

# ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

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## Praying Across North America

Thank you for committing to mobilize people in your congregation to prayerwalk. **We are praying for every heart and every mile of North America, focusing specifically on those who need a relationship with Jesus Christ.** Before you begin, you may ask the question, “What is prayerwalking and how do I do it?” Here are some thoughts as you prepare your people:

- 1. Pray with *insight*.** Some people have defined prayerwalking as praying on-site with insight. While keeping your eyes open is important while prayerwalking, praying with insight is much more. Be aware of where you are praying. What do you see along the journey? Do you see children’s toys? Then pray for that family. Do you see a street lamp? Pray that people will discover the light of Christ and that believers will be a light to the world.
- 2. Pray with *intentionality*.** While we should always be sensitive to how the Holy Spirit leads us to pray, March 20 is a day to intentionally pray for those who need a personal relationship with Christ. Begin now to pray specifically for those in your community who need to hear the gospel.
- 3. Pray with the heart of an *intercessor*.** An intercessor is someone who “stands in the gap”—a gap between one person and their need for God or for God to work in their life. As people prayerwalk, look for opportunities to pray specifically with people and for people’s needs.
- 4. Pray with *information*.** Do you know who lives in your community?
  - How many single parents are there?
  - What kind of crime rate is in your community?
  - What unreached people groups are living in your town?
  - Learn and be open to learning about the “hidden” needs in your community.
- 5. Pray with *inspiration*.**
  - Prayerwalk with Scripture verses.
  - Pray God’s promises. The way to pray the will of God is to pray the Word of God.
- 6. Pray for the *impossible* and expect God to answer!**
  - Do we limit God and His ability to answer prayer?
  - Are you praying for those who are lost with faith that God can redeem anyone? Ephesians 3:20 and Hebrews 11:6

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## Prayer Guide for Churches March 20, 2010

- 1. Enlist a prayer coordinator for your church.** Seek out someone who already prays consistently to be your church coordinator and organize this effort.
- 2. Create prayerwalk routes.** These will be used later for distribution in gospel saturation.
- 3. Enlist prayerwalkers within your church.** Have a sign-up sheet for people to commit to prayerwalk on Saturday, March 20. Encourage members of all ages and stages of life to participate. Ask for the following information:
  - a. Name and contact information
  - b. Do they plan to walk alone or would they like to be part of a group?
  - c. Do they have an area where they would commit to prayerwalk? Make suggestions such as neighborhoods, schools, community centers, and public places. Remind people they can walk, run, or even drive!
- 4. Organize people who would like to prayerwalk in groups.** If you organize prayerwalking groups, keep the groups small in size, between two to four people, and divide them into different areas of town.
- 5. Offer resources that will prepare people to prayerwalk.** See the list of Prayerwalking Resources suggested on page 9.
- 6. Plan an organizational meeting to answer any questions from participants.** Distribute any resources that might help your participants. Encourage each participant to keep track of the number of miles completed for celebration purposes.
- 7. On Saturday, March 20, prayerwalk!** Keep track of all of your miles (using a pedometer). Even if a group completes 10 miles, count the miles for each individual. (For instance, if your group of two walks two miles, then you will report a total of four miles). Use this information to celebrate your team accomplishments in walking and praying.

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## 8. Gather materials.

- If you have a local prayer coordinator in your association, contact this person for reproducible pocket prayer guides and artwork that you can use to promote **Praying Across North America**. If not, refer to number two.
- Visit the GPS or North American Mission Board Web sites and look for the “Taking Prayer to the Streets” information. Their web sites are *www.GPS2020.net* and *www.namb.net/prayer* and this information is provided in several different languages. There is a brief training guide included.
- Popular Resources:
  - *Prayerwalking: Praying On Site with Insight* by Steve Hawthorne and Graham Kendrick, published by Strang Communications, 1993.
  - *Follow Me: Lessons for Becoming a Prayerwalker* by Randy Sprinkle, New Hope Publishers, 2001.
  - *A Journey of Faith: Prayerwalking* by Dan Crawford and Calvin Miller, AMG Publishers, 2002.
  - Taking Prayer to the Streets: Prayer Journeys (NAMB) *www.GPS2020.net* or *www.namb.net/prayer*
  - Praying Your Friends to Christ (NAMB) *www.GPS2020.net* or *www.namb.net/prayer*
  - Taking Prayer to the Streets One-Hour Training Prayerwalking Tool (NAMB) *www.GPS2020.net* or *www.namb.net/prayer*

## Suggested Ways to Pray

### 1. Sample Prayer

*“Lord, we pray for this home and for Your Spirit to draw them into seeking the truth. I see a boat there and pray that while this family is on the boat that Your Spirit will prompt them to seek You. I see the children’s bicycles and pray that the children will grow in the wisdom and stature of the Lord. We pray for the congregation to be able to follow-through with these people and that they will be responsive.”*

### 2. Praying for Personal Spiritual Needs

- Pray in repentance and belief in Christ. (Mark 1:15)
- Pray in confession of sin. (1 John 1:9)
- Pray for our daily bread. (Luke 11:3)
- Pray that we can forgive everyone. (Luke 11:4a)
- Pray that we will not be led into temptation. (Luke 11:4b)
- Pray for God’s will and not our will to be done in our lives. (Luke 22:42)
- Pray for the fruit of the Spirit to characterize all that we say and do. (Gal. 5:22-23)

### 3. Praying for Lost People

- Pray with praise and thanksgiving. (Ps. 100:4; 1 Tim. 2:4)
- Pray according to the promises of His Word. (2 Pet. 3:9; 1 John 5:14; Mark 10:27)
- Pray for laborers. (Luke 10:2)
- Pray remembering where you once were. (Eph. 2:4-8)