

PRAYER TEAM HANDBOOK

Prayer Dream Team

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WELCOME TO THE PRAYER TEAM

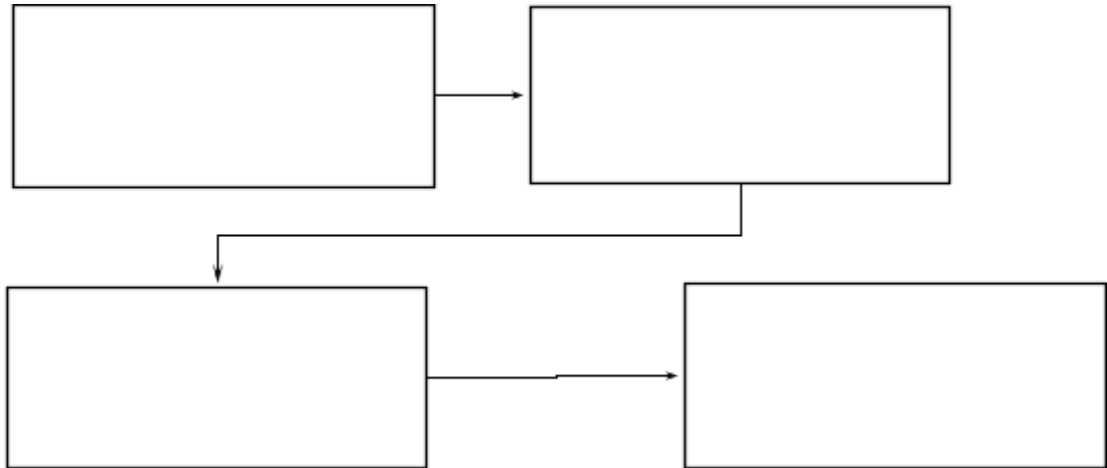
We believe in the power of prayer and the God who answers. The Prayer Team is committed to ministering to people through an individual time of prayer with a member of our team and through a time of intercession. The team is unified under the mission to lead people far from God into a full life in Christ and embody the values of Lifepoint Church.

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Hebrews 4:14-16

We are grateful for your desire to see people encounter Jesus, find freedom and deliverance, be filled with the Holy Spirit, and be disciplined through the Word of God.

As you pray with people for healing, breakthrough, deliverance, and so much more, we believe your love for Jesus will only grow as you continually see His faithful hand at work in people's lives. Thank you for your willingness to journey with people and always pointing them to Jesus!

ONBOARDING PROCESS FOR NEW PRAYER TEAM MEMBERS:



We are so glad you've decided to join prayer team! We appreciate you and cannot wait to see you live out your God-given purpose by helping people call upon the Lord.

Here's what you can expect while onboarding:

- A personalized approval process including a background check & prayer team interview.
- New prayer team member training, which provides training to assist you with ministering to people and interceding through prayer.
- You will be provided a mentor to assist you throughout your onboarding process.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Director of Small Groups & Prayer: The Director of Small Group is ultimately responsible for oversight of the vision of Small Groups for the Church in partnership with campuses. This person establishes priorities for Small Groups and methods for the organization at large. He or she works in collaboration with campuses to create strategies that help people find freedom in small groups.

Campus Pastor: Leads & Cares for the people of a Campus.

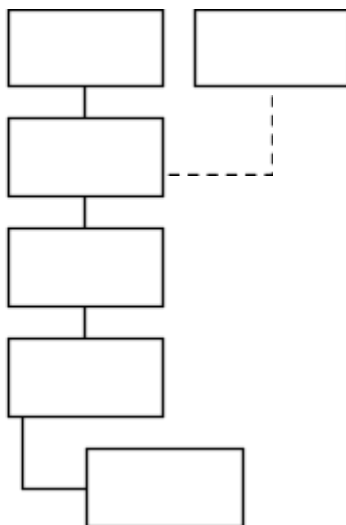
Campus Senior Coordinator: Oversee multiple departments of a campus.

Prayer Coordinator: Responsible for the leadership, administration, and growth of a specific area of the campus.

