

MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH PRAYER IDEAS FOR SMALL GROUPS OR CHURCHES

BIBLE



Use the Bible as much as possible in prayer. You may find the following texts helpful: Psalm 17:8, 9 - Habakkuk 1:5 - Psalm 79:11 - Hebrews 13:3 - Psalm 146:7-9 - Jeremiah 15:15 - Deuteronomy 10:18-19 - Isaiah 16:4 - Isaiah 1:17.

Meditate on Bible texts and speak them out in prayer. Proclaim them before God; ask Him to inspire you. This will build your faith and God can give you new insights for prayer based on His Word.

PRAY



Introduce a variety of ways to pray into any one session. For example:

- Break up into small groups of 2 or 3 people to pray through prayer points
- Read a pre-prepared prayer aloud altogether as one group
- Have a time of quiet reflection for people to lift situations to God
- Everyone pray aloud together
- One person lead the group in a prayer

ORGANISE



Use as much visual and interactive material as possible from www.opendoorsuk.org/pray
Here are some ideas depending on the time you have available:

• **Up to 10 minutes:**

Use the latest email prayer alert, encouraging people to sign up so they can keep up to date or, in the case of a weekly meeting, read it in advance.

• **Up to 20 minutes:**

Play sections from Prayer Ministry News CD/Tape or download relevant parts from the website. Use the Open Doors magazine where appropriate for accompanying photos or background information.

• **Up to 40 minutes:**

Focus on a particular country using prayer points and background information found in special reports on www.opendoorsuk.org/pray If time, use World Watch videos from the country also. Break for prayer at regular intervals giving information in bite sized chunks. Use info from the latest prayer campaign and publications such as North Korea Freedom Week, Ramadan initiative, International Day of Prayer for the persecuted church etc.

• **Up to 1 hour or more:**

As well as all of the above, include music, food or even dress from the country concerned to help inspire your prayers. Youtube is a useful source of music from around the world.

LEAD



Choose one person to be the leader/facilitator of the group for each time of prayer. This person can give direction and cohesion to the group. It is helpful if the group focuses its prayer on one subject area at a time, rather than constantly changing focus. Each person should wait before moving on to a different topic, allowing each one to pray their prayers over the current subject area.

“ I TELL YOU THAT IF TWO OF YOU ON EARTH AGREE ABOUT ANYTHING YOU ASK FOR, IT WILL BE DONE FOR YOU BY MY FATHER IN HEAVEN. FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE COME TOGETHER IN MY NAME, THERE AM I WITH THEM ”
Matthew 18:19-20

