

## Praying for others - Creative ways to pray

Visual or activity prompts to encourage individual and group prayers for friends, family, community, nation and the whole world.

*'I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.'* 1 Timothy 2: 1-4

### **BIRTHDAY PRAYER BOARD**

Put up a wall calendar and add the names of people you would like to pray for on their date of birth. Include family, friends, church workers, teachers, leaders etc. Use this visual prompt for individual or group prayer.

### **PRAYERS IN A HAT**

Ask everyone in the group to put their name on a piece of paper and place into a hat or another convenient container. Then pass the hat around the group and ask each person to take out a piece of paper. Encourage them to pray for that person during the coming week.

### **THE PEOPLE CROSS**

Write the name of a friend, work colleague or family member they wish to pray for, on a large drawing of a cross. Place the cross on a table and stand in a circle around the cross. Have each person pray for the person they named. Invite them to softly speak out their individual prayers together. Encourage them to pray,

- For any needs that each friend may have
- That each friend will become more open to God
- That each friend will become a follower of Jesus
- That God would use you to reach your friends.

### **NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, WEST**

Grab a compass. Alone or as a group face each of these directions in turn and then pray together in silence, or out loud, for any specific needs, personal, individual, local, national, global in that direction. Find out where the missionaries from your church, or those you support, are working and pray for them as you face the direction of their mission field.

### **PRAYER WALK**

Go for a walk around your neighborhood or town. As you walk make notes of the things you see i.e. particular homes, schools, shops, people. Consider and discuss possible prayer needs for each. Pray right there and then, and/or write up your list of locations and prayer topics to use again.

### **PRAYER MAPS**

Place a large map of your city, state, country or globe of the world in the center of the room or on a table. Pray for leaders of all kinds. Highlight nations where you know missionaries and Christian ministries working to reach people with the Gospel. If you wish, ask members of the group to research certain nations and bring prayer requests from the information they have gathered.

### **CANDLE IN THE DARK**

Darken the room except for a single lighted candle. In silence, pray for the suffering church - for isolated and persecuted believers, for God's grace and strength to fill their lives.