Service Coach: Responsible for the providing hands-on coaching & care for the prayer team members.

Prayer Team Member: lead a group of individuals in a small group setting by creating an environment that fosters authentic community, authentic relationships, and spiritual growth.

Organizational Chart:



OUR CULTURAL VALUES

We believe that the values we portray as part of this team should mimic the values our church holds to be important. Below are some established ideas and examples of what it looks like to live out each value on the prayer team.

Love God

- Our focus is on who God is and what God is doing, not our opinion or experience.
- We are committed to prioritizing and cultivating spiritual disciplines including prayer, fasting, reading God's word consistently and making regular church attendance a priority.

Love People

- We see the person not their problem, therefore we are never be surprised by a person's sin or situation.
- Remember how Jesus treated the woman who was caught in adultery, "Neither do I condemn you" John 8:11

Pursue Excellence

- Attend the campus rally and any preservice team rally before the start of service. Pray together as a team to prepare your hearts and minds for the day.
- Know how to minister to a person's Next Steps:
 - Salvation
 - Water Baptism
 - Small Groups
 - Growth Track

Be Life-Giving

- Encourage people to participate with God's work in them.
 - When praying with a person, you can introduce them to their ability to hear God for themselves.
 - Your time with them is a limited experience. That's why we pray rather than counsel. Invite people into the journey God might have for them!

OUR LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

Cast Vision

- Communicate the mission.
- Connect people to it.
- Inspire them to join.

Communicate Clearly, Often, and Honestly

- Create clear expectations.
- Provide consistent feedback.
- Tell the whole truth (give your last 5%).

Create Opportunity

- Bring others with you.
- Look for potential.
- Empower people.

Cultivate an Environment of “We”

- Be loyal to the team.
- Embrace collaboration.
- Love sacrificially.

Convey an Attitude of Hunger

- Always be evolving.
- Pursue innovation.
- Ask insatiable questions.

EXPECTATIONS

Prayer Team – The role of the Prayer Team is to listen to the Holy Spirit, love people, and be bold in the face of the enemy through prayer. Prayer Team members offer individual prayer for each person & intercedes throughout the experience.

Pray Like Jesus

- We model our prayers after Jesus.
- John 17:11, Luke 10:21, Matthew 26:39

Carriers of the Holy Spirit

- God resides in us with all His resurrection power. We stand in agreement with the Holy Spirit, praying through His strength & His discernment.

Humble & Compassionate

- When someone asks for prayer, they are inviting us into the hurt and pain of their lives, give love & compassion, not judgement. Be aware that it is not our prayers that save, heal, or restores - only Jesus!

Be Available

- We pray wherever, whenever there is a need out of full commitment to God.

Speak God's Truth

- If a person has questions, we are to respond with the gospel of Christ and truth from scripture, not information from our own experience.

Faith Builders

- We pray bold prayers knowing that God listens and responds according to our requests.

Team Specific Expectations, Meetings & Rhythms:

- Serve on a regular rotation on your serve team.

- Meet once a quarter with your coach
- Attend training seminars & Dream Team events

PROCESSES, SYSTEMS, AND RESOURCES

PREPARE TO SERVE

- **Pray First** / Ask God to open your eyes to the needs of others and to use you as you serve.
- **Worship One, Serve One** / We always want to stay connected to God first and foremost. Therefore, we attend a service as well as serve a service.
- **Check in & Visit DHQ** / visit DHQ to grab some coffee or a snack when you are scheduled to serve.
- **Arrive on Time and Check In** / Stop by Dream Team Check in to get your name badge, which helps guests and other Dream Team members know you're on the team. Campus Rallies & Pre-service meetings (huddles) are held before each service to prepare your team to serve.

SERVICE PRAYER TEAM

The team that ministers to guests through in-person prayer either during worship or following the experience. The team should always be prepared & flexible. Additionally, this team adopts the practice of being available to pray with & for people as needed.

We want to ensure both men and women are available each service for the comfortability of those we serve. While there is no prohibition on a man and woman praying together, they should never pray alone away from others. We want to flee from temptation and live in a way which is above reproach.

