



**WORLD OUTREACH CHURCH**

**PRAYER GROUPS**

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## Policies & Procedures

### Plan & Purpose

The plan and purpose of the WOC Prayer Department is to do our part to process the plan of God through prayer. We purpose to:

1. Lay down track in prayer, or process things in advance for the future.
  - a. Jeremiah 33:3, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show the great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."
  - b. John 16:13, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come."
2. Hold the ropes for missionary/ambassadors who live on the field or go and come from the nations.
  - a. Ephesians 6:18, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;"
  - b. Colossians 4:12, "Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God."
3. Be a power supply, or power generator, for God's plan including our church, the firebases, and our pastors.
  - a. James 5:16, "...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."
  - b. Acts 4:31, "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."

### We purpose that prayer at WOC is:

- Pure: "Free from what weakens or from what does not properly belong", without offense or any agenda other than the perfect plan of God
- Fervent: Heartfelt; with everything in you
- Accurate: Grounded in the Word of God and led by the Spirit of God

## Prerequisites and Guidelines

With the exceptions of Pastor Mark's Noon Hour Sessions, Men's Monthly Prayer, and Sunday morning Pre-Service Prayer, the prerequisites to apply for a prayer group and the operation guidelines for all prayer groups are as follows:

1. You must consider World Outreach Church your home church and you must completely agree with our Tenants of Faith.
2. You must have completed the NEXT STEPS/CORE classes prior to attending a prayer group.
3. You must actively serve in a CORE department at least twice a month.
4. You must apply to participate in our WOC Prayer Groups. You are more than welcome to be a part of multiple prayer groups as long as you can commit to consistent participation in every group with which you desire to pray. The applications can be found online at [woctulsa.org](http://woctulsa.org) under the "Prayer Opportunities" tab. Upon completion of the application, the WOC Prayer Coordinator will contact you regarding your acceptance status.
5. You are agreeing to a quarterly (3 month) commitment to any and all Prayer Groups for which you have been selected. You will automatically be re-enrolled at the commencement of the next quarter. If you choose to make any alterations or conclude your prayer commitment, you will need to email the Prayer Coordinator at [prayergroups@woctulsa.org](mailto:prayergroups@woctulsa.org) before your obligation in the current quarter ends.
6. You are expected to be present when your designated prayer group is meeting. If your attendance is deemed sporadic, or you have excessive absences within a 60-day period, you will be removed from the prayer group and notified by the Prayer Coordinator. You should contact your respective prayer group in the event you are unable to attend.
7. Never is a male and female to pray alone together—a married couple praying with their spouse is the only exception.
8. Prayer leaders will close the door at the indicated start time, and will post the "PRAYER IN PROGRESS, DO NOT DISTURB" sign on the door. Please arrive 5 min early and be ready to pray. When the prayer concludes please exit the room immediately. These rooms are designated for other groups, and we want to be respectful over everyone's time.
9. Please reverence and respect the prayer rooms. This space is designed for us to meet with God and do business with him in the earth. That is the focus of our time in the prayer room. We encourage fellowship of the believers to take place before or after the designated prayer time in the parking lot or a third-place location.

## Overview

As a general rule, WOC prayer groups meet on a weekly basis for one hour to pray for a designated focus. The groups will not exceed more than ten individuals.

The idea behind the smaller groups is to cultivate a unity within the group. This unity allows the group to accomplish things more quickly.

## Practical Tips for Praying in a Group

1. Corporate Prayer = United Prayer
  - a. Corporate prayer is another way for saying united prayer. United prayer is where everyone comes together with one heart and one purpose, ultimately lifting up one voice to God.
  - b. Participating in united prayer works by faith. By faith, you set yourself in one accord and have a confidence that you are releasing power as you pray in the spirit.
2. Corporate vs. Individual
  - a. Prayer groups are for united prayer where everyone prays together about the same thing. Prayer groups are NOT where everyone prays on their own in the same room about the same thing.
  - b. Praying together in a group means “flowing together.” For example, if the leader is lifting their hands and their voice, everyone should join in; if the leader is singing in tongues, everyone should sing in tongues.
  - c. The designated prayer group leader will lead in English and Tongues. Stay connected by *actively listening* to the leader as they pray in English (and you’re praying in tongues) .... As they say something that resonates with your spirit, you can add your agreement... “yes, Lord”. It is in unity and agreement much power is made available.
  - d. Each group at WOC has a designated leader who follows the Holy Ghost in determining specific direction for the prayer time.
  - e. In order to stay in unity and add your agreement, you must be able to hear the designated leader praying. If you can’t hear the leader, you’re praying too loud. If you are prompted by the spirit to pray something in English, pray it softly so you don’t cause confusion for the other prayer group participants.

