

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

# “FELLOWSHIP OF THE RINGS”

SYSTEMATICALLY ESTABLISHING PRAYER RINGS

Emerald Necklace Cluster (OH-01, Cuyahoga Co.)  
Beginning October 2020

Concept & presentation based on program developed for the  
Seattle, WA Metro Cluster by Auxiliary Board member Shawn Javid, May 2020  
Prepared by Ban Twaddell, October 9, 2020

“Once in every week, gather ye the steadfast friends together in a meeting place, and there let them engage in praising and glorifying the Lord.”



- ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *“The Importance of Obligatory Prayer & Fasting.”*

**PLEASE NOTE:** Although ‘Abdu’l-Bahá says weekly in this quote, ‘regular’ devotionals can occur at other intervals, including bi-weekly, monthly, etc.

“Devotional meetings are occasions where any soul may enter, inhale the heavenly fragrances, experience the sweetness of prayer, meditate upon the Creative Word, be transported on the wings of the spirit, and commune with the one Beloved.

Feelings of fellowship and common cause are generated, particularly in the spiritually heightened conversations that naturally occur at such times and through which the ‘city of the human heart’ may be opened.”



– The Universal House of Justice, 29 December 2015

# Goal: to Foster Regular Household Devotions

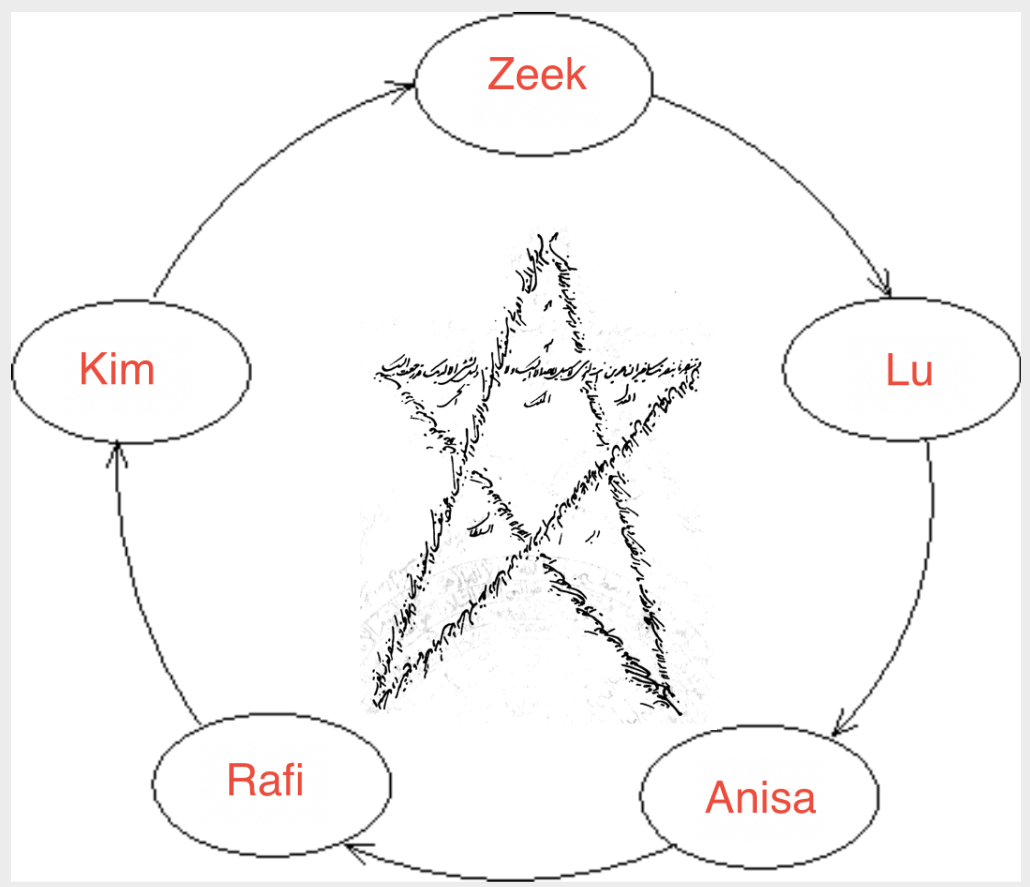
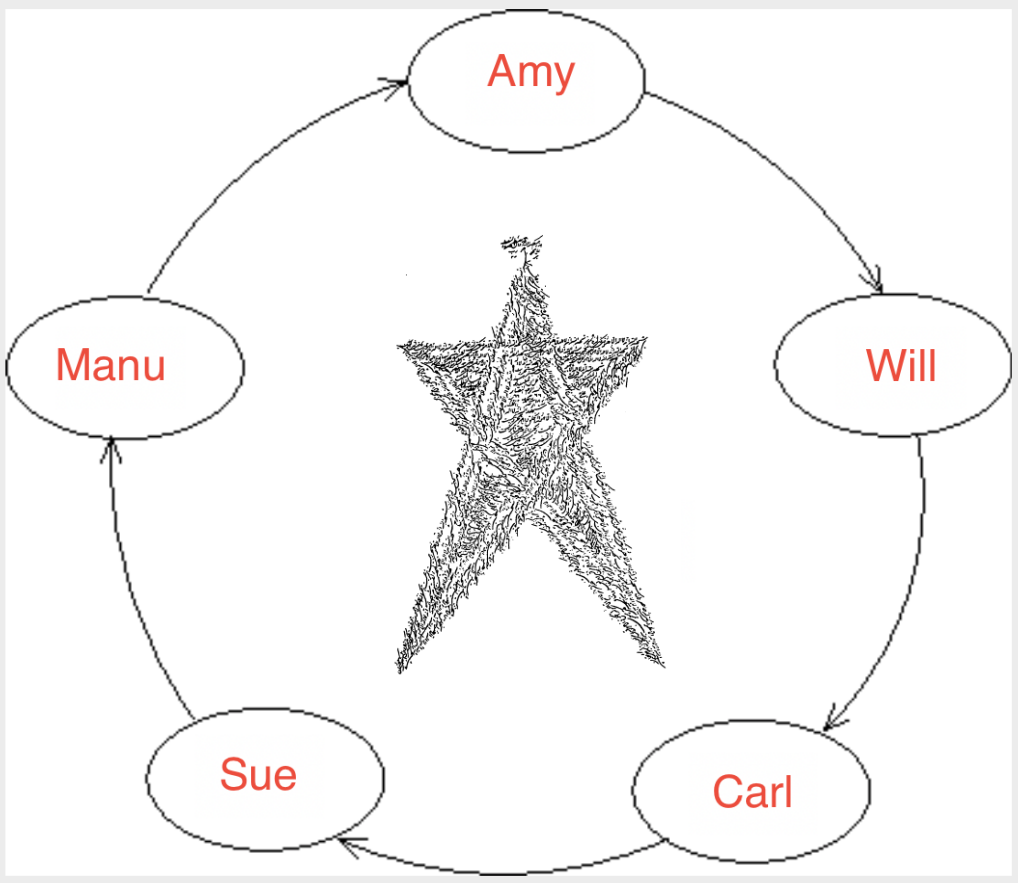
“The vital importance of these (devotional) meetings and the heartening momentum that has already been achieved in holding them has inspired us to set the following goal: **in this final year of the Plan, we ask that every Bahá'í household in the nation undertake the hosting of a regular devotional meeting...** and we lovingly invite you to join us in achieving this vision.”