- **BE YOURSELF** / Remember you're called to do this! Walk in the authority that you have inherited. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Don't compare yourself to others. Some prayer encounters may take longer than others, and the length of a prayer is not the measure of impact.

- **USE THE PERSON'S NAME** / When you speak to and pray for a person, and use their name, you will communicate value and care.
- **BE MINDFUL OF HYGIENE** / You will be praying near people, so be mindful of your breath, and keep any fragrances simple and light so they are not a distraction.
- **WATCH YOUR VOLUME** / Watch your volume. Be aware of the volume of your voice so the ministry time remains personal and private.
- **KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN** / Be aware of the person's response to prayer. Notice facial expressions, tears, stiffening up, clenched fists, and lips tightening, so you can react appropriately.
- **POSITION YOURSELF FOR MINISTRY** / Stand a bit to the side of the person as you pray for them. You might place your hand on the person's shoulder or ask if you can hold their hands while you pray. It is important to only touch them on their hands or shoulders to maintain integrity and comfort.
- **ANOINTING OIL** / Keep in mind that oil is symbolic, and though it is scripturally significant, the power is in Jesus. Be mindful that this may be new to some people so be sure to get their consent. Remember that you only need to use a small amount of oil on the tip of your finger to apply to the person's forehead as you pray. Please use the unscented oil provided and do not bring your own.
- **ENGAGE THEIR WILL** / While you're praying for a person, encourage them to agree in what is about to take place. Use the word "we" instead of "I" during prayer. For instance, "We come against the spirit of fear in the name of Jesus."
- **KNOW WHEN TO WRAP UP** / It's not our job to force a person into agreement with you. We are simply there to show them the way. Many times, the Holy Spirit will continue to speak to them after you finish praying. If a person needs more time, feel free to take them to another location to finish serving their needs

SITUATIONS

Salvation

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9

Follow Jesus' Example: When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." Mark 2:5

- Jesus' primary concern was that the man's sins were forgiven.
- Always ask, "How is your relationship with Jesus?" or some variation.
- Many people will come to prayer with needs but may not have a relationship with Jesus! Let us be vessels that lead people to Jesus.

How to Lead a person in a salvation discussion:

Lead people to Christ by inviting them to ask for the forgiveness of their sins, repent (turn from) their sinful lifestyle, and acknowledge that Jesus Christ will be the Lord of their life.

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

“If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Romans 10:13

Invite them to repeat a prayer like the one below. The power isn't in this exact wording, rather it's about helping the person to make an honest declaration between their heart and God's heart.

- “Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner in need of a Savior. I believe that you died on the cross for me and rose again three days later, giving eternal life to me. Because I believe this, I accept your free gift of salvation, and turn away from my sins. Be the Lord of my life. Thank you for paying my debt. I love you, Amen.”

Celebrate with them! *Luke 15:10 says, “In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”*

- Walk the person to the Next Steps environment to ensure that they receive a new believer packet and that we have their information for follow-up.
- Assist them in taking their right next steps. The first next step after placing faith in Christ is water baptism. If it is baptism Sunday, encourage them to participate and walk them out to connect with the team who will help them get water baptized. If not, assist them in signing up at lifepoint.org/baptism. Also, encourage them to connect with a small group and to attend Growth Track.

Confession & Repentance

James 5:16 says, “Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”

The Holy Spirit may convict people to repent of a specific or general sin. When God convicts people, He does so lovingly and with great compassion. If people confess a sin, please show great compassion as you lead them in prayers of repentance and renewal.

Physical Healing

We believe Jesus is still in the healing business. Jesus' Example: In Matthew 8:1–4, Jesus heals the leper and then sends him off to see the priest for confirmation. The next testimony is in verses 5–13 where Jesus heals the centurion's servant based on the faith of the centurion in Jesus' word & authority. He didn't even have to go to the house!

Have the faith of the centurion! We can't make healing happen, and we can't counsel people into being healed, but we can trust God to heal.

Anointing oil is most used for healing (James 5:14).

