

# Prayer Walking Guide

Think of a prayer-walk as an active step of faith to engage and discover how God is wanting to work both in your city and in your own heart. Prayer walking can be seen in symbolic work of Father God being the gardener. God wants to work in both the land you are located, and allowing God to prepare the soil of your own heart for the work He wants to do through you in the land. In faith we allow God to lead us to places He wants to work in. The rhythm of listening before acting is best place to start whether you are new to welcoming immigrant neighbors or you have been welcoming for years.

If possible, prayer walking is best done with a group. *Matthew 18:20* "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." A prayer walk can be a great way to come together with your Good Neighbor Team members to seek to led by the Lord together.

There is so much good material out there on prayer walking. This document is only meant to help you catalyze prayer walking in your community.

1<sup>st</sup> pick a place to meet and begin your prayer walk. Think of places where you know immigrant populations gather or pick an area you want to see God bring opportunities for immigrant populations. If want some insight to good places can reach out to your local World Relief field office or another organization/church you know serving immigrant populations. Below is a list of places to serve an idea primer:

- A park
- Residential neighborhood
- Apartment complex
- Row of local businesses or shops
- The airport, train station, bus station, or transportation hub

Below can serve as a loose structure to organize your prayer walk or help you introduce someone to the rhythms of prayer walking.

1. **Prayer of Engagement - Slow our hearts. Take a deep breath. Embrace a moment of silence. Ask God to lead our time. Be expectant for God to speak to you and through you.**

1 Sam. 3:7-11

The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other time, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." And the Lord said to Samuel: "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears about it tingle."

2. **Prayer of Worship - Allow a time for your group to begin to focus on the Lord**
  - Read a Psalm or another passage of Scripture in worship to the Lord

- As a group proclaim names of God that come to mind
- Declare God's character to one another
- Claim the promises of God

After you or someone reads or prays what bubbles up from inside you? Maybe it is the Spirit's voice asking you to pray.

### **3. Prayer of Alignment and Observance – With your group enter a time of aligning with scripture while observing your surrounding**

- Read a passage that the Lord brings to mind. You could read a couple of passages listed on the "I was a stranger..." 40 Days of Prayer pamphlet (attached below)
- What comes to mind about this place after reading these scriptures?
- What do you see? Hear? Smell? What do you feel?
- What do you see happening?
- As you feel led, if something is bubbling up from inside you share in a short moment out loud with the group

### **4. Prayer of Listening and Intercessions**

- Ask God for deeper insight into the spiritual strongholds of what is going on in this place and listen to what He says.
- Ask God where is He at work in this place? How might God want to work here in the future?
- Ask God what He want your group to know about this place.
- Examples of observing and asking:
  - You see children playing. Pray for family bonds, for fathers and mothers to be who God created them to be
  - You see someone looking sad. Pray for the Spirit's fruit of joy.
  - You see a broken-down home. Pray for the community's spiritual restoration.
  - You see something resembling addiction. Pray for people to find Jesus from their pain.
  - You sense things are chaotic. Pray people discover the rest Jesus promises
  - You sense division. Pray for unity to be found in the body of Christ.

### **5. Intercede and Declare Blessing**

- Intercede for things you are hearing
- Listen and respond to the prayers of others in the group
- Declare truth in this place (you can pray/read passages of scripture God may give you)

**6. Debrief:**

- Was there anything that really got your emotions or thoughts going? Explain to your group.
  - This could have been a person, a place, a verse, a feeling or a thought.
- What is the next step you can take in welcoming a new neighbor immigrating to your community?
- Someone closes the time in prayer