– The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States, 20 April 2020

# Prayer Rings (example with 5 members)

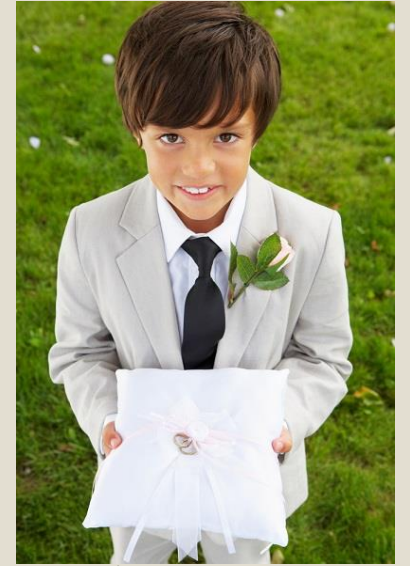
- A ringleader identifies 4 friends and lovingly solicits their commitment to be a member of their prayer ring.
- The ringleader contacts, (in person, by phone or video chat), the 1<sup>st</sup> person in the ring and they share prayers together.
- Later the 2<sup>nd</sup> calls the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the 3<sup>rd</sup> calls the 4<sup>th</sup>, and lastly the 4<sup>th</sup> person calls the ringleader, each sharing prayers with the other over the course of a week.
- Each call to say prayers can be counted as a household devotional meeting.

