

**Leaders for Host Church**

Below is a list of leaders for your church's Celebrate Jesus Mission. Feel free to add other coordinators and/or committees needed by your particular church.

**Key Leader:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Hospitality Coordinator:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer Coordinator:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Follow-Through Coordinator:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Visitation Coordinator:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Block Party Coordinator:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**CELEBRATE JESUS MISSION**  
**Prayer Coordinator Guidebook**

***“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am chained.” (Colossians 4:2)***



This may be your first time leading prayer groups or coordinating prayer. For this reason we have pulled together a few suggestions that we hope will be helpful to you.

**INTRODUCTION**

**Prayer is the most important part of our mission.** The power of prayer can open hearts and minds for the Word of God to reach the lost. Paul was very clear during his ministry as to why mission worked, and it was simply prayer. John Wesley was also convinced of this as he claimed “God does nothing except through prayer.” Jesus modeled the importance of prayer consistently throughout the scriptures.

***Prayer is a love relationship with God.***

Prayer is a sincere, sensible and affectionate pouring out of the heart or soul to God, *through Christ* in the strength and assistance of the Holy Spirit, and with submission in faith to the will of God.

***Prayer is crucial for the success of your Mission!***

**RESPONSIBILITIES BEFORE MISSION**

In the weeks and months leading up to the Mission the Prayer Coordinator is responsible for organizing prayer events and individual prayer activities. Involving your whole church in prayer is important.

- \* Start a regular prayer schedule. This needs to happen right away.
- \* Recruit a committed group of people willing to pray weekly, even daily.
- \* Come together and lift up the concerns of your church, the Mission, and the lost in your neighborhood.
- \* Attend the Celebrate Jesus workshop on prayer and bring prayer team members with you.
- \* Pray for your pastor.
- \* Encourage prayer for the mission at every worship service.
- \* Begin prayer walks in your community – **this is vital to a successful mission!** After your church’s mission leadership team has mapped out the areas you are targeting to reach during mission, display this map and ask members of your congregation to begin praying for every home on selected streets. This needs to begin soon and done repeatedly until mission week. (More info on prayer walking on page 7)
- \* Pray for your church’s Celebrate Jesus Mission leadership team as they seek God’s direction in planning for mission week and beyond.
- \* Discover and pray for the needs of Coordinators and their volunteers.
- \* Work with the different Coordinators and encourage them to set time aside for prayer.
- \* Work with your leadership team to design a prayer/contact card to be used during mission week to collect data and prayer requests.
- \* Pray for God’s will to be done in all things (including the weather).
- \* Pray for the Holy Spirit to empower your church family and your Mission.
- \* Pray for other Host Churches.
- \* Pray as God leads you, but PRAY, PRAY, PRAY.

*The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know.*  
 I Tim. 2:1



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer Request:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Requests information on the following:**

<input type="radio"/> News of future events	<input type="radio"/> Music programs
<input type="radio"/> Children’s activities	<input type="radio"/> Services for elderly
<input type="radio"/> Youth activities	<input type="radio"/> Baptism
<input type="radio"/> Counseling/Support groups	<input type="radio"/> Call from the pastor
<input type="radio"/> Bible study	

**PRAYER REQUEST CARD**

If you or someone you know has a prayer need please use this card to let us know.

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Needs prayer for the following concern:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I would like a pastor to call.

**SAMPLE PRAYER/CONTACT CARDS**

**PRAYER REQUEST CARD**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Request: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Youth     Single     Family     Senior

1 Peter 5:7 "Cast all your anxiety on Him  
because He cares for you."  
**PRINT CLEARLY!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Request \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Card completed by \_\_\_\_\_

**Other suggestions....**

We recommend that you and your church family attend monthly prayer gatherings with other Host Churches. These prayer gatherings may already be in place; contact the Celebrate Jesus office for more information. You are the contact person for prayer at your church and you need to encourage the others in your church to attend the prayer gatherings. We cannot stress the importance of prayer enough; it is the key to the Mission. The office at Celebrate Jesus will be happy to share with you the names of other Celebrate Jesus Mission Prayer Coordinators in other Host Churches.

Establish a prayer room for morning/evening prayer time or keep the chapel open early mornings and late afternoons for those who work to stop and pray.

Offer printed prayer cards for families to place on their tables at home.

Encourage personal prayer and quiet times for all.

