Prayerwalking Tips & Tools

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Introduction

One of the first prayerwalks recorded in the Bible was God's command to Abraham in Genesis 13:14-17, "The Lord said to Abram, after Lot had left him, 'Now lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are standing, northward and southward and eastward and westward; for all the land which you see I will give to you and to your descendants forever. I will make your descendants [as numerous] as the dust of the earth, so that if a man could count the [grains of] dust of the earth, then your descendants could also be counted. Arise, walk (make a thorough reconnaissance) around in the land, through its length and its width, for I will give it to you." After the Israelites came out of Egypt and the Wilderness, God command Joshua in Joshua 1:1-3, "Now it happened after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, that the Lord spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' servant (attendant), saying, 'Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise [to take his place], cross over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land which I am giving to them, to the sons of Israel. I have given you every place on which the sole of your foot treads, just as I promised to Moses."

Tips & Tools

Over the past 40+ years of prayerwalking and watching God answer those prayers, we have come to understand and utilize the following Tips & Tools.

- Partner with the Holy Spirit! It's some much more effective and much more fun to prayerwalk with the Holy Spirit!! He is a Genius and knows everything about the people and the area that He wants you to focus on. Before you go, spend some time learning how to hear and follow the Holy Spirit. Since He is a person (& not some magical force in the universe), start by simply asking Him to teach you. "Holy Spirit, I honor you as part of the Godhead, with the Father & His Son, my Lord Jesus Christ! I ask you to teach me how to hear You clearly and specifically, as you release the Heart of the Father and the Mind of Christ to my heart and mind. Open my eyes to see your work in my life and those that you have called me to serve, as well as any other way that you would choose to manifest your presence, your will and direction for my life!" We also encourage you to learn about your Spiritual Quotient by taking the course, "Become A Possibilitarian" with our great friend and personal intercessor, Lynn Hare.
- Start with the Book of Life! Before we were conceived, God wrote a Book of Life for each one of us. "You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed." Psalm 139:13-16 So, the best place to start your prayerwalk is to come into agreement with God's Book of Life for the people, who live and work in the area that you will be serving. Obviously, the Holy Spirit doesn't need to share with you all that is already written in the Book of Life for everyone that you pray

for, but you can simply make a statement of Agreement and then watch what He uncovers as you go, "Father God, we agree with the Book of Life that you have written on behalf of those that we will be praying for today, as well as the Book of Life that you have written on behalf of the organizations (businesses, churches and non-profits) that we will be serving today AND with the Book of Life that you have written on behalf of our city, state and nation!" We also encourage you to learn about the "Courts of Heaven" with Robert Henderson.