Marriage & Healing

Ephesians 5:21 says, “submitting to one another in the fear of God.” Families carry many complex dimensions. In prayer, it’s important to be sensitive to the various dimensions within a family structure. For instance, family members have differing expectations and desires for one another. Many of these desires are based on opinion rather than Scripture (e.g., parents who want kids to do something).

- If parents bring kids to the receive prayer, talk directly to the child.
- Be sure to pray the will of God rather than the will of a person. This is most easily identified when one member of the family has a desire for another family member that involves decision-making (i.e., decisions about whom to marry, where to move, or what job to take)

Prophetic Prayers

Corinthians 14:3 says, “But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.”

- Pray it, don’t say it. If you hear something from God, just pray it out like you would a Scripture.
- If you believe you have a prophetic prayer for someone, please remember prophecy is intended to exhort and encourage. While serving on prayer team, we don’t use prophetic prayers as a means for counseling or giving directive advice for the future.

Praying in Tongues

Corinthians 14:5 says, “I wish you all spoke with tongues.” This gift is the Holy Spirit’s desire for you!

Please refrain from speaking in tongues if you cannot identify whether praying in tongues would confuse, distract, or offend the person receiving prayer. When praying in tongues is appropriate, maintain an inconspicuous tone.

Emergent Situations

Our priority is the safety of each person! Please immediately involve a member of our security team & staff for any of the following situations:

- Suicidal Thoughts
- Spousal Abuse

- Child Abuse
- Elderly Abuse
- Sexual Assault
- Physical Assault
- Criminal Activity

Be sure to complete an incident report at lifepoint.org/reporting for any of these areas.

NEXT STEPS

- **Salvation** / Many people will come to prayer with needs but may not have a relationship with Jesus! Let us be vessels that lead people to Jesus.
- **Water Baptism** / An outward sign of an inward change. It is the way in which a new believer publicly identifies with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior!
- **Small Groups** / Small Groups are gatherings of people that meet weekly to support each other and grow through relationship
- **Growth Track** / A place to learn more about Lifepoint Church and the gifts that God has given us, and how those things work together in fulfilling your purpose.

INTERCESSOR TEAM

Intercessory prayer is prayer for others. It is a specific kind of prayer in which an intercessor comes to God on behalf of another. The word “intercession” comes from two Latin words: *inter* meaning “between” and *cedere* meaning “to go”. It is in a sense “standing in the gap” for another. Intercession can be defined theologically as “the act of pleading by one who in God’s sight has a right to do so in order to obtain mercy for one in need” (Peter Wagner, *Prayer Shield*, 23).

Intercessory prayer requires intimacy with the Holy Spirit. It is based on an intimate relationship with God, cultivated in our personal prayer and time in the scriptures, that we can stand “between” Him and others, serving as an intercessor on their behalf. Maintaining purity and a special intimacy with God should be of a high priority to intercessors.

Intercessory prayer is both a role of every faithful believer and also a spiritual gift given to some by the Holy Spirit. Paul said to Timothy, “I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people” (1 Timothy 2:1). Christians should practice intercession for others. However, for some, the Holy Spirit will give divine enablement to pray for others for extended periods of time on a regular basis, with more intensity, greater faith, and see frequent and specific answers to their prayers to a greater degree than the average Christian.

IN ACTION

- The intercessors pray to set the spiritual atmosphere for the service and set the stage for lives to be saved and people to be set free.
- This team will pray for the church, pastors, and rest of the Dream Team so they can serve unhindered by the attacks of the enemy.
- The team intercedes on behalf of the congregation so they can encounter God during the service, whether that is during worship, message, or call to accept Jesus.
- Be focused and united during service from beginning to end. We are following and listening to the pastor's lead to keep us in unity with his word.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to encounter both believers and non-believers; for believers to be encouraged and realize victories in their walk, and for non-believers to be saved when the offer of salvation is given

SYSTEMS & RESOURCES

SLACK is a communication tool that both campuses & departments use to communicate specific information regarding the team you serve on and pertinent information about your campus.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING ON THE DREAM TEAM!

You'll use the gift of intercession to pray with people, and for our services, teams, and events.

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. 1 Peter 4:10 NLT