

10 TIPS ON HOW TO INTRODUCE PEOPLE TO A GROUP PRAYER

by Reid Smith

Praying in a group can be intimidating for those who haven't done it before. You'd be surprised how many people are not used to praying out loud with other people around them listening in. This is an important skill for all believers to develop because agreement in prayer among two or more believers makes God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven and builds the community of His Church (Matthew 18:19-20). Here are some tips that will help you to ease people who are unfamiliar with group prayer into this very important spiritual practice:

1. **Be brief.** Brevity can reduce the anxiety level in group prayer because it allows time for others to pray and serves as a model for simplicity in prayer (Matthew 5:7-13). People who aren't use to praying aloud in a group will see short and simple as something they can do too.
2. **Be informal.** Don't have a big build-up. When it's time to pray, just begin. For example, "Okay everyone, let's pray. Feel free to jump in if you'd like. Lord, we..." This makes prayer feel less intimidating and more natural.
3. **Be yourself.** Imagine God sitting across from you in the group and talk with Him like you would a person (after-all God is fully human and He is actually in your midst). Have a conversational flow to what you share with the Lord and avoid Christian clichés or complex theological jargon.
4. **Use Scripture.** Invite people to articulate their prayer with biblical passages. They can read something that is meaningful to them and then say, "I believe that about..." or "Let that be true for..." and reference their own prayer need or one that was shared by another group member.



5. **Invite the most confident to lead.** There is usually at least one person in every group who tends to be more forthright in prayer or they're good about summarizing multiple prayer needs. At the beginning of your next group meeting, ask them how they'd feel about facilitating the prayer time. If they're open to doing this, reassure them by saying, "Just be yourself...you'll be great!"

6. **Don't call on anybody.** Some people are terrified to pray in front of others, and if they're newer to the group, they may not return if you put them on the spot.

7. **Don't go in a circle.** This puts people who don't want to pray aloud in an embarrassing situation, especially if they're the only one to pass.

8. **Go first in sharing a personal prayer request.** This primes the pump for others to share and sets an example of vulnerability.



9. **Appoint somebody to write down prayer requests.** Then follow-up on them at your next gathering. This cultivates a warm and caring environment that will help people feel safer about personally engaging in group prayer.

10. **Integration.** Discussing prayer needs outside of the time allotted for prayer in your next gathering can help to integrate prayer more into your group-life. This helps group prayer feel more as a natural part of your group-life as opposed to an isolated or add-on component.

From smallgrouptrader.com (used with permission)

LIFE GROUP PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Pray for God's peace and comfort for **Kate McDonald** and all the residents of her apartment building after the stabbing death of their landlady
- **Karen Visser** has been dealing with headaches, please pray that these go away soon
- **Dan Jakob** asks for prayer for his financial situation and a job since he will be losing his current job soon.
- **Julie Roundhill** has asked that we pray that she will find a job soon and that God will sustain them and keep supplying their daily needs.
- **Randy Treyman** is praising God after the successful skin-graft surgery that his **mother** had. He is also asking for prayer for his friend **Dona** for full recuperation, and for his friends **Ling** and **Kiki** to find an apartment after being reunited with their 2 children.
- **Wendy Roullier** Please pray for healing of **Nicole's** arm, she is worried she won't be able to swim at Ross Point.
- **Linda Royer** is praising God, She and **John** have a ride to Ross Point.
- **Rose Toscano** is asking prayer for continued healing for her children as they deal with their emotions after the separation from their dad.
- **Jodee DeFever** Please continue to pray for her as she recovers from her surgery.

