

# Prayer Strategy

## The Outpost Network

“As we started looking at DMM worldwide, we made a critical observation: a prayer movement precedes every DMM.” - David Watson, *DMM Catalyst*

## We need to be people of prayer.

Disciple makers are people of prayer. The apostle Paul was a disciple maker and movement catalyst. He was a person who prayed for others and he expected others to do the same (1 Corinthians 1:4, Galatians 6:2, Ephesians 1:16, 3:16-21, Philippians 1:9, Colossians 1:9, 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12). As Paul communicated with his ever growing network of disciples they in turn prayed for him. This leads to the approach of the Prayer Calendar.

## Prayer Calendar

*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. - Ephesians 6:18*

1. On your calendar (phone or paper) or on a sheet of paper write a list of your Christian friends numbering 1-30.
2. If you have “Bill” written on number 1 then on the 1st of every month you are going to call Bill and simply say, “Hey Bill I’ve got your name on my prayer calendar today which means I will be praying for you throughout the day. Is there anything specific that I can be praying for you about today?” Write down Bill’s prayer request and pray for Bill over the phone or in person. Don’t just simply say “I’ll be prayin for ya”. Praying for someone out loud (phone or in person) is a powerful thing.
3. Repeat the step the next day with the 2nd person on the calendar and so on.
4. If you spent 5-10 minutes praying for each person that month you will have spent 150 and 300 minutes that month praying for someone else. That's a win.
5. Chances are that over time the individuals on this list will not only allow you to pray for them but they will begin to ask you, “How can I be praying for you?” God will begin to move as his children are praying for one another and seeking His will.
6. Make notes about what you are praying for with others so that when you talk to them next you can be asking them if they are seeing God respond. Also be intentional about what they can be praying for you about. If you know you are trying to have spiritual conversations with a coworker that week, then ask them to pray for that. This will spur us along to being intentional and following through in our disciple making efforts.

## Pray ASAP app

*And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. - Matthew 24:14*

1. The Pray ASAP app is FREE and notifies you every day of one of the UUPGs (Unreached Unengaged People Groups) in South Asia. South Asia is home to more UUPGs than any other place on the globe. These are thousands of people groups who have < 2% gospel professing Christians and no current strategic approach to reach them with the gospel. Missionaries who serve in these areas have asked that we would pray for these groups and that the Lord would reach them with the gospel. Maybe through sent ones from the Outpost Network! If we really truly desire to see Jesus come back we will pray for every single UUPG to be reached with the gospel.
2. Revelation 7:9 says that every people group on the planet will be around His throne worshiping Jesus. If there are people groups who currently have no followers of Jesus then praying for these people groups is 100% in God's will. He will hear these prayers and respond. Again we are trying to cultivate a personal culture of prayer.

## Oikos Map

*The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household. - Acts 16:34*

1. Another prayer strategy is the Oikos Map. Oikos (οἶκος) is simply the Greek word for "household". In the NT when we read about someone's household being saved it is the word "oikos". It is God's pattern that not just individuals are saved but entire households (oikos) and families are saved. When we say household we typically mean our own four walls. In the Greek sense this would mean one's entire social network. Think Noah (Gen 6:8-10), Abraham (Gen 18:17-19), Lot (Gen 19:12-14), Joseph (Gen 45:5-11), Rahab (Joshua 2:18), Shunammite Woman (2 Kings 8:1), Geresene Demoniac (Mark 5:1-20), Samaritan Woman (Jn 4:7-42), Cana Official (Jn 4:46-54), Dorcas (Acts 9:36-42), Cornelius (Acts 10:1-48), Lydia (Acts 16:13-15), the Jailer (Acts 16:23-24), Crispus and Stephanas (Acts 18:8; 1 Cor 16:15).
  2. So practically, take a piece of paper and write your name in the middle and draw a circle around it. Then write names around your name of people in your oikos or social network of people who are far from God. This is your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, people you have hobbies with, etc. (Example of oikos map at the bottom)
  3. Set a time during the day when you know you will pray. Maybe during your daily Bible Study. Set an alarm on your phone. When the alarm goes off get your oikos map out and pray for those on your oikos map who are far from God. Pray that God would open their hearts to the gospel and that you would have an opportunity to share the gospel with them.
- \*Remember it is God's will that nobody would perish but that all would reach repentance (2 Peter 3:9) and that if we pray according to His will that we have what we ask for (1 Jn 5:14-15)\**

## We need to mobilize people to pray.

### Mobilize 10 of your friends to start their own Prayer Calendar.

*and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. - 2 Timothy 2:2*

1. Think about it. If you personally pray 5-10 minutes for 30 people every month that is 150-300 minutes you have prayed that month for other people. If ten other people did that too that would add up to 1,650 to 3,300 minutes (27.5 to 55 hours) of prayer for other people between you and your ten friends! Instead of just your 30 people now 330 have been prayed for that month. Wow, it is easy to see how the law of exponents takes over here. Remember we are thinking about mobilization.

### Corporate Prayer

*They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers. - Acts 1:14*

1. Once a month the Disciple Making Team(s) gathers together for a **2 hour prayer meeting**.
2. The first 30 minutes enjoy some fellowship time (coffee, cookies, etc). Be relational. Enjoy your time together.
3. Next, for 1 hour everyone gathers together in a room to pray. The facilitator will predetermine a passage, for instance the parable of the tenants. He/she will read the passage and pause to pray through the passage for their community, that the Kingdom of God would come. Let everyone know they will pause every few verses so everyone can pray through that particular passage for their community. Let people pray out loud individually as they feel led. The facilitator will continue this pattern through the passage and allow people to pray. Stop after an hour.
4. Next, for the final 30 minutes talk amongst the group about what they felt like God was telling them through this prayer time. Remember this is not only a time to talk to God but to *listen* to what God is saying to us about the community.

### Mobilize other outside networks to pray

*And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles. Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing. - 1 Timothy 2:7-8*

1. Reach out to friends, small groups, other churches you know or friends, family in those churches and cast a vision for what God is doing in and through the Outpost. Ask them if they would devote once a month to a **2 hour prayer meeting as described above**. These are people outside our area. Maybe a different state or even a different country.

2. The key is to find people who are passionate about your mission and vision for the lost and ask them to pray.
3. Plan to get on Zoom call or phone call with that group who decides to meet and pray for you and give them very specific things to pray for. Specifics would include areas of 1) Being a disciple who can make disciples 2) Further Prayer Mobilization 3) Engaging lostness 4) Finding People of Peace 5) Forming More Discovery Groups 6) Establishing Churches and 7) Multiplying Leaders. Plan to update them later about how God is working through their prayers and thank them.