayer Advocate<sup>1</sup>

A Prayer Advocate is a **catalyst for prayer** wherever they go. We invite every pastor, missionary, faith-based ministry leader, and parent to strive to be a “Prayer Advocate.”

<p><b>1. Practices prayer:</b> A “Prayer Advocate” must pray himself/herself. The practice of prayer cannot be completely delegated to another leader or prayer team.</p> <p><b>2. Preaches, teaches, and disciples in prayer:</b> A “Prayer Advocate” leads by providing a Biblical foundation for prayer for those he/she leads.</p> <p><b>3. Promotes prayer</b> – A “Prayer Advocate” casts vision for having a ministry saturated with prayer.</p> <p><b>4. Participates in prayer:</b> The Prayer Advocate’s team experiences the Prayer Advocate by praying with him/her.</p>	<p><b>5. Provides places of prayer:</b> “Prayer Advocates” provide places and opportunities for people to pray. “Prayer Advocates” invite people to take prayer to places where people are.</p> <p>A Prayer Advocate trains for and encourages Spirit-led, Scripture-fed prayer for every person and in every gathering, class and committee. Prayer Advocates provide many opportunities and places for people to pray.</p> <p><b>6. Produces prayer lists focused on kingdom impact:</b> “Prayer Advocates” include prayer requests that would make a difference to the ministry if God were to answer.</p>
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<sup>1</sup>Pastor Phil Miglioratti, National Pastors Prayer Network, Pray.Network.

How is God encouraging you to grow as a “Prayer Advocate”? \_\_\_\_\_

*“The Church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. The Holy [Spirit] does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men, men of prayer.” -EM Bounds*