

Prayer Walking: Praying On Site with Insight

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By Steve Hawthorne and Graham Kendrick (1993, Creation House)

Prayer walking greatly increased through the 1980's, 1990's and perhaps early 2000's.

The movement had no known founder, no overall leader, but still thrived

How does prayer walking help?

Thaws the ice – gets past whatever froze our progress, witness, mission or whatever

Overcoming fear – especially fear of bad neighborhoods, unknown, or of offending others

Contend with Evil – A chance to do something genuinely about the ills of our world

Deeper Prayer – Prayer walking will make you better at praying

Reviewing the Basic Definition

Praying – Practicing your relationship with God through conversation with God

On Site – Letting location draw your attention and focus your concern

Insight – Allowing the experience to teach you, furthering the experience

(This insight may come from experiences, research, and revelation.)

Miscellaneous Exhortations

Prayer walking should not stand alone, dovetail it with other prayer

Jesus must always be the goal and guide of prayer walking

Basic Prayer Walking

Simple to learn / Hard to pursue

It will be Spiritual Battle

It will require patience

It will test your foundation

Preparing to Walk

Refreshing yourself

Prepare your heart – “Open your mouth in order to open your heart”

Focus your mind – Decide in advance what to think on and to keep this focus

Seek God's Guidance – Before you go ask for His presence and leading

Refreshing relationships

Greet each other – focus on your relationships, know who you are praying with

Forgive each other – don't leave this obvious place for the devil to attack

Logistical Data – Deal with Who (teams), What (techniques), where, when and why

During the Walk

Open your eyes – “The art of seeing what you are looking at

Open your mouth – pray aloud “Prayer is not telepathy”

Pray together – make it an exercise in unity

Pray with Scripture – a list of verse or memorized verses will be very helpful

Pray with Relevance – Avoid melting into generalities while praying

After the Walk

Report – talk about the experience both to decompress and to refocus for the future

Prayer walking will create unity, focused faith, and clearer communication with God

Prayer walking will integrate worship, warfare, and welcome (welcome as in earthly relationships)

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Scriptural examples and lessons in prayer walking

- Abraham – Sent to explore the land God was going to give him.
- Young Joshua – The failure of intimidation, falling to spiritual warfare
- Joshua at Jericho – Expanding the faith of others in prayer walking
- Jesus – Praying for whole cities at a time
- The Seventy – Prayer walking as a step in your own spiritual journey

Beyond Technique

- God is at work in all prayer – Growing us, teaching us, leading us
- Prayer walking alone has great value but a different dynamic
- When you run out of things to say, sing or read Scripture
- Families including young children can prayer walk but with a mind to the kid's needs
- Special prayer should be scheduled for special times and events

Some places are naturals for prayer walking

- Work places, social gathering places, overlooks,
- Spiritually attached places - both positive and negative,
- Places with historic significance - both positive and negative
- Places of leadership or government, courthouses, schools, etc.

Three dimensional prayer

- Priestly prayer – praising God, praying for or with people, praying for repentance
- Warfare prayer – (within your authority but out of your comfort zone) asking God to act
- Welcome prayer – Extending blessings to the people, those you meet and everyone else

More about warfare prayer

- Appeal directly to God
- Expect to learn more of God's character
- Expect to be challenged about your own character
- Stand firm, & continue to appeal directly to God
- (Notice you are not attacking spiritual enemies)

Strategic Notes

- Know your location - its challenges, needs, blessings, opportunities
- Route carefully – Google did satellite view just for prayer walking
- Schedule realistically – two hours for families is too much
- Allow teambuilding to take place before you go so that the team supports during

Other Prayer Resources

Search the NAMB and IMB sites for the subject

The Circle Maker: Praying Circles Around Your Biggest Dreams and Greatest Fears by Mark Batterson (2011, Zondervan)

The Power of Persistence: Breakthroughs in your Prayer Life by Michael Catt (2009, B&H Books)