# PRAYER WALK GUIDE





### WHY PRAYER WALK?

The book of Acts tells us that when Jesus sent his disciples to proclaim the gospel, he commanded them to wait. So, they gathered and devoted themselves to prayer (Acts 1:3-14).

This was critical for at least two reasons. First, he wanted them to carry out the mission not on their own power, but by the power of the Holy Spirit. Second, he didn't want their own agenda to guide them.

As we sense God challenging us to see the gospel proclaimed on every campus, we have the same conviction. We are to start with prayer because we cannot bring about revival—*only God can*.

We hope God raises up thousands of people to pray for thousands of campuses. Through that, we hope stories like those recorded in Acts happen in new ways on campus, renewing not only the campuses, but our entire nation.

This guide is designed with everyone in mind, whether you've never prayed before, or whether you've been praying for campuses for years.

We want you to learn how to pray in ways that shape you deeply and unleash the power of God's Spirit in your life and on campus. We want you to connect with God's heart for this mission field that is ripe for harvest. Finally, we want to connect you to others who share your heart and are committed to praying for and planting ministries that bring the good news of God's kingdom to campus.

We hope this guide will help you become a lifelong prayer-walker and maybe even a campus ministry planter.

### **HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE**

Prayer-walking is like an adventure in the wilderness. It can be exhilarating and terrifying.

Thankfully, Jesus has given us the Holy Spirit to guide us, and you have this written guide. The purpose of this prayer guide is to give you some idea of the terrain, what to expect, what to do, and perhaps the most overlooked—but most critical—part, what to do after you leave campus.

It assumes you're prayer-walking in a group because two are better than one, so grab a friend or friends to do this with you! Jesus sent out his disciples in pairs, and the pairs often added people along the way.

In terms of how this guide is laid out, the first section will give you some step by step suggestions on how to prepare for your prayer walk. The second section will give you ideas on how to spend your time during your actual prayer walk on campus. And finally, the last section will help you debrief your experience.

Each of the three sections also contains three steps which are numbered and give you a suggestion of *when* to do that step. There are various options for the many steps in this guide but use the recommendations that help you and feel most natural, while also paying attention to nudges of the Holy Spirit within you.

We hope this guide continues to help you grow in prayer-walking your second, third, and tenth time.



### **1. PREPARE FOR THE JOURNEY**

AT LEAST ONE DAY BEFORE YOUR PRAYER WALK

#### **READ ACTS 8:26-31**

<sup>26</sup>Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

#### CHOOSE A CAMPUS TO PRAYER WALK

Don't know which campus to prayer walk? Pray that God would put a particular campus on your heart. Consider choosing one with no known campus ministry. Write the name of the campus below.

#### EXPLORE THE CAMPUS' WEBSITE

Once you've chosen a campus, spend time exploring their website. Write down what you find out:

Are there any historical sites on campus or events from the past you should know about?

Are there any administrators, professors, or student leaders you should contact? What about any Christian groups already on campus or churches nearby? Contact them and ask if they'd like to join you on your prayer walk.

#### 2. PREPARE A TEAM AT LEAST ONE DAY BEFORE YOUR PRAYER WALK

#### READ ACTS 10:1

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go.

#### PRAY FOR A TEAM

Spend time in listening prayer, asking God who you should invite to join your prayer walk. Be still and silent for a few minutes. Write down any names that come to mind.

#### CONTACT YOUR TEAM

When you feel as though God has given you names of people to invite, go ahead and contact them! We also suggest posting on social media to invite others. Here's an example of what you can say:

"I'm excited to be a part of reaching every campus, and I'm planning on prayer-walking [CAMPUS NAME]! Would anyone want to join me or know someone who might?"

#### INVITE FRIENDS TO PRAY FOR YOU

Is there anyone you can ask to pray for you while you're on your prayer walk? Contact them, tell them the time you'll be on campus, and ask them to pray during that time.

Is there anyone you invited to prayer walk with you that couldn't? Ask if they'll pray for you instead.

### **3. PREPARE YOUR HEART**

THE DAY BEFORE YOUR PRAYER WALK OR DAY OF YOUR PRAYER WALK BEFORE LEAVING FOR CAMPUS

#### GATHER YOUR TEAM TOGETHER

Meet together to pray before your prayer walk. This is a time to share anything you found in your research about the campus or anything you feel God spoke to you. You might also consider printing out a campus map for everyone.

#### PRAY THROUGH PSALM 24

<sup>1</sup>The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, <sup>2</sup>for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

<sup>3</sup>Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
<sup>4</sup>He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.
<sup>5</sup>He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
<sup>6</sup>Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah <sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
<sup>8</sup>Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!
<sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
<sup>10</sup>Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory! Selah

Verses 1-2: Spend time worshipping God and thanking him for who he is. Verses 3-6: Confess ways you relate with the author of the Psalm in these verses. Verses 7-10: Intercede on behalf of the campus you are going to prayer walk.

#### PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

- For divine appointments with people and for a person of peace
- That God will direct and guide your steps
- For open eyes to see the spiritual needs of the campus

#### GATHER ESSENTIALS

Pack your Bible, a notebook, snacks, water bottles, or anything else you need. Make sure you have the campus address and directions on your phone to get there!





