

What to take: Your Bible, a notebook, and pen—for sure. You could also include a book on prayer, devotional book, or hymnal. Pack a lunch or snack if you like.

Parts you could include in your day: Scripture reading (read until your soul is happy and ready to pray). You could pray about what you get out of your time in God's Word. Spend some time in praise, telling God how much you love Him. You could spend part of your day praying for others; you could even subdivide this portion into prayer times for your family, your church, the people you are trying to reach, etc. You could spend time praying for yourself, for your own Christian growth, your relationships, big decisions, your Christian service, etc.

What to do if your mind wanders: Don't be surprised; the flesh and the devil don't want you to pray. However, there are ways to deal with distractions. Prepare an special agenda for your day in prayer before you leave and carry that prayer list with you. For motivation, you can read a chapter in your book on prayer. Pray for one section on your prayer list and then read a while. If you remember something you need to do, write it down in your notebook. If God points out something you need to take care of, such as make things right with another person, write that down. If you get sleepy, it's OK to take a short nap; fall asleep meditating on a Scripture passage.

Don't feel disappointed if your day doesn't include some big spiritual discovery or spiritual high. You are there to seek God, not an experience.

You can read *Spending a Day in Prayer* by Lorne C. Sanny at:

<http://grow.campuscrusadeforchrist.com/library/knowning/dayinprayer.html>

My Personal Prayer Week Goals

Cottage Prayer Meetings, Sunday, January 23

For Relationship Outreach Networks & Neighborhood Prayer Groups
Childcare Provided 5:30—7:30

Check out the Special Prayer Week Section on our website at:
www.baptiststart.com/prayerweek

PRAYER WEEK

Sunday-Sunday, January 16-23, 2005

*Prayer Week is a time for us as a church family
to begin our year with vigorous prayer,
asking God to mature us spiritually,
to lead us in ministry, and
to empower our witness.*

What are you trusting God for?

Specifically, what are you trusting God for? We trust God for things we cannot do for ourselves. We pray out of our inability, knowing God has a wiser plan and greater power than do we. What are you trusting God for...

...in your personal life? _____

...in your family? _____

...in your circle of friends? _____

...in your church? _____

Prayer Room

During Prayer Week the Prayer Room will be available and church members are asked to volunteer for time slots during the week. You can sign up in the foyer. In addition to their other prayer concerns, those who sign up are being asked to pray through the Tallassee telephone directory and the church roll. Those who sign up will be given a small guide to assist them.

Inside

What to Pray for During Prayer Week, page 2

Relationship Outreach Groups, Cottage Prayer Meetings, page 3

The Half-Day Alone with God Challenge, pages 3-4

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What To Pray For

This year, during Prayer Week, we are asking each member to select one major area of prayer and no more than two “minors.” Bear down and concentrate on these areas during this week.

Majors (pick one)

Evangelistic outreach of the church—pray for God to empower us, as a church, to reach people who don’t yet know the Lord. Sign up for a time slot in the prayer room as we pray for everyone in the Tallassee telephone directory.

Homebound members— Pray for homebound members by name. Contact the church office for additional helpful information.

Chronic Absentees— Pray for those who are not homebound, but who have chosen not to attend church. Pray that God will work in their hearts. Contact the church office for additional helpful information.

Upward Basketball— Pray for the coaches as they lead mid-practice devotionals and set an example for the players. Pray for the players as they hear the Gospel. Pray for those presenting the halftime devotionals on game days. Pray for family members of the players who will be hearing the devotionals. Contact the church office for additional helpful information.

Disciple-making ministry of the church— Our goal is to help irreligious people become devoted followers of Jesus Christ who, in turn, will develop other disciples. Pray that God will lead us in how to do this better.

Sunday School— Pray for new leaders to be developed and for God to lead us as we work to create new units for Bible study and outreach.

Minors (pick up to two)

Revival Services— “The Case for Faith” with Dr. John Fain, Sunday-Wednesday, March 6-9.

A Ministry Team (pick one)— Phase II Team, Childcare Ministry (nursery), Children’s Activities, Comfort Ministry, Evangelism, Homebound, Missions Support, Prayer Ministry, Preschool Activities, Senior Adult Ministry, Upward Basketball, Teaching Ministry, Youth Ministry,

A Service Team (pick one)—Benevolence, Decorating, First Impressions, Guest Response, Hospitality, House & Grounds, Lord’s Supper, Purchasing, Sound System, Transportation, Vacation Bible School.

Youth Ministry— Pray for the members of the youth group and the young people the Lord has out there for us to reach. Contact the church office for additional helpful information.

Senior Adult Ministry—Pray for the Senior Adults in our church and those seniors out there the Lord would have us reach.

Join a RON! Relationship Outreach Networks

A Relationship Outreach Network (RON) is a group of Christians who network together to reach mutual friends, acquaintances, or work associates for Christ.

Network members could be co-workers at the same business (a GKN Network or an Elementary School network, for example), could all be approximately the same age, could all live in the same subdivision, or could have some other common basis for working together. They work together because they can reach people better together than they could apart. It is the Great Co-Mission.

There will be a special RON meeting time on Sunday evening, January 23. We will not have evening services. Instead, we will have cottage prayer meetings for the different Networks in the homes of their members. If a Network would like to meet in one of the rooms at the church, that’s OK, too. Childcare will be provided at the church from 5:30 until 7:30.

At the prayer meeting the group will list people they would like to reach with the Good News and discuss possible approaches and assignments leading up to revival services.

After the January 23 prayer meeting, the team will stay in contact with each other to exchange information and for encouragement. One possible meeting time is on Wednesday nights over church supper. The networks will continue to function until, at least, the conclusion of revival services on March 9.

To join a group, contact the Network leader. To start a network, contact the church office (283-2287).

The “Spend Half-a-Day with God” Challenge

The challenge is to spend an entire morning or afternoon with God before the beginning of Revival Services on Sunday, March 6.

Why block out so much time to pray? Lorne C. Sanny lists five reasons: (1) To spend time in extended fellowship with God, to be with Him and to think about Him. (2) To gain a renewed perspective, to see the big picture of your life from God’s point of view. (3) To catch up on your intercession, that is, to pray for all the people in your life who need praying for. (4) To prayerfully consider and evaluate your life, your goals, and your priorities. And, (5), for adequate preparation. That is, to get ready for those things the Lord has ahead.