HOW DO I PRAY?

There is no right or wrong way to pray, but here are some guidelines for conversational prayer.*

- Instead of spending lots of time sharing “prayer requests” pray your requests aloud.
- Pray one topic at a time, allow your prayer partner to agree in prayer or add to your prayer as you take turns.
- Be brief. Instead of each of you praying a really long prayer, take turns praying in a more interactive way.
- Think of your prayer time together as a conversation between you, your prayer partner, and God. Be spontaneous, listen to the Holy Spirit, allow this tie to come alive as you seek God together.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

- Give your prayer partnership an initial trial period of 2-3 months. Then mutually decide with God’s guidance whether to continue as prayer partners or to find new prayer partners.
- After a year consider intentionally branching out so that each of you can be a prayer partner to another person. This will be a way for more people to discover the grace of this ministry.
- If you are having an issue with your prayer partner that you cannot resolve, consider talking with the pastor.
- The Prayer Partner Ministry is not a therapy session, nor is it designed to fix a problem best left in the hands of professionals.
- This is a confidential relationship where information should not be shared without permission.

* “Guidelines for Conversational Prayer,” originally found and adapted from the Colossians 2:7 Series published by NavPress. This is a great guide for praying aloud with one another.

Prayer Ministry Contacts:
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WHAT DO PRAYER PARTNERS DO?

Prayer partners meet weekly for prayer, study, accountability, and mutual support.

The goal of the prayer partner ministry is to help each person grow through God’s grace to become more and more like Jesus Christ.

HOW DO I START?

The great thing about the prayer partner ministry is that all you need to start is this brochure and a prayer partner. Here is a step by step plan for developing a prayer partnership:

**Sign up!**

Signup sheets can be found in the worship registration pads, at the Information Center, or ask the contacts listed in this brochure. By signing up you will receive information and resources to help you in your partnership.

**Prayerfully think about who you might ask to be your prayer partner (or we can help you find your prayer partner):**

- Someone of your same gender.
- Someone you consider reliable, honest, confidential, and trustworthy.
- Someone whose weekly schedule meshes well with yours.
- Someone in your small group, Bible study group, or Sunday School class.

**Set a weekly time and place to meet to spend together with your prayer partner— at least 30 to 60 minutes each week.**

From time to time you may need to change this time and place, however, it is best to pick a time and place and stick with it. You can meet face to face, and at times you may need to visit and pray using the telephone.

WHAT DOES A MEETING LOOK LIKE?

The Prayer Partner Ministry involves three basic components of reading scripture, spiritual encouragement, and praying.

1. **Reading Scripture together:** Encourage each other to spend time each week in reading the Scriptures. Each week should include some time in learning more about God and how God speaks to us, either through Scriptures or other devotional readings. At the prayer partner meeting, share with each other what you feel God was speaking to you about.

2. **Spiritual encouragement:** The prayer partner ministry will help you encourage each other in reading scripture, living a Christ-like life, and supporting each other in prayer.

3. **Praying for and with each other:** Praying is a powerful way of connecting with each other and with God. Prayer partners end their time together praying with one another and covenant to pray for one another throughout the week.

HOW DO I OFFER SPIRITUAL ENCOURAGEMENT?

With your prayer partner, reflect upon any of these questions:

- When were you closest to Christ this week?
- When were you farthest from Christ this week?
- Did the Bible live in me today? Have I given it time to speak to me every day this week?
- Am I enjoying prayer?
- Have I been disobeying God in anything?
- Is there anyone I need to forgive? Anyone I need forgiveness from? If so, what am I going to do about it?
- What temptations have I met with?
- Have I thanked God for my blessings this week?
- Have I asked for God’s guidance for my life this week?
- As I prayed, did I listen as well?
- Do I have challenges facing me for which I would appreciate prayer support?
- Do I have joys to celebrate?