

Week 3 "Prayer Meeting"

1 Preparation:

* Pray from your heart. Stop and recognize that the Lord is with you. Ask for the grace to come closer to the Holy Spirit and to realize his plan for your life.

* Look up the "Focus Verse" in your Bible.

* Underline the verse in *Orange = Covenant*

* Work to commit the verse to memory.

Focus Verse

Mt 18:20

"For where two or three gather
in my name,
there am I with them."

2 A Prayer Meeting is a group of believers gathered for prayer. Many times we, as Church, spend more time talking about God than talking to God. Christianity is not a philosophy to be studied as a subject. Christianity is a relationship with God the Father, through Jesus Christ, by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Christianity is a relationship with God. At a Prayer Meeting is a meeting with God.

At a Prayer Meeting our hearts should be aware that Jesus is in our midst (Mt 18:20).

The goal of a Prayer Meeting: For every believer to surrender to the presence of the Lord Jesus so that he can express himself in their midst.

To do this:

1. Everyone needs strong daily prayer encounters with the Lord.
2. Everyone needs to be ready to give.
3. Everyone needs to be trained in the movement and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Every believer should bring their Bible and journal to every Prayer Meeting since every quote from the Word should be looked up by all and everyone should record what the Lord is saying. For the first three months it is good to bring to all Prayer Meetings the "*How to Participate in a Prayer Meeting*" pamphlet.

Flow of a Prayer Meeting:

Praise and Worship: The first part of the Meeting is praise and worship music with the praising of God and the use of the gift of prayer tongues. At this time, during the songs and in between, believers will say, or even shout, "Praise you Jesus! Glory to you, Lord!"

Thanksgiving: The offering thanksgiving is the second step. Believers will have time to say things like, "Father, I praise you for Father, I thank you for ..."

Prophecy and Scripture Readings: Believers become still and ask the Holy Spirit is to speak to them through the gift of prophecy or through his Word. All those in attendance should open their Bibles, sit quietly, turn through the Word to see if the Holy Spirit is giving them a passage to share with the group. All should also listen in their hearts to hear if the Lord has a word to speak through them with the gift of prophecy. The more we are in the Word and the more we listen during our daily prayer encounter the more we will be able to be used by the Holy Spirit during this time.

Sharing of how God moved during the week or testimony: Here are the ABCs of sharing:

Be accurate. Do not exaggerate as it steals from God's glory.

Be brief. Try to keep your sharing to 2 to 4 minutes. There is more to the Prayer Meeting than your sharing.

Be Christ centered. Your sharing should be about Jesus and draw people to Jesus. This is not time for you to share your hardships. You can share your needs when you go for individual prayer ministry.

Teaching: All at the meeting should look up the quotes cited and use their journal to take notes.

Intercession: This is the time for the believers to lift their needs and those of others to the Lord. It is important that when we pray we address the Lord Himself.

For example: Instead of "I would like to pray for"

You would pray, "Father, we bring to you" Address the Lord with your prayer.

Discernment: At this point, either the Prayer Meeting Leader or someone appointed by the Leader will bring together and discern what the Lord has been saying to the community through the entire meeting.

The person who is discerning, along with all the members of the community, should be taking notes throughout the Meeting. Once a month everyone should review what the Lord has been doing to make sure the group is fulfilling what the Lord is saying to His people.

Laying on of Hands: In some communities the laying on of hands happens after the Meeting allowing for a more personal time of ministry. In other communities the Laying on of Hands occurs during the Meeting. Those needing prayer come to the center of the group and all lay hands allowing the Holy Spirit to use them to minister to the person.

Lectio Divina

Lectio (To Read) Read the passage slowly, two or three times believing that God is going to speak into your life. Notice the words or phrases that speak to you.

Meditatio (To Meditate) Allow this Word to begin to sift through your life. What is God speaking to you?

Oratio (To Speak) Now that God has spoken to you through His word, what is your response? Use the ACTS of prayer: Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, Supplication? Speak to God freely.

Contemplatio (To Contemplate) Read back over the passage and review your dialogue with God. Become quiet and turn your heart to His heart for you. Is there anything that He personally wants to speak to you?

1st Day Jn 4:23-24

2nd Day 1 Tim 2:8

3rd Day Ps 57:9

4th Day Ro 12:4-8

5th Day Gal 6:2

6th Day Eph 5:19-20

Review

Prepare for the upcoming *School of the Holy Spirit* by thinking about what you could share: a scripture, testimony, intercessory prayer to offer, a word of prophecy, bring someone, etc.