



*"From the Neighborhoods to the Nations and From the Workplace to the World -
Transforming Our Cities for Christ through United Prayer"*

Dear Potential WPI Leader,

Re: Starting a WPI neighborhood prayer group

Praise God for you and your interest to serve Him in WPI as a Prayer Guide and/or Prayer Hostess; and most especially praise Him for your heart to see Jesus' prayer in John 17:20-23 fulfilled before He comes again - *that we may be one so that the world will know Him*. The WPI groups come together once a month in neighborhoods or workplaces for "kingdom praying" across denominations, races and cultures - Protestant and Catholic, charismatic and non-charismatic. God has used our guidelines to keep women focused on the prayer topics, praying in one accord, and thus developing sisterhood relationships - to Him be the glory!

After you prayerfully review this Leadership Package (7 documents), please complete the leadership application and return it to us. We are requesting a suggested donation of \$10.00 for the Prayer Kit which we will send mail you upon receipt of your application. If you are local, you may want to pick it up at our office. We believe that the material in this application package along with the material in the Prayer Member Handbook will guide you in your responsibilities as a Prayer Guide or Prayer Hostess. *When you receive the Prayer Kit, please prayerfully read a Prayer Member Handbook*. When you distribute a handbook to each woman in your group, please encourage them to also prayerfully read it. If you do not have someone to partner with now, you may choose to guide and hostess a group yourself, while we "pray her in."

The Prayer Kit Includes:

- Prayer Member Handbooks (10)
- Steps to Peace with God (10) An evangelical tract written by Billy Graham (inserted in each handbook).
- Current Prayer Focus (10) Written twice a year by our President for January – June and July – December.
- Prayer Group Roster form (2) Keeping a record of your ladies. This form can also be emailed to you upon request.
We ask that you send the Roster twice year by scanning and emailing or mailing it around January and June.
- Brochures with Invite form (20) - for both Prayer Guide and Prayer Hostess to invite women.

We pray you will be inviting women in your neighborhood from various Christian churches with diverse prayer styles. If you readily embrace and apply the information you will be receiving, your group will be viable, ongoing and will remain committed to pray for the transformation of your city and nation for Christ. The WPI website will help to further familiarize you with our ministry. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us. *Our prayers are with you for God to use you as a vessel to unite His body through united prayer - unto His glory!* Our hope is that you will soon be led to complete, sign, and return the application!

Your sister in Christ,

Joan Courtney, President

Enclosures: Leadership Guidelines

- Qualifications of a WPI Neighborhood Prayer Guide
- Prayer Meeting Responsibilities of a WPI Neighborhood Prayer Guide
- Qualifications of a WPI Neighborhood Prayer Hostess
- Prayer Meeting Responsibilities of a WPI Neighborhood Prayer Hostess
- Prayer Meeting Guidelines
- Neighborhood Leadership Application

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LEADERSHIP GUIDELINES

The WPI Leader:

- has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and can communicate her salvation experience and her walk with Christ to others.
- is an active member of a local church that professes the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- understands that her everyday lifestyle and demeanor represent Christ, her church and WPI.
- commits to pray regularly for her city and nation, the ministry of WPI, and the ladies in her group.
- agrees with the WPI Statement of Faith. *See Statement of Faith below.*
- follows the United Prayer Guidelines when praying with a WPI group. *See United Prayer Guidelines below.*
- maintains regular communication with WPI leadership and those she leads.
- is loyal and supportive of WPI leaders and seeks counsel from them when necessary.
- commits to serving in WPI leadership for a minimum of one year. Prayer meetings are one hour in length, monthly or weekly, as determined by the Prayer Guide and Prayer Hostess.
- understands the time commitment required for leadership and will make WPI a priority when scheduling other activities.
- follows WPI principles and will inspire others in WPI to do so.
- is faithful to assure that those under her leadership receive WPI material or announcements in a timely manner.
- makes it a priority to attend the WPI annual events held in San Antonio. (Texas only) Women's Call to Prayer and luncheon, Leadership Conference, and our Celebration Dinner (*annual fundraising event*) in the fall, or other scheduled WPI events.
- reads and regularly reviews the WPI material specific to her position.
- understands that the unauthorized use of the name, Women's Prayer International, or logo is prohibited.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

