

Ingredients for a Prayer Ministry

Jesus was a prayer warrior. He prayed before every difficult task He encountered. Talking with His Father was His source of power and direction. Shouldn't we do the same? Check out what the Bible (in Matthew 7:7) promises if we pray: *"Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you."*

It's the same for us. Our instruction manual – the Bible – tells us the first thing to do is pray. God is working at your school and He has instructions for your part in reaching out. Ask Him for them. The first and most important step is to **make prayer a priority!** Prayer is the greatest tool we have for reaching students on the campus.

Prayer Starts with You

It all starts with you. The way we grow in our prayer lives is by devotion to God. Set aside time each day to pray. Here are some things to remember as you spend time in dialogue with Him:

- **Be honest.** You can't fool God, so don't hold anything back from Him. He can take the truth (Psalm 139:23,24).
- **Stay clean.** God's Word tells us not to let sin remain in our lives. We are promised in *1 John 1:9*, *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*
- **Fill 'er up!** Remember that the Holy Spirit is your spiritual power source. Ephesians 5:18 tells us to *"Be filled with the Spirit."*
- **Put on the brakes.** In our world of microwaves, drive-throughs and ATM's, this may actually be one of the hardest things for you to do. Listening to God takes time – and patience. Try reading a section of scripture and use it as a basis for your praise and requests. Or worship God for who He is and for His amazing attributes (Psalms 145-150).
- **Log it.** Keep a record of the things you're praying for in your life and ministry at school. This will help you stay focused and allow you to see how God answers.
- **Check it out!** Prayer is an adventure, so check it out! There are so many great resources to help you get "the max" out of prayer. A bunch of materials are listed below.

Don't Go It Alone

Prayer may start with you, but God doesn't intend for you to "go it alone."

- **Grab a friend.** We're catching some serious waves, so grab a friend or two and pray during lunch or before school. *"Where two or more are gathered in My name..."*
- **Spread the word.** Let other Christians know that they can join you for weekly prayer. Make a regular time and place to hit the prayer "beach."
- **Express yourself.** Be creative and have fun. God's not boring, so you shouldn't be either. Plan a prayer breakfast, a "pizza and prayer" night, or "popcorn and prayer," or go for a prayer walk. Catch the theme? PRAYER! Just go for it!
- **Link up.** Prayer chains are an awesome way to crank up the power for a special outreach event. Involve parents, teachers and churches in your community for extra power.
- **Who's on point?** You'll need a point man who will organize prayer for your ministry. Look for someone who has a rep for prayer. This student could begin other prayer groups on campus, while a parent, teacher, or youth minister could organize community prayer support. Even Moses needed help holding up his arms in battle (Exodus 17:8-13)! So don't go it alone.
- **Stay 'N Sync.** You gotta keep up with God's beat and you do that through prayer. God's Word totally agrees. Pray continually (1 Thessalonians 5:17), pray at all times (Ephesians 6:18), and in everything... pray (Philippians 4:6). Get the point? So keep on "keepin' on!"

Q & A Time

Q: What do you do if group prayer is totally not happenin'?

A: You set the pace. Check your walk with God. Where's the focus of your group's prayer? Spend some time praising and thanking God. Use God's Word as a key part of your praying. Are you believing God for supernatural things beyond what you can do (Ephesians 3:20)?

Q: How do I get students stoked to pray?

A: You don't. God does. So pray (Colossians 1:9). Lead by example and make opportunities to pray.

Q: Why is it so easy to "diss" prayer when things start happening?

A: Satan hates prayer and he would do anything to keep you from doing it. Don't cop out, because *"greater is He who is in you than he that is in the world"* (1 John 4:4). Prayer is a critical part of your spiritual armor (Ephesians 6:18) and is the key to unlocking doors for the gospel (Colossians 4:2-4), and it gives you the power to be His witnesses (Ephesians 6:19).

PRAYER RESOURCE MATERIALS

Destined for the Throne by Paul Billheimer, Port Washington, PA; Christian Literature Crusad
Purpose in Prayer by E.M. Bounds, Grand Rapids: Baker Book House
How to Pray by Bill Bright, San Bernardino, CA: Here's Life Publishers
The Hour That Changes the World by Dick Eastman, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House
Fireseeds of Spiritual Awakening by Dan Hayes, San Bernardino, CA: Here's Life Publishers, Inc.
Prayer by O. Howlsby
The Prayer Factor by Sammy Tippit, Chicago: Moody Press
My Heart, Christ's Home by Robert Munger, IntersVarsity Press

From Fireseed Productions ©

This material is available on the "ALL That" CD-ROM. 1.888.ALLIANCE • www.gocampus.org