

Prayerwalking Guidelines

James & Susan Perryman

1. Praying Onsite with Insight – “up close and personal.” It is pressing your prayers beyond your church doors to bring clear and quiet blessings to your neighbors in Jesus’ name. Prayerwalkers quickly become aware of the realities and needs of their neighbors.

- Prayerwalking is walking down a street or through an area (open market / mall / playground / building) and praying about what you encounter by soaking up what you see, hear, smell or touch.
- It can also be praying over an area that lies before you from one vantage point (a hill / a building / an area / a side-street).

2. Gain insight from people (local believers), printed media (newspapers), radio, etc. prior to beginning your prayerwalking activity.

3. Pray aloud in a conversational tone as you walk.

- Pray for the needs of the people in the area in which you are walking.
- Pray about the possibility of a new work being started in this area.

4. Size of teams: Aim for two, but typically not more than three. If more than three, separate and walk both sides of streets.

5. Prayerwalking is intercessory rather than devotional prayer.

6. Prayerwalking is intentional prayer. It is a directed and focused effort.

7. Prayerwalking is low profile with High Presence (“Where two or more are gathered in my name, there will I be also”). Therefore, it is also low profile with high potential. As we learn to pray with God’s heart, opportunity abounds for us to pursue acts of testimony and kindness.

8. Other Tips:

- Walk a minimum of ½ hour.
- Maintain low profile. Be on the scene, not a scene. Do not pray loudly, form a circle by holding hands and such unless in an inconspicuous location.
- Walk at a comfortable pace or rhythm.
- Show respect for authority.
- Trust God in the event trouble arises.
- Watch what you say – it could lead to future difficulties in doing God’s work in the area.
- Wear comfortable, culturally acceptable clothing – suits and ties may be out of place in most neighborhoods.
- Smile and be pleasant to people you meet.
- Be flexible as the Holy Spirit leads.
- Reinforce the prayers of other team members before changing the subject of prayer.
- Do not be afraid of silence.

9. Divine encounters: Listen to God’s voice and notice opportunities He gives you for praying about specific needs in an area. If someone inquires of your actions, simply explain that you are praying for their area and ask if they would like for you to pray for any specific item of need or request.

10. Reporting: Many of the situations you observe or experience can help later. They may help you to see the next steps to take in serving your city and God.