As women united in Christ we believe that:

- There is one Eternal God existing in the Trinity of three persons as shown from Genesis to Revelation – “God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.”
- The Bible is God's infallible, irrefutable Word.
- The sacred union of marriage is between one man and one woman.
- Life begins at conception.
- God created the heavens and the earth by the power of His spoken Word.
- Jesus Christ is God who became flesh through a Holy Spirit conception and virgin birth.
- Man is sinful and cannot save himself from eternal separation from God.
- Jesus Christ's death on the cross is the only provision for man's sin.
- Salvation is through faith in Jesus Christ by individually repenting of sin and receiving Him into one's life as Savior and Lord.
- Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, His Body, which is composed of all men and women, living and dead who have been joined to Him through saving faith.
- Jesus died, was buried, arose from the grave, walked among men, ascended into heaven, and indwells every Believer.
- Jesus is one day returning for His Bride, the Church, to consummate God's eternal plan for mankind.

UNITED PRAYER GUIDELINES

(Permission granted to reprint from Every Home for Christ - Dick Eastman)

Remember that the moment two or more of us unite in prayer, we become a symphony. As such:

- We blend together in unity respecting the fact that we represent all of Christ's body.
- We realize that, like a symphony with its different instruments, there are a wide variety of traditions when it comes to prayer.
- We commit ourselves to accepting one another as we are, while disciplining ourselves to use wisdom and caution if we think anything we might do would offend a brother or sister.

Please Note: WPI requests that those who have a prayer language use it silently. When praying aloud, please pray so that everyone can understand the words to be able to pray in agreement with all the prayers spoken – praying as one voice. (Romans 14:19)



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QUALIFICATIONS OF A WPI NEIGHBORHOOD PRAYER GUIDE

A woman who:

- has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and communicates her salvation experience and walk with Christ to others.
- is an active member of a church in her city which professes the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- lives a life of purity, humility and integrity before God and man.
- is a sweet-spirited person who will gently keep the prayer meeting within WPI guidelines.
- has a servant's heart for prayer and is dependent on the Holy Spirit as she guides the women in prayer.
- understands and embraces the need to maintain communication with her Prayer Hostess, the Prayer Members in her group, and those at the WPI headquarters.

***IN ESSENTIALS - ONENESS
IN NON-ESSENTIALS - LOVE
ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD***

***"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
and all these things will be added to you."***

Matthew 6:33

The Vision

Sisters in Christ across the world united in prayer in their neighborhoods or places of work,
with a holy desperation for Jesus' prayer in John 17:20-23
to be fulfilled for *their* city and nation in our lifetime.

The Mission

*We, as co-laborers in the Body of Christ, commit ourselves to be used of God
to redeem a lost world unto Himself as we unite with one heart
to pray across denominations, races and cultures, not forsaking our own assembly.*

†

*By the Spirit of Christ, we will persevere and trust God
for the increase of passionate intercessors and an overflowing harvest of souls.*

**May the fruit of our lives encourage and motivate each woman
in the body of Christ to come together in united prayer to glorify God!**



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PRAYER MEETING RESPONSIBILITIES OF A WPI NEIGHBORHOOD PRAYER GUIDE

(at each prayer meeting)

