

Praying 4 You: A Four-Step Plan for Personal and Small Group Prayer Evangelism

What is the Praying 4 You: A Four-step Plan for Prayer Evangelism?

Praying 4 You: A Four-step Plan for Personal and Small Group Prayer Evangelism comes out of the teaching of Jesus, as he sent out the 72 to preach the gospel in Luke 10. In this plan Small Group members persistently pray for at least three unbelieving households personally and corporately in their Small Group gatherings.

1. Pray 4 laborers – Ask God for a heart sensitive and aware to non-believers, to increase your concern for the lost, and to use you to introduce non-believers to Jesus Christ.

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Luke 10:2

2. Pray 4 God's peace and blessing - Pray for at least three non-believers within your circle of influence—family, friends, neighbors, or co-workers, persistently asking the Father to bless them and bring peace to their lives.

"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.'" Luke 10:5

3. Pray 4 opportunities to develop authentic relationships - Invest your life in theirs building genuine friendship and sharing your life.

Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you. Luke 10:7

4. Pray 4 their requests - Invite your non-believing friends to share their prayer requests with you. Ask them how you can pray for them and then pray persistently both personally and corporately with your Small Group for God to work in their lives.

And tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.' Luke 10:9

How does the Praying 4 You: A Four-step Plan for Prayer Evangelism work?

List below the three unbelieving persons you sense the Lord wants you to focus your prayer and life on:

Prepare the ground by praying, asking the Father to show his favor to your three friends in the following three ways:

1. That this would be the year of the Lord's favor in their lives.
2. That God would pour out his blessing and peace in their lives.
3. That the Father would draw them to the Son and reveal the presence of Jesus to them.

After you have prayed for your non-believing friends and invested time in building your relationship with them, approach them and tell them that you are a part of a Small Group that is praying for people and/or the neighborhood. Then ask them:

1. How can we pray for the neighborhood?
2. How can we pray for your family?
3. How can we pray for you?

Ask the Father to act in a miraculous way in answer to your prayer requests. Continue to pray for God's blessing, peace and an encounter with the presence of Jesus. After you and your Small Group have started praying, every two to three weeks tell your friend you have been praying for them and ask them about their request. Rejoice with them when prayers have been answered, continue to pray for requests not yet answered, and ask for additional requests. As you pray, the Kingdom of God will become a reality in your life, in the life of your friends, and in your neighborhood. Be ready to share the gospel with your non-believing friends when God gives the opportunity.

This plan is such a wonderful method of evangelism because of the focus of this effort on Prayer.

1. Pray for God to raise up laborers in your small group (which would most likely include yourselves).
2. Pray for God's peace and blessing to be upon the people and homes of those who need Christ.
3. Pray for God to move in such a miraculous way in their lives that they might have little reason to doubt His love and power.
4. Pray for God to use you to draw non-believers toward him and to give you the boldness to share the gospel when he gives the opportunity.

The plan is simple, yet creates such a profound impact. Cry out to God to prepare the field for harvest; ask Him to raise up laborers to go into the fields (that's you and your Small Group); ask God to empower you to plant the seeds of the Gospel through your living and your praying and then ask for God to bring in the harvest to come. By using this method of evangelism we are admitting our dependence on God and expecting Him to move in a powerful way. He desires to use us to draw our non-believing friends and neighbors to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.