# Prayer Rings = circles of unity and protection



# Ringleaders

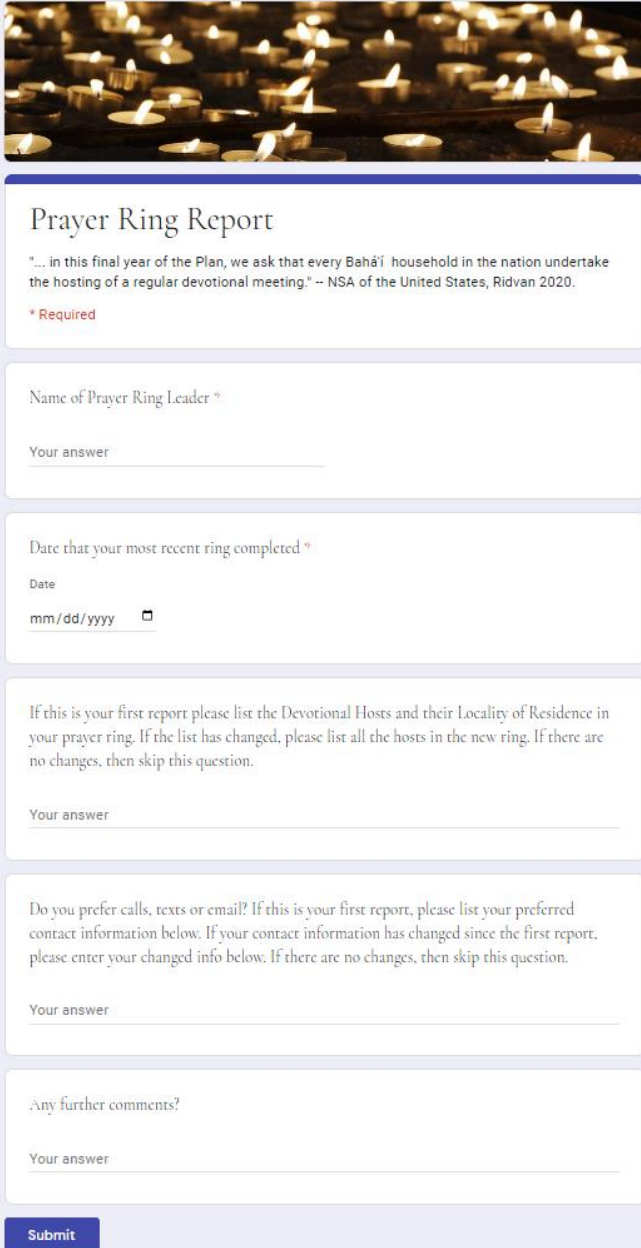
- A ringleader plays a sacred role in binding together a few friends to commit to and sustain a regular devotional meeting.
- A ringleader makes sure the prayer ring completes the circle at least once per week (or whatever interval they determine).
- A ringleader is alert to when a member of their ring needs help or is ready to form their own ring.
- A ringleader may be asked to track the progress of the ring for statistical purposes on a form such as the one below.



# Form to Report Rings

For Ringleaders in OH-01

- Google form:  
<https://forms.gle/Lufe3nmB8tmn5c9N7>
- Just 2-3 minutes for a ringleader to fill out.
  - Name of Ringleader
  - Date Prayer Ring cycle completed
  - Participants (hosts) & Localities of residence
  - Contact info & preference (email, text, or phone)
  - Comments
- Form shared with ATC for tracking



**Prayer Ring Report**

"... in this final year of the Plan, we ask that every Bahá'í household in the nation undertake the hosting of a regular devotional meeting." -- NSA of the United States, Ridvan 2020.

**\* Required**

Name of Prayer Ring Leader \*

Your answer

Date that your most recent ring completed \*

Date

mm/dd/yyyy

If this is your first report please list the Devotional Hosts and their Locality of Residence in your prayer ring. If the list has changed, please list all the hosts in the new ring. If there are no changes, then skip this question.

Your answer

Do you prefer calls, texts or email? If this is your first report, please list your preferred contact information below. If your contact information has changed since the first report, please enter your changed info below. If there are no changes, then skip this question.

Your answer

Any further comments?

Your answer

**Submit**



“By My life and My Cause! Round about whatever dwelling the friends of God may enter, and from which their cry shall rise as they praise and glorify the Lord, shall circle the souls of true believers and all the favored angels.”



- Bahá'ú'lláh, *“Bahá'í Meetings.”*