### 4. ASK GOD TO REVEAL

FIRST STEP OF YOUR PRAYER WALK WHEN YOU ARRIVE ON THE CAMPUS

#### **READ ACTS 4:24-31**

<sup>24</sup>And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, <sup>25</sup>who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

 "Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?
 <sup>26</sup>The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed'—

<sup>27</sup>for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, <sup>28</sup>to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. <sup>29</sup>And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, <sup>30</sup>while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." <sup>31</sup>And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

#### PRAISE

Sing or listen to a few songs with your team that help you praise God.

#### ASK GOD WHAT HE'S ALREADY DOING THERE

Do some listening prayer, asking God questions such as,

- "Lord, what are YOU praying for this campus?"
- "Who are you moving in here right now?"
- "What are the barriers to your work here?"

Spend time listening and write down anything you hear or feel.

## 5. ASK GOD TO RENEW

SECOND STEP OF YOUR PRAYER WALK ON CAMPUS

#### **READ ACTS 2:37-41**

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" <sup>38</sup>And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." <sup>40</sup>And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." <sup>41</sup>So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

#### **BE ENCOURAGED**

Watch this video, listening to the story, and be inspired by how God might use you on this campus.

#### PRAY FOR RENEWAL OF YOUR OWN FAITH

Pray for God to move deeply in your own heart. Ask him to renew your own faith of what he can do and what he wants to do on campus.

#### **PRAY OPPOSITES**

Did God reveal any barriers to you in Step 4? Pray that the opposite would happen for each barrier.

#### PRAY OVER HISTORIC OR SYMBOLIC SPOTS ON CAMPUS

When you did your research during preparation, were there any historical spots on campus that may need prayer? What about any other spots that stood out to you? Go to those places on campus and pray for them. Pray that God would renew those places. Pray scripture or whatever else comes to mind.

## 6. ASK GOD FOR REVIVAL

THIRD STEP OF YOUR PRAYER WALK ON CAMPUS

#### READ ACTS 10:44-48

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. <sup>46</sup>For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, <sup>47</sup>"Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" <sup>48</sup>And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

#### LEARN WHAT REVIVAL LOOKS LIKE

Watch this video to learn about revivals that happened in the past and how we can see revival again.

#### PRAY AND LISTEN

Ask God to show you what revival would look like on this campus. Write down anything you see or feel.

#### PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS

Pray that Christians already on this campus would be bold, have faith, and be courageous. If there are any Christian groups or churches already on campus, pray this for them as well.

#### PRAY FOR PEOPLE IN POWER

Pray for professors, administrators, student government, and other leaders on campus.

#### TAKE A STEP OF FAITH

Ask God to lead you to particular people on campus. Talk with them and ask them if you can pray for them on the spot. You may consider also getting their contact information. Write down who you met and prayed for, and what happened.





## 7. SHARE WHAT HAPPENED

IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOUR PRAYER WALK ON CAMPUS

#### READ ACTS 14:27

<sup>27</sup>And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.

#### DEBRIEF SILENTLY

When your team gathers back together after your prayer walk, take some time to individually reflect on what you experienced. Write down what happened, how you felt, and how you experienced God.

#### SHARE TOGETHER

After some time has passed, begin sharing what happened together with your group. You can lead the discussion by asking some or all of the following questions:

- What did you notice? What stood out to you?
- Did anything interesting or unusual happen?
- Do you have any cool stories to share?
- Describe what you felt while prayer-walking on campus.
- Do you feel like God spoke anything to you or showed you anything such as scripture or a picture?

# 8. SHARE PRAISES

READ LUKE 10:20-24

<sup>20</sup>Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

<sup>21</sup>In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>22</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

<sup>23</sup>Then turning to the disciples he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! <sup>24</sup>For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it."

#### THANK AND PRAISE GOD

Spend some time thanking God together for how he led you during the prayer walk. Thank him for any scriptures, words, images, or senses he gave you, for any people you met, or for anything else you experienced. You can also praise God together by doing some or all of the following:

- Sing or listen to a worship song to give God praise.
- Be still and silent for a moment together to honor God for what he did.
- One-by-one say one sentence of thanks to God for anything that comes to mind or anything you wrote down that happened: "Thank you God for...".

#### SHARE WITH OTHERS

Is there a message that you'd want to leave for anyone who might prayer walk this campus next? Write it down here:

## 9. SHARE THE VISION

AFTER YOUR PRAYER WALK ON CAMPUS

#### **READ THESSALONIANS 1:7-8**

<sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything.

#### DETERMINE NEXT STEPS

It's important that we act on anything God speaks to us or shows us. And with EveryCampus, our hope is that every college campus that is prayer-walked will have a campus ministry planted at it. Maybe the person to plant is you!

Spend some time talking with your team about next steps. You can facilitate this discussion by asking the following questions:

- Is there a specific invitation from God for any of us to start something new here on this campus?
- Is there a time when we can come back (to meet up with anyone we met, pray again, follow up)?
- Is there anyone we should bring back here with us?

Consider going back to everycampus.us to download our Movement Resources. These will equip and coach you to start something on campus. You can also go to <u>Cru.org</u> or <u>InterVarsity.org</u> for more coaching, help, and resources.

#### GET THE WORD OUT

Discuss in your group if there's any way you can encourage others with EveryCampus. Think through these questions:

- Who else in your network needs to do this on a campus somewhere else in the country? Share the everycampus.us with them.
- Consider sharing what you experienced on social media! Take a photo with your team on the campus, tell the story of what happened in your post, and link everycampus.us.
- Tell others about your experience in person! Share about it at church or in another Christian community you're a part of and tell your friends.