- I will be moving to Salem, Oregon the end of July. Please pray for a safe and smooth move. ~ **Romola Edwards**
- Please pray for relief for **Karla Signs** as she is continuing to have headaches and pressure. Pray that the doctors will be able to find long term relief for her.
- **Lysle Pickard** had a pace maker put in on. The procedure went well and he is recovering.
- **Michael Hall** has received word from his Dr. that he has Prostate Cancer. The prognosis is very good that it is operable and/or treatable with Radiation. Decisions need to be made and prayer is desperately needed to make the right decision. Please support **Michael and Marcia and the kids** as they go thru this very trying time, put them on your prayer list and let them know they are not alone.
- **Kathy Chapman's** mother-in-law **Jeanne** has lung cancer. She has finished her radiation therapy and will be having further tests in September to see if there is any remaining cancer, praises that the radiation did not burn her. **Jeanne's** husband, **Mel Marcoux** is doing well and will go back for a recheck on his heart late in the fall, the doctors will decide at that time if they will be putting more stents in or will do surgery. Please keep them in prayer.
- **Pamela Dehnhoff** asks that we pray for **middle son** to find work and a place to live that is safe and their **youngest son and daughter-in-law** to find Jesus.

Adult attendance: 285

Children: 9am 34 + 10 10:30am 55 + 12

Youth Small Group: 12 + 4 Middle School: 14 + 6

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

- Jonathan Michaels Estrella— son of Sharon Boswell.
- Jason Bjazevich—Megan Owenby's husband—Army Special Forces— Stationed in N. Carolina.
- Scott Harpell—son of Brian & Lynne— Stationed at Fort Carson, CO.
- Aaron Weston—nephew of Ken and Kathy— Stationed in San Diego.
- Eric Schmidt — son of Gene and Pat Schmidt — Camp Fallujah, Iraq.
- Benjamin Lagonia—dear friend of the Naylor family—stationed in Manitoba.
- David Coyle—son of Karen Mark—residing in Seattle, member of the National Guard.
- Brett Love—grandson of Wilma—Army National Guard—Serving at home.
- Robin Swartz - Serving in the military - currently home in Everett.
- Christian Chmielewski—nephew of JoAnn Couturie' - in the Marines.
- ENS Andrew E. Timpner (fiancé to Christin Suthard) on deployment with USS Momsen.
- Devin Abbitt—nephew of Paul Abbitt - Marine, stateside.
- Duane Neyens—brother to Kathy Chapman— Army National Guard—is back at his home base in So.CA.
- Philip Ankney-LCPL Afghanistan Cousin of MaryAnn Peterson.
- Jeffrey Lillard—son of Barbara Lillard — Srg. In Army, Stationed at Fort Lewis.
- Aaron Chmielewski—joined the Marines. Nephew of JoAnn Couturie
- Shawn Berland—deploying for 6 months
- Andrew Sustaita—serving on board the USS Abraham Lincoln

Check out our FBC website @ www.fbc-everett.org

LIFE GROUP HAPPENINGS

ALL IN THE FAMILY

by **florence miller**

*** Finally - SUMMER! Many of you have been on, still on, or planning vacations. We'd like to read about them. If you would please send or call the news either to me (Florence Miller - fbmasemore@yahoo.com -) or the church office it would be greatly appreciated.

***There are others of us who have left on the greatest trip of all: going to be with our Heavenly Father. This week we are celebrating those lives: **Esther Friesen** passed away Thursday morning July 15th, her memorial is on Wednesday the 21st. at 4:00 p.m. and **Mabel Elder** passed away late Wednesday evening, July 14th, her memorial service is on Thursday the 22nd at 1:00 p.m. all to be held in our church. Our reception coordinator, **Karen Kaess**, needs help and/or cookies.

***Many of our church will be attending Family Camp at Ross Point, Idaho from the 24th to the 31st of July. Our prayers are for safe journeys and a meaningful and fun time. (For those who are attending: will you be my reporters and bring back interesting happenings which can be printed? Thanks!)

