

## **BASIC DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY ON PRAYER & PRAYER STRATEGIES FOR IGNITING MOVEMENTS TO CHRIST**

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This is intended to be used as a basic diagnostic and training tool for the cpm/dmm practitioner and/or strategy team in evaluating progress toward movements to Christ, especially considering the aspect of ‘extraordinary prayer,’ which is recognized as fundamental and foundational to movements. Prayer—or engagement with God—is integral to every aspect of the lives of the team members and the corporate team, as well as to the strategy and approach they use. We hope these tools will prove helpful in considering ways you and your team can increase your capacity for extraordinary prayer for the sake of the King and His Kingdom. Further resources and connection with other prayer strategists are available through the Fellowship of Prayer Strategists and their website [www.prayerstrategists.net](http://www.prayerstrategists.net).

### **Strategy 3 -Prayer Evangelism & Power Evangelism**

**Prayer evangelism and power evangelism - Intelligently strategized and focused, prayer functions as a direct force for winning people to Christ. Signs and wonders follow the proclamation of the Word of God often after prayer for people.**

The whole Church can model the whole gospel to the whole community through prayer and prayerful evangelism. Luke 10 reveals Jesus’ strategy which incorporated asking God to encounter the person of peace through signs and wonders. Numerous testimonies exist of God beginning people movements to Christ through obeying His instructions to pray for others. Birthed in intimacy with God, walked out in instant, joyful obedience to Him, prayer evangelism releases the power of the Holy Spirit to transform lives and communities as His kingdom comes through His will being done.

#### **“As You Go” - Acts 16:11-40**

- **Pray as a group before beginning that God would speak to us and open our hearts to hear Him.**
- **Read the entire passage aloud at least 2 times or listen to an audio version twice through. If your group uses storying, present the scripture in this way. Have the group practice re-telling the story together. This particular one could be broken into 3 separate stories because of length.**
- **Perspective:** Paul and his traveling companions arrive in Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. Look at Acts 16:9-10 to see how they were guided to this particular place. This section focuses on three particular people who encounter Christ because of Paul’s and his companions’ obedience to God’s guidance.
- **Discussion questions:** You might want to consider each of the three stories separately.
  - What do you like about the story? What is difficult or what don’t you like?
  - What do you learn about people from this story? What do you learn about God?
  - Compare Lydia, the female slave with the spirit of divination, and the Philippian jailer:
  - Consider what drew Paul and his companions into interacting with each person. What was the result of the encounter with each of these people? How did the impact of each encounter set up the next encounter?

- What qualities did Paul and his companions exhibit during these interactions?
- What instruction could you derive in thinking about the role of prayer in evangelism from this series of encounters?
- **Take a few minutes to quietly listen to God. What is He instructing you to do from what you're hearing? Share with each other what you're sensing.**
- **Who is God asking you to share this story with? When will you do it? Share with the group.**
- **What key principles about prayer can you draw from this passage?**

Let's take a look at two encounters Jesus had "as He went."

**"Power to Drive Out Demons" - Luke 8:26-39**

- **Pray as a group before beginning that God would speak to us and open our hearts to hear Him.**
- **Read the entire passage aloud at least 2 times or listen to an audio version twice through. If your group uses storying, present the scripture in this way. Have the group practice re-telling the story together.**
- **Discussion questions:**
  - What do you like about the story? What is difficult or what don't you like?
  - What do you learn about people from this story? What do you learn about God?
  - How did Jesus respond to someone in great need? What was the man's response to Jesus' ministry? What was the response of the community to the results of this encounter?
  - Why would Jesus not allow the man to go on with him? What were His instructions to the man?
  - Note: Jesus returned to this area later to find crowds seeking to hear Him. Apparently, the former demoniac's testimony of what Jesus had done for him was very influential.
- **Take a few minutes to quietly listen to God. What is He instructing you to do from what you're hearing? Share with each other what you're sensing.**
- **Who is God asking you to share this story with? When will you do it? Share with the group.**
- **What key principles about prayer and evangelism can you draw from this passage?**

**"He Told Me Everything" - John 4:1-42**

- **Pray as a group before beginning that God would speak to us and open our hearts to hear Him.**
- **Read the entire passage aloud at least 2 times or listen to an audio version twice through. If your group uses storying, present the scripture in this way. Then, have the group practice re-telling the story together.**
- **Discussion questions:**

- What do you like about the story? What is difficult or what don't you like?
- What do you learn about people from this story? What do you learn about God?
- How did Jesus engage with the woman at the well? What do you think convinced the woman this might be the Messiah?
- Compare the focus of Jesus upon arriving at this area and the focus of His disciples.
- What caused the whole town to seek Jesus?
- **Take a few minutes to quietly listen to God. What is He instructing you to do from what you're hearing? Share with each other what you're sensing.**
- **Who is God asking you to share this story with? When will you do it? Share with the group.**
- **What key principles about prayer and evangelism can you draw from this passage?**

### **Diagnostic Questions for You and Your Team - Power Prayer Evangelism**

1. Do you regularly ask God to make you alert to opportunities to pray for those you encounter "as you go?" Regularly make time to share stories of how God is using you in this way with your team to encourage one another.
2. Do you practice Luke 10:9 "Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'" by praying for healing, deliverance, or other needs to be met?
3. Do you practice listening to the Holy Spirit as you interact and asking Him if there is anything He might want you to mention to the person you're interacting with?

### **Further Resources on Prayer Prayer Evangelism:**

- Article: "Prayer Walking Evangelism Testimony": <https://prayerstrategists.files.wordpress.com/2016/05/prayerwalkingevangstoryv1-docx.pdf>
- Article: "Does Prayer Make a Difference?" by Felicity Dale, at Simply Church [www.simplychurch.com](http://www.simplychurch.com) Link to article: <http://simplychurch.com/doesprayer-make-a-difference/> pulled 11/22/15.
- [Bibliography on Prayer and Power Evangelism:](#)