Take a group to some of your shut-in members and have prayer times for Celebrate Jesus with them. **IT IS SO IMPORTANT FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH FAMILY TO FEEL A PART OF THIS GREAT HAPPENING.**

We suggest that the Prayer Coordinator should also connect with the Team Leader and Team Pastor before and during the mission, and meet to pray with the team during the week.

**Pray for the Lord's Leading**



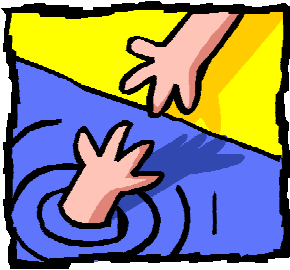
**PRAYER IS NOT A METHOD – IT'S A WAY OF LIFE**

**DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, BE PATIENT WITH YOURSELF AND KEEP PERSEVERING.**

During the planning process your church will be asked, "What ministries do you want to see in place one year after Mission?" Your planning committee's responsibility is to ask questions, investigate and make sure realistic and practical plans are being made to launch and sustain these new ministries.

Are we planning to succeed?  
 Have we recruited the necessary leadership?  
 Is the congregation aware of the new ministries?  
 Are we praying specifically for these ministries?  
 Are we getting the word out to the community?

**All these things must be prayerfully considered.....Where is God leading? WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP?**



*"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."* Matt. 25:40

**RECRUITING A PRAYER TEAM**

To be successful you will need to recruit a Prayer Team to pray for all aspects of the Mission and to help you carry out your responsibilities. As soon as possible make a list of people you can ask to help you and recruit them. Please **do not** try to do this by yourself.

It is common for Mission and preparations for Mission to bring out leadership traits in people. Keep watching for people who are prayer warriors or those gifted in intercession or who have a heart for prayer, and invite them to help. Don't forget to ask your shut-in members for prayer support!

Jesus, You said, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I claim this promise for every area of my life where I feel inadequate. Thank you that I can do anything through your strength.

2 Cor. 12:9, Phil. 4:13

I love you, Jesus, and I am proud to be called by your name. You are my source for everything and you are a faithful provider. In you I have wisdom, hope, encouragement and access to the throne of God. I lack no good thing.

1 Cor. 1:30-31

Thanks be to you, O God - I love you and I know that in all things you work for my good according to your purpose. Take control of my life especially these situations: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ . I cannot fail when you are at work!

Romans 8:28

My Savior and friend, I am steadfast in you. I will not be moved. I have surrendered to your good work and I know that anything I have given to you or done through you will not be lost.

1 Cor. 15:58-59

Below is a list of internet sites that have information on prayer evangelism:

**[www.waymakers.org/freshprayer.html](http://www.waymakers.org/freshprayer.html)**  
**[www.prayerpointpress.com](http://www.prayerpointpress.com)**

*(These sites are for ideas; we receive no funding from these organizations.)*

Should you require any help, our office staff will always be happy to assist or answer any questions that you might have.

You can contact us directly by telephone, fax or e-mail.

Tel: (407) 893-7305

Fax: (407) 893-7307

E-Mail: [celebrate.jesus@CJMission.org](mailto:celebrate.jesus@CJMission.org)

**EXAMPLES OF PRAYING SCRIPTURE**

Fill in the blanks for those you are praying for.

I ask God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the wonderful future He has promised to those He called. I want \_\_\_\_\_ to realize what a rich and glorious inheritance He has given to His people. I pray that you will begin to understand the incredible greatness of His power for us who believe Him. When I think of the wisdom and scope of God's plan, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will give \_\_\_\_\_ mighty inner strength through His Holy Spirit. And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in Him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love really is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then \_\_\_\_\_ will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Now glory be to God! By His mighty power at work within us, He is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope. May He be given glory in the church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever through endless ages. Amen.

Ephesians 1:16-19, 3:14-21 NLT

But how can people call for help if they don't know who to trust? And how can they know who to trust if they haven't heard of the One who can be trusted? And how can they hear if nobody tells them? And how is anyone going to tell them, unless someone is sent to do it?

"What a huge harvest!" He said to His disciples. "How few workers! On your knees and pray for harvest hands!"

Romans 10:1-15, Matthew 9:37-38, The Message

I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.

Philemon 1:6

**COMMUNICATE! COMMUNICATE! COMMUNICATE!**

There is no such thing as too much communication. The experts say a message needs to be heard seven times before it is internalized. Make sure you communicate the needs, the times, the expectations AND CONTINUE TO PRAY!

