



Guidelines for Praying as a Group

- Spend a brief time before praying to share specific prayer requests and personal concerns. Share enough information to help everyone unite in prayer, but do not allow gossip.
- Keep personal prayer requests confidential, unless the person involved *clearly* gives permission to share the concern.
- Do not share personal information about patients, including name and diagnosis.
- Encourage each person to participate, but do not pressure anyone.
- Listen to one another's prayers so that you can pray along with the person speaking.
- Pray as you would speak in a conversation, one topic at a time. Give others the opportunity to pray about a topic you bring up before moving on to the next subject.
- Keep prayers brief.
- Allow moments of silence as people listen to the Holy Spirit's counsel and prayer requests come to mind.
- Include prayers of praise and thanksgiving as well as requests.
- Seek God's direction in Scripture as you pray.
- Talk to the Lord about the applications from your Bible study discussion.
- Pray together, using prayers in Scripture, such as Col 1:10-14; Phil 1:9-11; Eph 1:17-21 or Eph 3:14-21.
- Allow freedom for different prayer styles, but respect each other's comfort level.
- Some may feel more comfortable with written prayers
- Those for whom English is a second language may prefer praying in their first language
- You may need to openly discuss the charismatic gifts and allow the group to decide how they should be appropriately used within their meetings
- Designate someone to close the prayer time when appropriate.