- Have a Brochure, Current Prayer Focus, and Prayer Member Handbook with you.
- Arrive 15 minutes before the scheduled meeting time to greet ladies as they arrive.
- Encourage the women to be seated during the ten minutes of fellowship time.
- Be certain everyone has met before you start.
- Begin the prayer time 10 minutes after the scheduled meeting time with an opening prayer. Read a short praise scripture passage focusing on God's goodness and glory. Select one of these or choose your own: Psalms 46, 92, 93, 97, 100, 103, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150. (Please do not read a devotional or make comments, as this leads to discussion and takes away from the precious time allotted for prayers.)
- Say your short praise to God to express Adoration to God. Continue, as all of you say your prayers of praises to God. Allow the Spirit to continue with Confession and Thanksgiving giving time for each woman to participate. Start the Supplication by praying for the first topic of the eight Prayer Focus topics on the Prayer Focus.
- Approximately 12 minutes before the end of the hour, you may conclude the Prayer Focus topics by saying a brief prayer on the remaining topics for which you have not prayed.
- Begin the 10 minutes of the personal prayer time by simply saying your prayer for a personal need of a family member, a friend or yourself.
- Close with a prayer praising God for this time and thanking Him for the women. **Remind the women about the next meeting date and encourage them to invite others.**
- Pick up the love gift money placed in the offering basket and thank them for giving. Please mail the offering to Women's Prayer International's corporate office as soon as possible. If women would like a yearend tax receipt for cash given, please ask them to bring the money in an envelope with their name, address with zip code and the amount of the love gift. (Please let the women know that any amount they give will be appreciated and used wisely to fulfill the vision and mission of WPI.)

At the first meeting and each time a new Prayer Member attends:

Make certain the new attendees have received a Brochure, Prayer Member Handbook with the Steps to Peace with God and a current Prayer Focus. Ask them to prayerfully read the handbook before the next meeting and that you welcome any of their questions before the next meeting.

1. Explain that we do not want to quench the Holy Spirit. We want to rely on Him to reveal to each of us what is on His heart to pray. Tell them that we are seeking God's kingdom first as we pray, *saving our personal prayer requests for the last ten minutes of the prayer time.*
2. Go briefly over the Prayer Meeting Guidelines on pages 13-14 in the Prayer Member Handbook. Regarding united prayer: WPI requests that those who have a prayer language please use it silently, so when praying aloud, everyone understands, praying in one accord.
3. Refer them to the current Prayer Focus and tell them you will be leading them through each topic. Tell them you will allow the Holy Spirit to cover each topic before topics are changed. (If someone says a prayer on another topic and you believe that the previous topic has not be covered, gently voice a prayer for the precious topic. The Holy Spirit will be faithful to have His way. Our Father, God will be glorified and take pleasure in being the honored Guest as you pray.)



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QUALIFICATIONS OF A WPI NEIGHBORHOOD PRAYER HOSTESS

A woman who:

- has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and communicates her salvation experience and walk with Christ to others.
- is an active member of a church in her city which professes the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- lives a life of purity, humility and integrity before God and man.
- is a gentle and tactful person who will help the Guide to keep the Prayer Meeting within WPI guidelines.
- understands and embraces the need to maintain communication with her Prayer Guide, the Prayer Members in her group, and the WPI headquarters.

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PRAYER MEETING RESPONSIBILITIES OF A WPI NEIGHBORHOOD PRAYER HOSTESS

(at each prayer meeting)

- If you feel secure in doing so, before the prayer meeting begins you may want to place a note on your front door to encourage late comers to slip in without disturbing the prayer time.
- You may want to use a sign-in sheet and your Prayer Member Roster to keep track of the women who attend each meeting.
- Do as much as possible to remove distractions and noises from the meeting areas such as pets, radios, telephones, answering machines, etc. If you have an answering machine, please turn the volume down so as to not hear the message given or received.
- Place a love offering basket in a visible place so that the women will be reminded to give a love gift, if they so desire.
- You may want to have water for the women. It is your decision if you would like to serve other beverages during the first 10 minutes fellowship time. On occasion you may want to serve light refreshments for a brief fellowship after the meeting ends, or have a "pot-luck" luncheon during the year.
- Be sure that you have additional Prayer Member Handbooks, Brochures, and copies of the current WPI Prayer Focus on hand for each meeting.

♥ **ENTERTAINMENT OR HOSPITALITY** ♥

"The Two Different Kinds of Events"

Entertaining says, "I want to impress you with my home, my clever decorating, my gourmet cooking." Hospitality, seeking to minister, says, "This home is a gift from my Master. I use it as He desires...."
Hospitality aims to serve.

Entertainment subtly declares, "This home is mine, an expression of my personality. Look, please, and admire."
Hospitality whispers, "What is mine is yours."