**MODELS OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION—ALL THREE SHOULD BE EMPLOYED**

1. **One-on-one communication** is the most effective. Set up a time and place to explain your responsibilities for the Celebrate Jesus Mission and your need for volunteers. Invite those whom God has placed upon your heart to come, to hear and hopefully volunteer! Also, plan to have someone speak to the Sunday school classes, and ask your Pastor for a brief announcement time during the worship service(s). Place sign-up sheets in convenient locations.
2. **Phone contact:** The phone is the second most effective way to communicate. A personal contact by phone is far more effective than written communication.
3. **Written contact:** Bulletin inserts, posters and newsletter articles are an indispensable part of effective church communication. However, do not rely ONLY on this method of communication. Bulletin inserts, signs, posters and newsletter articles should be used as informational communication, i.e. keeping everyone informed of times, places and happenings. INVITING, however, should be done on a personal basis.

**PRAYER DEVOTIONS**

About four months before mission, you will receive a booklet of weekly devotions for prayer for the 14 weeks leading up to your church's mission. It is your responsibility to make sure the appropriate devotion is printed in your church bulletin each week. When possible, a copy will be sent via e-mail to your church's administrative assistant or publications secretary.

**These devotions will answer questions about....**

- What a Celebrate Jesus Mission is
- What the mission will do for you
- How to reach the lost
- How you can participate and help
- How to prepare for the mission
- The need for continuous PRAYER

**TIME LINE THAT REQUIRES PRAYER**

November	Your church covenant with Celebrate Jesus to do a Mission is due.
January	Your church's Planning Tool is due - this is a tool that enables your church to decide what they want their mission to look like. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What group of people would God have us visit?</li> <li>▪ Which neighborhoods should be targeted?</li> <li>▪ How will the church go about reaching these people?</li> <li>▪ This tool helps your church look honestly at itself and begin to acknowledge what God may be calling it to become.</li> <li>▪ During this time there needs to be MUCH PRAYER and church-wide decision making.</li> </ul>
Feb/Mar	Consultations are planned for each Host Church with Celebrate Jesus Leadership to discuss and "fine tune" the Planning Tool. Church begins writing out goals for mission week.
April/May	Visiting Team Leaders and Team Pastors visit their Host Churches.

EXACT DATES FOR THESE ACTIVITIES WILL BE GIVEN TO EACH HOST CHURCH AFTER COVENANTS ARE RECEIVED.

**Prayer During Mission Week**

Prayer is crucial not only before and after the mission, but DURING the mission. Set up a place at your church and schedule people to pray there (or in their home) during visitation times. Lay the prayer requests received on the altar and ask those who pray to mark a small † on the card after they pray for the request. **Send a note to all those you have prayed for.** Your church family and the visiting team members will grow significantly in their prayer lives if you make prayer a central part of the Celebrate Jesus Mission.

**Pray in faith and with submission  
to the will of God.**

**SCRIPTURE PASSAGES ON THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER**

The Bible is filled with references to prayer, the intimate lifeline connecting human spirit with Holy Spirit. Below are a few passages for your reading:

- Psalms 19 and 46 (praise and thanksgiving for the miraculous work of God toward His people)
- Ephesians 1:16-19 (for growth in spiritual depth and wisdom)
- Philippians 1:3-6 (prayer for one another)
- 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 (remembrance of fellow believers)

**Prayers of Instruction:**

- Psalm 62:8 (Trust)
- Psalm 136:1-3, 26 (Be thankful)
- Matthew 6:5-14 (Pray like this)
- John 15:7 (Abide)
- Ephesians 6:18 (Know your resource)
- Hebrews 4:14-16 (Come boldly)
- James 1:5-8 (Ask in faith)
- James 4:3 (Be careful how you ask)
- 1 John 3:19-24 (Pray in truth and confidence)

**The results of prayer:**

- Isaiah 30:19-21 (God's responsiveness to us; divine guidance)
- Jeremiah 29:12-13 (God will listen to us)
- Matthew 18:19-20 (God will be in our midst)
- 1 John 1:9 (God will cleanse and forgive us)

## PRACTICAL GUIDANCE

PRAYER SHOULD BE SUGGESTIVE RATHER THAN PRESCRIPTIVE!

Pray with the power and compassion of the Holy Spirit.

*Don Chapman wrote:*

***“Pray as you can, not as you can’t.”***

**Keep to simple prayers** – with ordinary people bringing ordinary concerns to a loving and compassionate Father. When we pray, genuinely pray, the real condition of our heart is revealed. This is how it should be, and this is when God truly begins to work within us.