## Clean Hands and Pure Hearts in Prayer

1. Psalm 24:3-4, "Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully."
2. We keep our hands clean and our hearts pure by:
  - a. Maintaining our personal relationship with the Lord through the Word and prayer.
  - b. Choosing to never allow room for offense.
  - c. Giving no place to pride. Remember that just because the Holy Ghost shares things with you in prayer does not mean you know more than your leadership. God does things in order, which means direction, instruction and correction comes from God to the pastors and leadership, not from the pray-ers to the pastors and leadership.
  - d. ALWAYS praying God's will, which is His Word. We do not use prayer to pray our own agendas or what we think is best in a situation. If you are unsure of God's will in a situation, go to the Word to find it. If you cannot find it, then pray in other tongues.
  - e. Remembering that prayer is a privilege. The same blood that Jesus poured out to save us is the same blood that paid the price for us to have access to the throne room of God.

## Be Trustworthy in Prayer

1. Remember, your job is to pray. Most of what the Holy Ghost shares with you in prayer is **not** for public knowledge. The Holy Ghost shows us things so we can pray even more effectively. Prayer Groups are designed to connect and give your supply in prayer. We strongly believe in prophesy, words of wisdom, words of knowledge, laying hands on the sick, etc. However, this is not the appropriate time for these manifestations to take place publicly.
2. Your prayer group leader(s) have been instructed to keep to the designated topic and they will do this. Our Pastoral Care team is available to pray for any personal prayer request.
3. Things that are prayed about in WOC prayer groups are to remain within the prayer group. External discussion often leads to misinterpretation and pride.
4. Consider prayer requests confidential unless informed otherwise. This is especially true with the ambassador group.

## Praying with the Spirit and with the Understanding

1. Pray with the Spirit
  - a. As we pray out God's plan in each prayer group, it is vitally important that we are truly praying out His plan and not our own. One way to guarantee this is to pray in other tongues. (Romans 8:26-27)
  - b. When we pray in other tongues, we must remember that even though our understanding is unfruitful as the Bible says, we have to choose to keep our faith and our hearts activated. Ways to keep your faith and heart engaged are:
    - i. Pray in other tongues **on purpose**. Tap into the unction from the inside. Jesus said, out of your belly (innermost being) shall flow rivers of living water. This is where your prayer language should flow from.
    - ii. Remember that your prayer language is a language and you are talking to God. When you have a conversation with someone you respect, you speak clearly and give them your full attention.
    - iii. If you find yourself loosing focus, take a minute to acknowledge the Holy Ghost as your Helper. This doesn't mean shouting to God in the middle of your prayer time, but quietly and without interrupting the group flow, say things like, "Thank you Holy Ghost that I'm making dynamic power available right now as I'm praying," or, "Holy Ghost, I trust that as I'm praying in other tongues I'm praying out God's perfect plan."
2. Pray with Your Understanding
  - a. When we pray with our understanding, we must make sure that what we are praying lines up with the Word of God. Prayer that is based on the Word is prayer that is answered. (1 John 5:14-15) We should bombard our topic from every side with the Word of God.
  - b. God has given us the responsibility to use our authority in the Name of Jesus. We can take authority over the plots and plans of the enemy and over every attack. There is no substitute for praying in your known tongue and using this authority. We should do this , and then pray in the spirit over a situation.
  - c. In a small prayer group setting, only the leader should be praying with their understanding. The rest of the group should be praying in tongues.