Entertaining looks for a payment – the words, "My, isn't she a remarkable hostess...". Hospitality, with no thought of reward takes pleasure in giving, doing, loving, and serving.

*The model for entertaining is the slick women's magazines with their alluring pictures of foods and rooms.
The model for hospitality is the Word of God. Christ sanctifies our simple fare and makes it holy, useful.*

By Karen Maines, "Hospitality Means More Than a Party." Moody, December 1976, 38-39.

**Thank you for a partnering with the Guide to greet the women, start the meeting on time,
help keep the meeting focused on praying in one accord, and close on time**



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PRAYER MEETING GUIDELINES

Abiding Principles

Those who attend our meetings come from various Christian denominations. For this reason, we ask all who participate with us to abide by the following principles:

- Profess the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to 1 Corinthians 15.
- Avoid all controversial subjects regarding Christian doctrine.
- Avoid discussion of various non-Christian religious beliefs.
- Maintain a spirit of love and harmony as we lift the name of Jesus and pray.

United Prayer

(from Every Home for Christ - Dick Eastman. Permission granted)

Remember, the moment two or more of us are united in prayer, we become a symphony. As such:

- We blend together in unity, realizing we represent all of Christ's Body.
- We realize that, like a symphony with its different instruments, there are a wide variety of traditions when it comes to prayer.
- We commit ourselves to accepting one another as we are, while disciplining ourselves to use wisdom and caution if we think anything we might do would offend a brother or sister.

Please Note: WPI requests that those who have a prayer language please use it quietly, so when praying aloud, everyone understands the words and can be in agreement with the prayers spoken - praying as one voice. "Therefore, let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another" (Romans 14:19).

"ACTS" Pattern of Prayer

- **Adoration and Praise: Praising God for who He is – Almighty, Holy, Good, Loving, and the God of the Universe – All Powerful, All Knowing, All Sufficient.**
"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory And blessing!" **Revelation 5:12**
- **Confession and Cleansing: Agreeing with God about sin in my life – confessed, forsaken, forgiven, forgotten.**
"Search me O God, and know my heart. Try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." **Psalms 139:23-24**
- **Thanksgiving: Thanking God for what He has done, is doing, and what He is going to do.**
"Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." **Ephesians 5:20**
- **Supplication: Presenting our requests to the Father.**
"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be Made known to God." **Philippians 4:6**

Group Guidelines as Directed by the Holy Spirit

- Subject by Subject: Allows each person to pray until the Holy Spirit has covered the subject
- Short Prayers: Allows time for each person to pray as led for each subject
- Simple Prayers: Allows time for each person to pray as led for each subject
- Specific Prayers: Specific prayers receive specific answers
- Silent Prayers: Silence is golden as we are guided by His thoughts
- Small Groups: If more than 7 regular attendees, pray about forming another group, or separate into two areas in your home and appoint a guide for the second group.

**"GOD'S DESIRE IS FOR US TO BE LED BY HIS SPIRIT AS WE UNITE OUR HEARTS WITH HIS."
"Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10**



Neighborhood Leadership Application

[Please Print]

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____
Street Apt.# City **NW,NC,NE,SW,SC,SE** State Zip Country
(Circle one)

E-Mail address _____ Fax No. _____

Phone (W) _____ ext. _____ (C) _____ (H) _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____ Part Time Full Time

Marital Status Single Married Year of Marriage _____ Divorced Widow

Birth date _____ If married, spouse's name _____
Month, day

Briefly describe when you received Jesus as your Savior (Use back if more room is needed)

Name and denomination of church you attend _____

Are you a member _____ How long _____ Pastor's Name _____

Church email address _____

In what areas of leadership are you currently serving or have served in your church or community?

Organizations you are currently or have previously been involved with. (volunteer groups, community organizations, Bible studies, etc.) _____

Are you interested in guiding a group hosting a group willing to do both

I, the undersigned, give my authorization to WPI to verify the information on this form. I have read the information and will uphold Women's Prayer International's Leadership Guidelines.

Signature _____ Date _____