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# PRAYER STAND EVANGELISM



Luke 10:2b The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. NKJV

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## A GUIDE BY:

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# Components to a successful evangelistic event using the Prayer Stand

## Materials

1. Prayer Stand bag.
2. Extra gospel tracts.
3. Chairs (Please bring a few extra for those you'll be talking to at the event. Make them welcome to sit by inviting them.) You may choose to stand at your event as well, but I would bring a few chairs just in case.
4. Water and snacks
5. Information about local churches or your church.
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

## Before you go out:

1. Months/weeks:
  - a. Enlist your group and begin praying with them.
  - b. Enlist a prayer team who will pray with you prior to the event and pray for you while you are evangelizing.
  - c. Plan your event, budget, and learn from others.
  - d. Gather tracts and material. Use material that you are familiar with or schedule a training with practice time included.
2. Weeks/days:
  - a. Update your prayer team with any requests.
  - b. Scout out the area prior to the event if possible.
  - c. Read scripture, pray, and prepare for spiritual battle. Put on the armor of God through prayer in Eph 6. 10-20. Pay particular attention to verses 19 and 20-*boldly*.
3. Day of the event:
  - a. Pray
  - b. Load material, water, and snacks
  - c. Engage lostness through prayer, scripture reading, and bold evangelism.

- d. Record notes for the future.
- e. Share what you've learned with Toby. :) (<https://tobydehay.com/about/>)

## Practice

1. Practice setting up the stand beforehand. You will be completely frustrated if you show up the day of the event without opening the prayer stand bag to see what is in it and learning to set up the stand.
2. Here's a quick video to help you set it up. <https://youtu.be/dRzzJDglcuU>
3. Practice your actual set-up. The stand, chairs, tracts, free water, snacks, etc. What does it look like? Is it inviting? Do you have the tracts you need? Make notes as you practice. You may be reminded that you'll be in a windy area and you'll need to tether the stand down or attach it to a vehicle.
4. Practice handing out some tracts. There is an art to this.
  - a. Smile, extend your hand toward someone, and say, "did you get one of these yet?" "God bless you! Have a good day!" "Here you go miss. I hope you have a great day!"
  - b. Have a decent stack in your hand.
  - c. If the first person in a group takes a tract, the chances that everyone else will too goes up. The reverse is true. If the first person in a group declines, so will everyone else.
5. Practice using the tracts. Someone will ask you, "what is this?" "It's a gospel tract. It shares about the hope that is found in Jesus. Do you have a few minutes to chat?"

## The Event Day

1. Find a good location that is easily visible. You may need to adjust the height on the "Prayer" part of the stand up to be as visible as possible.
2. Show up to the event in comfortable, clean, conservative clothing. Nothing says, "I don't want prayer from those people," like a person looking like they have not showered, are wearing an offensive shirt (I even like to take care about the sports teams I wear that day. I usually opt for the local team, or no team.), or are even over-dressed. I'm probably not going to chat it up with the group in suits and dresses at the local fair! Think about your context. Where are you and what is the general dress code?
3. Wear comfortable shoes and socks. You may be on your feet for a bit.
4. Bring breath mints. Use them. Nobody wants to taste your latte or yesterday's garlic bread. :)

