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# WHAT IS PRAYING LIKE A MISSIONARY?

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of salvation for all who believe. The good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection is meant to be proclaimed throughout the world, and God has chosen to use His people to do that! We get the privilege to be part of God's work to redeem all creation and join Him in His mission. We are missionaries.

When it comes to bringing the Gospel to the world, we must begin with prayer. God calls His people to pray, and unless we do we are trying to do God's work on our own. In prayer we ask God to do what only He can do. Through prayer, He works in our hearts and the hearts of others. This resource is meant to help you start praying like a missionary - praying for others to know and love God, and for the Gospel to go forward.

When we begin with prayer, we ask God with expectation to reveal the Gospel to those in our city, country, and world. We pray intently that those who have never heard the Gospel will hear and come to know Jesus as Savior. We pray that all would hear and respond to Jesus.

### HOW AND WHEN DO I PRAY?

Set aside some time (you can just start with a few minutes) to pray, and pray with a heart for others to know about Jesus. Ask God to give you a missionary heart - a genuine desire to see others come to know and worship Him. There's no end to what you can pray about, but just start by praying. You can make this part of your existing prayer time, or make it something you pray about at a specific time of day. You might take a significant Bible verse and make that the time of day you pray. For example, in Luke 10:2 Jesus calls us to pray for the Lord of the Harvest to send workers into the field (a prayer that disciples would go out to bring the message of the Gospel to the world). You could set an alarm to pray at 10:02 every morning.

# WHAT DO I PRAY ABOUT?

Praying for others to know Jesus can seem overwhelming. Express in your own words your desire for many to know about Jesus. Read out loud some of the verses provided and see how they inspire you to pray more. Pray for specific people and places that come to mind:

- \* For the world to be filled with the worship of Jesus."...the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." Habakkuk 2:14
- \* That we would love others enough to lay our lives down for them.
   "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay his life down for his friends." John 15:13
- \* That we would live as though we are sent by God. "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." 2 Cor. 5:20
- \* That the Great Commission would be fulfilled, and we would make disciples. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19
- \* For the many churches throughout the world to grow. "So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily." Acts 16:15
- \* That people throughout the world would come to know Jesus.

  "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8
- \* That God would use you. "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here I am! Send me.'" - Isaiah 6:8

# CHANGING THINGS UP...

Prayer doesn't always have to be in a room, eyes closed and hands clasped. Try some of the methods below and share your experience with others:

#### Pray with others.

Invite someone to pray with you! Someone from your MC is ideal, or a friend, roommate, family members...by inviting them to pray with you, you are also helping them grow and become a missionary.

#### Prayer Walking.

Walk through your neighborhood, a mall, or any other place and pray with your eyes open. By being near to these places, we can pray with more passion and clarity. As you look around, dream about what God can do and ask Him to make it happen.

### Prayer Ride.

Just like prayer walking, but in a vehicle. You can drive yourself or take public transportation and pray for the buildings and people you pass by. If you're driving, make sure to keep your eyes open!

### Prayer Chain.

If you can't pray in person together, agree with others to pray during certain times of the day, one after another. Text/message the next person when you've completed your part of the chain.

### Prayer Journal.

Write down the prayers you pray. Sometimes this will lead you into more devotional and worship time with God. You can also look back and see how God has changed your heart and answered your prayers.