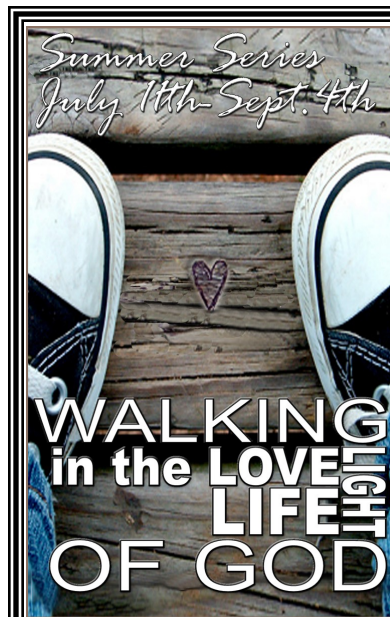
*****Lori Major** has missed attending church since the DART busses no longer run on the weekends, she is looking for someone who could give her a ride to and from church on Sunday mornings. She lives south in the Bothell/Lynnwood area, Please call the church office if you can help.

*****Lynne Harpell** is recovering satisfactorily from her recent knee surgery but with a way to go yet for full use of it. Lynn is also in need of a ride to and from church as it is difficult for her to stay longer than one service. Please call the church office if you can help.

*****Sara** depends on a scooter to get around and it need's a weld in the basket area. If you can do this please call.

Revelation

You will want to be present on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon for a stimulating study of the first three chapters of Revelation. Dr. Fred Prinzing and his lovely sidekick, Anita, are contributing ten weeks to this riveting study of the seven churches. We invite you to the Pacific Room each Wednesday from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm for a Bible Study you won't want to miss! The study started on July 7th so it's not to late to join in. See you then.



Our new **Walking in the Light, Life and Love of God** devotional, group questions booklet is now available for a small donation (\$2.00). As a congregation we will have an exciting, life transforming venture as we work our way through 1 John this summer starting Sunday, July 11th. Booklets are available in the hospitality room.

- Approximately 50 "SAMers" picnicked at Kayak Point Park this past Friday. It is always a special occasion as the setting and view are picture-perfect and the gathering of friends so much fun. Equally important was the tasty picnic fare. Mary Miller (the gal who can do anything well) cooked the barbequed ribs and baked chicken while the rest of us provided either our "best" salads or desserts. The sun was out in full force; we just forgot to ask for the chill wind to blow somewhere else, cutting somewhat short our "lingering" time. David and Mary Miller were in charge of the picnic with able help from their son Scott. It is a big undertaking and I'm sure everyone attending voiced their appreciation.
- David Miller is in charge of our used book sales and he is reminding everyone that he is collecting books for the next sale. He is asking for a good mix of content such as Travel, Religious, Self-help and Informational along with acceptable fiction. Books can be left by the SAM desk in the Hospitality room.
- The months whiz by. Before we know it, it will be September and the first meeting of the Fall. That will be on September 3rd so mark your calendar!

S.A.M. Happenings

LIFEGROUP CONTRIBUTING OPPORTUNITIES

ALL CHURCH CLEAN UP

The volunteer clean-up crews are beginning to form to help clean up the church in preparation for the Fall! Join us on either Thursday, August 19th from 10am-1pm or Saturday, August 21st from 9am-noon. If you are interested in joining a clean-up team, email Brian Harpell with "FALL CLEAN-UP" on the subject line. Provide contact information and what day you could serve



FINANCIAL UPDATE
JULY 21ST, 2010
\$14,082.96

USHER CAPTAIN 2010:

July—Lucky Elkins
Pete Sontra
August—Ron & Kay Olson
Craig Reisen

COFFEE HOUR 2010

July 25th
Pat Alvarez
Outreach
August 1st
Vince Ivelia
AM Men's Group
August 8th
Sherra Ellis
Riverside Life Group
August 15th
Laura Oversvee
Women of Purpose



FAMILY NIGHT AT THE AQUA SOX!

Join us for a great night of AquaSox baseball. We will meet at Memorial Stadium at 6:45 pm on August 4th.

Tickets are just \$9.00



July 21st Doug Weir
July 22nd Alice Fatzinger
July 23rd Leo Younglowe

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