5. Never chew gum.
6. Leave your sunglasses in your bag if possible. People like to see your eyes when they are talking to you.
7. Place your phone on “Do Not Disturb” or in your back pocket on silent. Stay off your phone while waiting for people.
8. Keep your Bible handy. Read it when there is a lull in the crowd. Use passages like Jn 3: 1-21; Jn 4:1-42; Ps. 23; Acts 3 and others. People may ask, “what are you reading?” These passages are great starters toward the gospel.
9. Use your Notes app or a paper notebook to record prayer requests.
10. Smile!! My friend was handing out some tracts at an event and a person came up to him and said, “I don’t want one of those, but I bet I could give away more than you.” My friend said, “How?” The man said, “I’d put a smile on my face and act like these things are going to make a difference in someone’s life!! You look miserable!”
11. Position yourselves.
  - a. Have a few people at the prayer stand. Face away from each other if possible. You are there to pray and engage others, not fellowship. I visit many churches each year and everyone of them says they are friendly. Friendly with each other. Small groups of friends gather together and the visitor is often left out. Speak to people and engage folks. Smile!
  - b. Include 2-3 people handing out tracts and engaging people 10-15yds from the stand.
  - c. Watch out for one another. Look for danger or anything the group should be aware of while you are there.
12. If you are alone, grab a chair, a cooler of water, and hang out by the prayer stand. When you aren’t handing out tracts, ask people if you can pray for them.
13. Take a few pictures of your setup and some action shots of people being prayed for as appropriate. Use these to encourage members to share their faith through prayer evangelism. Share the pictures during bi-annual or annual celebration events. Pictures tell the story!
14. If you are using the prayer stand on public property and are not at an event, be careful that you don’t appear to be soliciting (<http://www.sosmin.com/pdf/Legal-Issues-Evangelism.pdf>). You can do this by simply waiting for people to come to you or walk by you. Your First Amendment right is in play here. **Please don’t use this as an excuse to win an argument today with a lost person.** When people get upset, I apologize and turn my attention elsewhere. They may call the police, but this is okay. Either the police will ask you to move along or will let the person know that what you are doing is constitutionally protected. I’ll leave it up to you to decide if you want to move along or argue with the police. In an extremely busy area, I would thank the police and move down 50-100yds. On threat of arrest I would pack up and go

home for the day. **Please don't damage your witness and the potential future witness on the chance that you will "educate" someone on the law with the prayer stand.**

## Praying Evangelistically

1. Listen to their prayer request and lift that up to the Lord with them present.
2. Toward the end of your prayer you may pray evangelistically like this, "Father, I thank you for allowing me to pray with Alison today. Thank you for sending Your Son to die in our place on the cross and offer us grace that is found in Him. Lord, I pray that today Alison will turn from her sin, believe the gospel, and place her faith and trust in You. Amen."
  - a. At this point you may ask Alison if she has a minute to listen to a quick 3-minute gospel presentation like these:
    - i. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5W8ynRMr59k&t=25s>
    - ii. <https://www.namb.net/evangelism/life-on-mission-app/>
    - iii. <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/1cross/id597798507> (English and multi-language videos for iPhone and Android)
    - iv. The use of an evangelistic app on your phone is super helpful, but you need to be familiar with it. Practice with a friend several times. If you are not comfortable using an app, use a paper tract. The person with whom you are sharing is likely not going to be that forgiving if you are fumbling with your phone.
  - b. If Alison does not have time (or is not interested), offer her a gospel tract with a smile.
    - i. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LNCyQdpehME&t=147s>
    - ii. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgRp09XvGGg&t=11s>
3. Be sensitive to what their body language is telling you.
  - a. The Holy Spirit might have directed them over to you because they have a spiritual need. Share the hope that you have within you!
  - b. Their body language may be saying, "I don't know you, stay away."

## What to do when:

1. **Law enforcement shows up:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbUy6q7LStQ>
  - a. Be courteous.
  - b. Share the gospel with them.
  - c. Listen to their concerns.
  - d. Protect your witness and the witness of those who may be sharing in the future.
2. **People are upset that you are there:** Thank them for stopping by and turn your attention toward a friend or your Bible. Simply do not engage them. Have the local police phone number programmed in your phone just in case of emergency or they become abusive.
3. **No one wants to receive prayer:** Read your Bible, pray for those walking by, for the community in general, for the salvation of people in the homes you can see, etc.
4. **Kids come up to the stand with no adult in sight:** BE CAREFUL WHEN TALKING TO CHILDREN. My rule is that I'm not going to be alone with a child or offer them anything without their parent's consent. "I'd love to give you one of these, let's ask mom/dad." "Can the little one have a cartoon booklet?" "That's a cute smile on your son. Can he have a kids gospel booklet?"  
<https://livingwaters.com/store/gospel-tracts/albert-brainstein/>

## What to do after the event:

1. Pray for the requests immediately after the event.
2. Record the prayer requests for a prayer team.
3. Meet with the team to learn: what went well, what could you have done better, what challenges did you face, how can you use this type of evangelism in the future? Record your notes for the next event, and share what you've learned with Toby so he can share with others! (<https://tobydehay.com/about/>)
4. Put the prayer stand back in the bag just as you found it. Replace, replenish the tracts/material.
5. Pick up all the trash in your area; even if it's not yours.
6. Send a "Thank You!" to the event organizer if applicable.