- Understand the Power of Agreement! Many years ago, God instructed us to replace the word, "Faith" with the word "Agreement". As we read His Word, it began to open up for us even more, "The just shall live by Agreement", Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11 & Hebrews 10:38 "Fight the good fight of Agreement, lay hold on eternal life," 1 Timothy 6:12 "We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our Agreement" Hebrews 12:2 "that Christ may dwell in your hearts through Agreement; that you, being rooted and grounded in love" Ephesians 3:17, "having been justified by Agreement, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by Agreement into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God" Romans 5:1-2, "knowing that the testing of your Agreement produces patience" James 1:3, "And such a prayer offered in Agreement will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well." James 5:15 It is essential that we not come into agreement with the lies of the enemy, but rather be agreement with the Truth. We also encourage you to learn more about the "Power of Agreement" by listening to the Mission ConneXion workshop we did in January 2020 at Rolling Hills Community Church.
- Be Faithful to Forgive Sins! Out of all the commands that Jesus could have given, after releasing the Holy Spirit into His disciples, He focused strategically on the power of forgiving sins (missing the mark of walking in perfect love). "Receive the Holy Spirit! If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven" John 20:22-23 One of the most strategic transformational tools that we have ever experienced is forgiving sins, because it shuts down the power of enemy over people's minds and hearts, so that they can fully experience His loving-kindness and be led into personal repentance. Remember, many times Jesus would heal people or deliver them from the enemy's afflictions by forgiving their sins. As Ambassadors of The King and Ministers of Reconciliation, we have been commissioned to forgive the sins of those God has given to us to serve. If we fail to forgive their sins, people will remain bound to the lies of the enemy, that they have come into agreement with. One of our first experiences in forgiving sins was in Vancouver, Washington. During the middle of an annual Messianic Music Festival at Esther Short Park, I relaxed on a bench to enjoy the music, after introducing our special guest musical artist. Several minutes later, I noticed two girls behind me starting kissing each other. The Lord instructed me to forgive their sins and then ask for His loving-kindness to be released upon them. "Father, I forgive their sins and I ask you to pour out your loving-kindness upon them and lead them into repentance." Within 10 minutes or so, they both got up and left the park. Then several minutes later, one of the girls, came back into the park, went into the middle of the audience listening to the music, found her mother (& a friend of mine), who then led her to another part of the park, wherein she wanted prayer and rededicated her life to God. Several years later, I shared this story with a friend, who had a daughter that was estranged from her mother, wherein he and his wife prayed later that evening, forgiving her sins and asking God to pour out His loving-kindness upon her. The very next morning, their daughter called asking for her mother, wherein they were reconciled to each other and their relationship was healed."

Let's Do This!!

As you go prayerwalking, follow this simple strategy in light of the Tips & Tools we have already shared:

W – Walk & Worship

Before you begin walking, spend a few minutes worshiping the Lord, lifting up His Name and His Word, in order to get in tune with His Holy Spirit. Then as you begin walking keep your eyes focused on Jesus, by declaring His names; quote any scriptures that come to mind; sing or hum a worship song; pray in the spirit – basically anything that helps you to declare the Lordship of Jesus over the streets you are walking.

A – Ask & Agree

Flowing from your worship, begin petitioning God for His Spirit to fall on the streets you walk on, the homes, businesses, schools and other churches you walk past. Begin to get specific and pray for people and situations that the Holy Spirit draws your attention to and the 'people of peace' God has brought you into contact with, who can open up doors of opportunity for the gospel to flourish within your community. Agree with God's heart & the Book of Life that He has written on behalf of your neighbors, your city, your state & your nation.

L – Listen & Learn

As you worship and agree with Heaven, leave space to listen to what God might want to say to you then pray that back to Him. It's like a game of catch! Don't keep what He throws to you, give it back to Him. God may also give you promises from scripture or prophetic words and pictures; listen for these promises and literally walk them out all over your community. If you are prayer-walking with others, listen to their prayers and you will find yourself sparking off their words and thoughts. Remember, Jesus said, "When 2 or 3 of you are in agreement, there I AM!" Many times, it's even more effective, if you ONLY have 2 or 3 in agreement and no more!

K - Know your Land & Knock on Doors of Opportunity

Ask the Holy Spirit to help discover the history of the area you are prayer-walking; research some of its ongoing problems; so that you can focus on the breakthroughs that are needed. This a great time to forgive the sins (missing the mark of walking in perfect love) of the people in your area, as well as those that have lived or worked in your area in the past. Get to know some of the current situations that require persevering prayer and also celebrate the particular graces that rest on the area, asking God to make your region a blessing beyond its borders.

More Prayer Resources

In addition to all the resources available at our website, www.ServingOurNeighbors.org, we encourage you to check out our city-wide prayer website, featuring various prayer ministries, throughout the greater Portland, Oregon / Vancouver, Washington metro area, that have partnered with each other over the past 20+ years, www.Praying4PDX.org, as well as our newest resource for local churches to engage even more with various city-wide prayer initiatives in partnership with City Gospel Movements, www.MorePrayer.org and our state-wide prayer initiatives featured at www.PrayOregon.org.