***Prayer changes things – BUT more importantly, it changes us.***

### When you pray:

- ♥ Be sure that you are praying for needs and NOT wants.
- ♥ Be careful for what you ask.
- ♥ Let your heart be without words rather than your words without heart.
- ♥ Pray in the name of Jesus.
- ♥ “Pray often, for prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God and a scourge to Satan.” *John Bunyan*
- ♥ We can expand our prayers as our experience grows.
- ♥ We need to wait on God, demonstrating our trust in our loving Shepherd’s guidance.
- ♥ God is everywhere (Psalm 139); therefore, we can pray at a distance... anywhere, anytime.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES ABOUT PRAYER

### DIFFERENT WAYS TO PRAY:

**MEDITATION** – To contemplate, reflect or ponder, listen. Perhaps select a verse or chapter from the Bible, pray through it line by line, listen to what God is saying to you and/or the group.

**ROTATE LEADERSHIP** – Encourage others to lead and participate – take turns being the facilitator.

**PRAYER WALKING** – Get some exercise and pray for your neighbors! This can be an organized evening or done on your own. Pray for insight to understand the needs of your community and that those in the neighborhood will be receptive to the team and church members during the mission. Pray for families, individuals, schools, businesses, etc. Those who are unable to walk may pray while driving down the streets. Check out this website for more ideas: [www.waymakers.org/freshprayer.html](http://www.waymakers.org/freshprayer.html)

**JOURNALING** – gives perspective on where you have been and where you are going on your journey with Jesus. Keeping a prayer journal allows you to be persistent with prayer requests as well as observe the many ways God answers prayer. It helps keep data on specific prayers and is a reminder that God is always there and does hear our prayers!

**LITURGY** – can be useful to introduce change, or bring more structure/formality to prayer times. A Book of Worship would be helpful to learn different concepts.

**MUSIC** – can be relaxing and bring a new dimension to prayer. Music can lead us into meditation, praise and worship.

**POETRY** – An idea for introducing a theme, devotion or meditation.

**PRAYER PARTNERS** – “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them.” (*Matthew 18:20*) Prayer partners can be powerful and dynamic. Often significant relationships are formed as prayer partners meet together to pray. These relationships can continue well past the Mission, and hopefully will. Sometimes during Mission week prayer partners will be asked to come and pray for specific persons or situations.

**INTERCESSION** – Listen to the heart of God as He calls you to pray for a particular thing or particular persons. The Lord’s Prayer is the greatest intercessory prayer and can be used as an outline for group prayer.

## **SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE**

True prayer must be according to the Word of God and His promises. The Spirit by the Word must direct both the manner and the matter of prayer.

**1 Corinthians 14:15 - "So what shall I do?" (asks Paul) "I will pray with my Spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my Spirit, but I will also sing with my mind."**

***There is no understanding of the Word without the Spirit.***

- Put on the armor of God – be aware of spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6:10-20).
- Prayer is a love relationship with God (Abide in Me – John 15).
- Do not grieve the Holy Spirit, and be sensitive to the leading of the Spirit (Acts 16:6-10).
- Pray expectantly and eagerly wait for the prayers to be answered. Pray in faith, with hope and in submission to the Will of God.



***We cannot emphasize enough the importance of prayer and the impact it has on the Mission. Please pray specifically for individual team members serving on the Mission.***

## **SPIRITUAL WARFARE & PRAYER COVERAGE**

Being intentional about doing the Lord's work, especially on a large scale such as Celebrate Jesus Missions, brings about the attention of the evil one. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour." (1 Peter 5:8)

James 4:7 tells us to "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." That is a promise!

It is very important to have others praying for you during your planning and preparation of Celebrate Jesus. Ask several prayer warriors to keep you and your committee lifted up daily. James 4:10 reminds us, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He shall lift you up."

We will be encouraging all Team Members coming on Mission to establish prayer partners to pray for them prior to mission, during mission and after mission.

### **HELP FOR A WEARY SPIRIT**

Do not be discouraged when only a few come to your prayer meetings.

Continue in love and in obedience. God is faithful; He will honor your efforts. "Likewise the Spirit also helps our infirmities; for we know not what we should pray for, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And He that searches the hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God." (Romans 8:26, 27)

***The Life of Prayer  
is to have your heart kept with God in the duty of prayer.***

***"The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord; but the prayer of the upright is His delight" (Proverbs 15:8)***

***"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer." (Psalm 19:14)***