

# *Mary Ann Ruff*

## *Prayer Journal Outline*

1. *Heart of a Leader*
2. *Praise*
  - ❖ *Names of God*
  - ❖ *The Father's Heart*
3. *Grateful Journal*
4. *Intercession for Family, Friends and Neighbors*
  - ❖ *Place for Pictures*
  - ❖ *Where to look when ...*
5. *Intercession for Church*
  - ❖ *Prayers of Jesus for the Church*
  - ❖ *Names of the Staff*
6. *Corporate Prayer and Prayer Patterns*
  - ❖ *Prayer in One Accord*
  - ❖ *The Seven "S" of Prayer*
  - ❖ *Prayer Pattern Examples*
7. *Leaders Meeting Admin*



## *Examples of Prayer Patterns:*

### ***Prayer Pattern: Praise***

- *Praise Him for His Attributes*
- *Praise Him for His Surpassing Love*
- *Praise Him for the Power of the Cross*
- *Praise Him for His Unchanging Promises*
- *Praise Him for His Providing Hand*
- *Praise Him for the Fullness of His Grace*

### ***Prayer Pattern: Thanksgiving***

- *God did that ...*
- *God placed...*
- *God caused...*
- *God miraculously...*
- *God supported...*
- *God's presence was evident...*
- *God's faithfulness...*

### ***Prayer Pattern: Praying for Your Mission***

- *Prayer for Neighbors: John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."*
- *Honor God for His Love*
- *Thanks God for all that He gave*
- *Time of silence to listen for who each person should pray for*
- *Write down names*
- *Ask God for eyes to see open doors to build relationships and to share the life of Christ.*

### ***Prayer Pattern: Planning Your Ministry***

- *Prayer for world: Acts 1:8 "... You shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."*
- *Praise God for His sovereignty and Character*
- *Thank God for those who have witnessed to us*
- *Pray for our influence with our neighbors (Jerusalem)*
- *Pray for influence in our city (Judea)*
- *Pray for influence in the world (Samaria)*



# Corporate Prayer

## Defining Corporate Prayer

- ❖ *Corporate or group prayer is very different from praying alone. It is a group of people joined together to be led by the Holy Spirit in prayer. It is a time where the Holy Spirit intercedes for us according to the will of God. It is the Holy Spirit that guides us into all truth. He is our leader.*
- ❖ *In corporate prayer there is a deep sense of waiting, being still, and preferring one another.*
- ❖ *Listening is the most important posture in corporate prayer. The Holy Spirit leads and guides the prayer time by instructing each person on what to pray.*
- ❖ *Each person prays one or two sentences on the prayer subject as the Holy Spirit leads the prayer.*
- ❖ *You are in the Throne Room of God. His Majesty is your audience. It is not a time to tell other people information, or compose a speech.*
- ❖ *All that is spoken should be edifying and minister grace and blessing. A critical or judgmental spirit will quench the work of the Holy Spirit and destroy the prayer time. Ephesians 4:29-32*
- ❖ *Corporate prayer is learned as a group seeks God together over time.*



# *Instructions for Leading Corporate Prayer*

- ❖ *The prayer leader is simply a facilitator to keep the group on track with what God is saying.*
- ❖ *The prayer leader gives instructions as the group responds in prayer.*
- ❖ *The prayer leader moves the group from one subject to the next.*
- ❖ *The prayer leader sets the example by praying short prayers on each subject and should not allow anyone to dominate or control the group with long prayers.*



# *Praying In One Accord*

## *The Seven S's of Group Prayer*

### *1. Subject by Subject Prayer*

*Effective prayer in a group is made effective when we agree in prayer. In group prayer, pray one subject at a time. Be sensitive to allow others to add their prayers of agreement to each subject the Spirit has led you as a group to pray for. Matthew 18:19-20*

### *2. Short Prayers*

*Short prayers are the secret to effective prayer as a group. Just one or a few well-chosen sentences from several people on each subject allows time for everyone to pray. Ecclesiastes 5:1-2 warns us that as we approach the throne of God our words should be few.*

### *3. Simple Prayers*

*Prayers that use high and lofty words and theological concepts can be intimidating to others in the group and may limit group participation and thereby quench the Spirit. Keep your prayers simple and from the heart. Remember, theological truth is at its most profound when it is stated most simply.*

### *4. Specific Prayers*

*The more specific the request, the more specific the prayers can be. The more specific the prayers are, the more specific God can answer. And the more specific the answers are, the more enthusiastic our praise will be.*



## 5. *Silence in Prayer*

*Silence in prayer allows us to listen to each other and then hear the Holy spirit as it instructs our heart to pray. Again, Ecclesiastes 5:1-2 tells us to "Guard our steps as you go to the house of God and draw near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools." God calls inattentive prayer a sacrifice of fools.*

## 6. *Small Groups and Prayer*

*Small Group prayer tends to be more effective than large group prayer because it is easier to achieve one accord in prayer. And it is our oneness in prayer that makes our prayers powerful with God. Again, see Matthew 18:18-20*

## 7. *Sensitivity in Prayer*

*To sum up, sensitivity to God's Spirit and each other is the key component for effective group prayer. Be sensitive to what the Spirit is saying and also be sensitive to what each group member is sharing and praying for.*