## Examples in sharing:

1. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZaGvi\\_kGpY&t=56s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZaGvi_kGpY&t=56s) (sharing using the million dollar bill)
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMAEs1VT58o> (Notice how kind and persistent this young lady is handing out tracts)
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=viYsrLqhJ5E> (2 minute gospel tract video)
4. <https://tobydehay.com/2022/05/03/gospel-tracts-i-have-produced/> (Tracts Toby DeHay has produced)
5. <https://tobydehaycom.files.wordpress.com/2021/02/why-tracts-feb2021.docx.pdf> (Gospel Tracts: A Compilation of Helpful Hints)

## 12 Intercessory Prayers<sup>1</sup>

**Romans 10:1 (NIV)**

**Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved**

**Matthew 9:37-38 (NIV)**

**Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.**

*(Intervarsity)* Evangelism without intercession is mechanistic, as if evangelism is something we control without God's help. Intercession without evangelism is unfaithful, because we deny the role God has called each of us to in making disciples of all nations.

If you have friends and family whom you'd like to see become new believers, you can ***add power to your witness by committing to praying for them as you witness.***

Ready to get started? Each of ***the 12 prayers below ask God to move in the life of the person you're praying for in a specific way***, and they each closely paraphrase a relevant Scripture passage. Just insert the person's name in the spaces provided and put your heart into each prayer.

*(Toby)* As you encounter someone at the prayer stand/event, try to discern if they are in one of these five Thresholds (trust, curiosity, open to change, seeking, or following). There is no need to memorize these prayers. Feel free to read over them and give yourself an idea of what you might say to a person who is coming to you for prayer.

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from <https://evangelism.intervarsity.org/resource/12-intercessional-prayers>

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*Threshold 1 (trust)*

1. God, help me build a caring relationship with \_\_\_\_\_.

Help me become whatever kind of Christ-like servant \_\_\_\_\_ can identify with so that by all possible means he will be saved. (1 Corinthians 9:22)

2. God, send people into \_\_\_\_\_ life to witness to her.

Send more believers into \_\_\_\_\_'s life who will exemplify Christ and cause her to want to know Christ for herself. (Matthew 9:38)

*Threshold 2 (curiosity)*

3. God, bring me opportunities to witness to \_\_\_\_\_.

Open doors for proclaiming the mystery of Christ to \_\_\_\_\_, even in our present difficult circumstances. (Colossians 4:3)

4. God, give me boldness to witness to \_\_\_\_\_.

Enable me to speak your word to \_\_\_\_\_ with great boldness. (Acts 4:29)

*Threshold 3 (open to change)*

5. God, open \_\_\_\_\_'s spiritual eyes.

Break the blindness on \_\_\_\_\_'s mind caused by the god of this age. Help him see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (2 Corinthians 4:4)

6. God, help \_\_\_\_\_ realize their spiritual hunger and desire for change in their life.

Break complacency in \_\_\_\_\_'s mind and help her to want to see change in her life. (John 4:15)

*Threshold 4 (seeking)*

7. God, make \_\_\_\_\_'s heart receptive to your Word.

Like the seed that falls on good soil, give \_\_\_\_\_ a noble and good heart, help him hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop. (Luke 8:11-15)

8. God, give \_\_\_\_\_ ears to hear.

Help \_\_\_\_\_ see with her eyes, hear with her ears, understand with her heart and turn, and you will heal her. (Matthew 13:15)

9. God, set \_\_\_\_\_ free from spiritual captivity.

Help me gently instruct \_\_\_\_\_ when he is in opposition to you, in the hope that you will grant him repentance leading him to knowledge of the truth, and that he will come to his senses and escape from the trap of the devil. (2 Timothy 2:25-26)

*Threshold 5 (following)*

10. God, give \_\_\_\_\_ faith to believe.

Help \_\_\_\_\_ make a radical life-change before God and an equally radical trust in her Master Jesus. (Acts 20:21)

11. God, give \_\_\_\_\_ the will to respond to you.

Bring \_\_\_\_\_ to the point he declares with his mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believes in his heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, and he will be saved. (Romans 10:9)

12. God, provide an opportunity to invite \_\_\_\_\_ to a relationship with you.

You want your house full, so give me the opportunity and boldness to invite \_\_\_\_\_ to come home to you. (Luke 14:23)

Notes: