

FIVE STEP PRAYER MODEL - A CONVERSATIONAL MODEL FOR PRAYER MINISTRY

1. INTRODUCTION

- A. This process is a model, simply a starting point to accomplish an end.
- B. When applying this model, the minister must first and foremost remember their objective:
 - I. Loving and respectful ministry to the other person.
- C. This model is applicable for healing and prophetic ministry.

2. GENERAL GUIDELINES

- A. God is the source of all (healing) and the following guidelines will help reinforce this truth:
- B. Keep your focus on Jesus.
- C. Pray in teams.
 - I. When multiple people are praying for healing, God gets the glory instead of one “gifted individual”.
- D. Please be gender conscious.
 - I. Don't distract or hinder what God is doing by using a poor model or common sense.
 - II. As a general rule: men should pray for men, women should pray for women.
 - III. An alternative would be to pray in a co-ed team.
 - IV. When praying in co-ed teams, consider having the person of the same gender, lay on hands.
 - V. Always ask permission before laying hands on the opposite sex.
- E. Ask the person receiving prayer to put their hands where it hurts, and then lay hands on their hand.
- F. Respect the person you are praying for.
- G. Obey what God says.
 - I. The Holy Spirit will never ask you to forsake love for the other person.
- H. Meditate on Scripture on a regular basis
 - I. Know your God and his ways.
 - II. *The people who know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits. Daniel 11:32b NKJV*
- I. Let's begin with a couple Scriptures relevant to prayer ministry.
 - I. *“Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.” John 5:19-20 NKJV*

3. FIVE STEP SUMMARY

- A. The five-step model consists of:
 - I. An Interview, Diagnosis, Prayer Selection, Evaluation and Post-prayer direction.

4. STEP ONE – THE INTERVIEW

- A. Conduct an interview with the person asking for prayer.
 - I. Be friendly and treat them with respect.
 - II. Love is the foundation of our model.
 - III. Be natural supernatural. Don't be weird.
- B. Ask the question, “What do you want me to pray for?”
 - I. The interview answers the question: “Where does it hurt?”
- C. Listen on two levels: natural and supernatural.
- D. In the natural, evaluate their answer with the respect to:
 - I. What you know about the person.
 - II. Your knowledge of the bible.
 - III. Your own past experience of what you know of the person.
- E. On the supernatural level: Listen to the Lord (at the same time as conducting the interview).
- F. Remember this is not a medical interview and it is not a medical treatment.
 - I. Medical discussions may only delay prayer.
- G. The interview is complete when you have ascertained the cause of the condition.
 - I. i.e., natural, supernatural, social, emotional, sin, etc.
 - II. God has told you what to do.

5. STEP TWO – DIAGNOSIS

- A. Ask the Lord what he is saying or doing.
 - I. The diagnosis step answers the question: “Why does this person have this condition?”
- B. Ask God for insight into the real root and cause of the condition. Is it natural or supernatural?
 - I. In the natural realm, has this person contracted the disease or hurt him or herself?
 - II. Is the root a result of sin? Is the sin their own or someone else’s. Is it emotional? Is it a psychosomatic illness?
 - III. Is it social? In other words, is the person harboring of ill feelings, anger, etc.
 - IV. Is the root a familial spirit(s) that been passed from generation to generation?
 - V. Is the person demonized? Is the root involvement in the occult?
 - VI. Is the root a vow (a curse placed on ourselves)?
 - VII. Is the root cause a curse placed by others (authority figure, doctor’s diagnosis, parent, pastor, teacher, etc.)?
- C. Evaluate the person’s answer with respect to the gifts of the Spirit.
 - I. These may include a word of knowledge, a word of wisdom, or discernment of spirits.
 - II. The gifts can tell you details you don’t know: What is the root cause of the affliction?
 - III. Is there more to this affliction than they are telling you?
- D. Be wary of explanations that rely only on observable causes and effects.
 - I. Don't limit yourself to natural knowledge. Their and your understanding is only partial.
 - II. There are often spiritual reasons behind physical or emotional symptoms.
- E. Listening to what the person has to say about their condition is respectful.
 - I. However remember what God has to say is what is always true and essential for healing.
 - II. The Holy Spirit is the One who guides the diagnostic step.
- F. Be faithful. Faithfulness to minister precedes the faith to heal. Grow in sensitivity to the Holy Spirit.
 - I. Faith requires persistence and trust beyond our current level of experience!
- G. In the end, the burden for healing is on Christ, not us!
 - I. *He who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*
Hebrews 11:6b NKJV

6. STEP THREE – PRAYER SELECTION

- A. Ask the Lord what he wants to do for this person at this time?
 - I. The prayer selection step answers the question: “What kind of prayer will I need to pray to help this person?”
 - II. Ask God how to pray for the person and listen.
- B. Practically we take the position that God wants to heal in this prayer engagement.
 - I. However, we do ask the Lord, “If he wants to do something else?”
 - II. Or is there something first that we should do in the prayer engagement?
 - III. Is there unconfessed sin that must be repented of or unforgiveness that must be processed?
 - IV. Are they unwilling to accept and trust Christ's Lordship or salvation in some area?
- C. The following list is an example of how God may direct you, but it is not exhaustive:
 - I. Petition and intercession – this is prayer directed toward God.
 - II. Ask for the Holy Spirit’s presence. Ask for the Spirit’s healing.
 - III. Ask for his kingdom to come. Ask for his will as it is in heaven.
 - IV. Pray quietly in a prayer language.
 - V. Declaration: Declare what God has spoken to you already.
 - VI. Command or pronouncement: Command pain to leave or pronounce, “You are healed” etc.
 - VII. Agreement: Vision, words, gifts of Spirit, etc.
 - VIII. Confession, repentance, thanksgiving, or praise.
 - IX. Ask them to pray for their own healing.
 - X. Deliverance: Rebuke (break their power), bind (contain their power), expulse (eliminate their power)
- D. Pray as God directs you!
- E. Type and style of prayer needed depends on the situation, person, God's direction in the moment, etc.
- F. Essentially, we are seeking God's will, and surrendering to it.
 - I. *Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.* **1 John 5:14-15 NKJV**

7. STEP FOUR - EVALUATION

- A. Ask the person how they feel.
 - I. Step four answers the question: “How are they doing?”
- B. As you begin to pray and the Holy Spirit comes, you may observe any number of responses.
 - I. You may observe shaking, stiffening, heavy respiration, falling, laughter, weeping, or deep peace.
 - II. Or possibly fluttering eyelids, heat, tingling, or other physical manifestation.
- C. Prayer ministry should proceed while you are looking to see if there is a response.
 - I. We are not trying to get a manifestation, we are seeking healing, freedom, etc.
 - II. But the manifestation may be an indicator of what the Lord is doing.
 - III. This is a good reason to pray with your eyes open.
- D. Engage with the person. After praying, ask how they are doing. Bless what the Lord is doing.
 - I. If they are not healed completely, you might pray more or discern whether to use a different prayer selection.
- E. This step is also part of the conversation. When in doubt, ask questions.
 - I. The minister is not responsible to know everything or interpret words, visions, or pictures.
- F. Stop praying when the person you are praying for indicates it is over or:
 - I. When the Spirit tells you it is over.
 - II. When you cannot think of anything else to say.
 - III. When you have prayed for everything, and it seems you have not gained ground.

8. STEP FIVE – POST PRAYER DIRECTION

- A. Step five answers the question: “What should they do to keep their healing?”
 - I. Or “What should they do if they weren't healed?”
 - II. You may be given supernatural leading for special direction.
- B. If they were fully healed communicate Spirit-lead, Scripture based, practical instructions, such as:
 - I. Encourage them to pray and seek God or spend time reading or meditating on the Scriptures.
 - II. Encourage them to live righteously, as needed. “Go and sin no more.”
 - III. *When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, “Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”* **John 8:10-11 NKJV**
- C. If they did not experience full healing reassure them of God's love.
 - I. *Hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption.* **Psalms 130:7 NKJV**
 - II. *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* **Romans 8:37-39 NKJV**
 - III. *For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.* **Ephesians 3:14-19 NKJV**
- D. Encourage them to live in community and accountability.
 - I. *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.* **Hebrews 10:25 NKJV**
- E. Communicate value for long-term prayer.
 - I. *“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”* **Luke 11:9-13 NKJV**
- F. Follow up with the people for whom you pray.

9. REFERENCES

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