

House Church

Prayer Model

Welcome (1 minute)

Greet everyone and thank them for coming. You can personalize the greeting or say something like this:

We hope you experience Jesus and his Spirit tonight as we pray and that each one of us would see the tangible Presence of God working in our lives as we worship him, and he answers our prayers. We encourage you to enter this time of prayer with faith and expectation that our prayers can move God's heart and the mountains in our lives, our ministry, and the world around us.

We're going to begin with a time of worship and testimony. This is a time to give Jesus glory and honor with song, prayers of thanksgiving or praise, or scripture, as well as good news sharing and testimony. We'll have a time of silence to invite the Holy Spirit to speak to us about any ways that he wants us to pray, and then we'll present some corporate topics to pray about. We'll then divide into small groups to pray our personal needs so we can pray one for another.

Worship (10 minutes)

Select one mode of worship:

Songs: Provide two songs for everyone to sing. Select songs that specifically allow for worship, i.e. *How Great is Our God*. You can also share songs about prayer, i.e. *God of Possible*. You can include songs in a different language to inspire worshippers from other cultures. Be sure to bring the lyrics, translations, and music for everyone to follow and send a link, if possible.

Scripture: Select a passage in the Bible to read and invite others to praise the Lord through scripture. Old Testament verses can be found in Psalms, Isaiah, while the first chapters of many New Testament books also offer passages of praise, i.e. Ephesians 1:3-9 or Colossians 1:15-23. Invite two or three others to join you in prayers of praise and thanksgiving over the truths found in the passage.

Recitation: In Revelation 4, we see the elders in heaven laying their crowns at Jesus's feet and worshipping by repeating this verse:

*¹¹ You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being. (NIV)*

Recitation is reading a passage over and over again together until the Word of God goes from our heads to our hearts. From there, we can speak aloud our own personal prayers of praise. Invite one or two others to join you in praying a prayer of praise after the recitation.

Testimony, Good News Sharing, and Thanksgiving (10 minutes)

We continue our worship by giving a few people a chance to share a testimony, some good news from the week, or something they are thankful for. The person who shares can also say a brief prayer of praise or thanksgiving over what they shared.

Silence (3 minutes)

Before breaking into our small groups, we'll ask everyone to quiet their minds and ask the Holy Spirit to bring to our minds anything that the Spirit wants us to pray, whether it's for ourselves, others, the ministry, our community, or our world.

During this time, you can play some quiet, calming instrumental music that is not distracting. To add a touch of culture for our international friends, select a song from a country where some of our members were born. You can allow the music to play through the remainder of the time, if it doesn't distract others. Keep the volume very low, and be sure to loop the song so that it doesn't end abruptly. Also, please select videos without ads.

Samples: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=feAkTmlr0bo> (American)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwyXQO0tSW4> (Chinese)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g_LNp8xY1YM (Indian)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDmhwl6EHM> (Christian theme)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7uitqQFmJg> (Christian melodies)

Corporate Prayer (15 minutes)

Assigning different people to pray or praying in smaller groups, you can ask the group to pray collectively over various corporate needs, such as the needs of the ministry, community, city, state, nation(s), or world. Encourage everyone to pray with faith for miracles and for mighty ways for Jesus to show himself, his love, and his power in these situations. In addition to praying for your ministry and/or church, select at least one other area to consider (or other topics as needs arise):

Ministry / Church: Pray over specific *needs* of the ministry and/or church, including individuals that need corporate prayer and general needs of the group, i.e. jobs, health, exams, etc. Be sure to check the ministry calendar for upcoming events. Check with the group leader for additional needs.

Pray over the *vision* of the ministry / church (i.e. pray for a certain number of leaders to rise up and start new groups, more servants in a certain area, salvations and baptisms, more wisdom in a certain area, other areas of vision). Try to be as specific as possible so that the hand of God is visible as he answers these requests. Check with the group leader for other areas of vision.=

Community: Community may include people at work or school and various outreach programs that your group is doing to reach people in the community. Pray over upcoming events, but be specific about what you really want to see happen in these communities.

City and State: Consider the needs and vision of your city and state, even as it relates to your ministry or church.

Nation(s) and the World: Check the news for important events or issues to pray over. You can even ask internationals in your group how you can pray for their country.

Personal Prayer Breakouts (20 minutes)

Divide the group into smaller groups of two or three. You can also divide men with men and women with women from time to time. Encourage the group to share their personal, family, or outreach needs as well as personal dreams and goals with their group. This should also be a safe time to confess sin, struggles, fears, and doubts so we can strengthen one another. Our job is not to counsel, but just to encourage and pray. If counsel is needed, direct the person to the group leader who can identify the best person for any advice that needs to be given. Let everyone know that they will hear a bell when it is time to wrap up the time.

Closing Prayer (1 minute)

Ring a bell 2 minutes before the Personal Prayer Breakouts end. Give everyone one minute to finish their prayer and then begin the closing prayer thanking Jesus for the time together. Here is a bell sound if you need it: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/XWIehBNmOas?feature=share>

Please [let us know](#) if any of the links no longer work.