
PRAY

A to Z

Guide for Groups

INTRODUCTION

Pray A to Z is a book about praying for your community, and what better way to do so than actually praying with your community?

Whether it's your family gathered around the table for a meal together a few times a week, a small group of friends who meet for coffee once a month, or a church group that meets on a regular basis, you can use this guide to direct your prayers together.

Starting a Group:

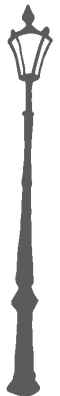
Start by praying and asking God to bring together a group of people committed to praying for your community.

Invite friends, neighbors, or family to join you to pray together. You might invite people based on interests or life stage

Potential Group Ideas:

- » Young moms
- » Empty Nesters
- » Young Professionals
- » Retirees
- » Creatives/Hobbyists
- » Neighborhood Group
- » Cancer Families
- » Mentor Groups (seasoned couple leading newlyweds, College age leading middle schoolers, retiree leading young professionals, etc.)

Decide how often you want to meet—weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or quarterly—and how long your meetings will last.



Ways to Use the Book in a Group Setting:

- » Pray through one letter each time your group gathers, with each person in the group praying out loud for one topic.
- » Assign a letter to each person in your group and ask the group members to choose a topic under their assigned letter. To extend the prayer time ask the group members to pray through all of the topics under their assigned letter in a round robin format.
- » Do a Prayer walk around your neighborhood or community as a group and pray through a letter with each block you walk.
- » Meet at your local school building and hold a prayer circle by choosing topics from the book that are fitting to the needs of the school community.
- » Support other organizations in your community by scheduling a prayer gathering where the organization meetings take place. Choose relevant topics to support the operations of the organization. Examples might include city government building, fire station, police station, other churches or non-profit organizations in your community.
- » A lunchtime prayer group with co-workers provides a great break during the work day. Random selections each day or the nine-week prayer plan below can provide structure for the limited time during the work day.
- » Schedule a prayer day with a larger group that breaks into smaller groups. Assign letters to each smaller group so you pray through the entire alphabet for your community in one session.
- » Pray based on current needs in your group. Take prayer requests from the group at the beginning of the meeting and pray through the related prayers in the book. (ie: “My neighbor’s filing for divorce.” Pray through Marriages, Divorce, and Estranged Relationships. “My dad had a heart attack.” Pray through Heart Disease and Caregivers.)
- » Pray together by theme
Use this 9-week prayer plan grouped themes covering every prayer in the book.

Week 1: Government

Petition: Court Cases, Emergency Responders, Incarceration, Lawmakers, Law Enforcement, Military, Teachers.

Praise: Almighty, King of Kings, Mercy, Truth, Unchanging God, eXcellence

Week 2: Children/Families

Petition: Adoption, Bullying, Foster Families, Infertility, Pregnancies, uniQue Needs, Raising Children, Youth.

Praise: Future-holder, Graciousness, Nurturing, Promise Keeper, Shepherd, Vine.



Week 3: Health Issues

Petition: Alcoholism, Bulimia and Eating Disorders, Cancer, Depression and Mental Health, Heart Disease, Lack of Medical Care, Overcoming Addiction, Pain.

Praise: Burden Bearer, Creator, Comforter, Infiniteness, Understanding, Victory.

Week 4: Marriage and Relationships

Petition: Abuse, Divorce, Estranged Relationships, Forgiveness, Jealousy, Marriages, Singles, Sexuality, Vanity

Praise: Eye Opener, Faithful, Helper, Love, eXalting God, Yoke.

Week 5: Elderly

Petition: Caregivers, Dementia and Alzheimer's, Elderly, Grieving, Pain, Widows and Widowers, Keeping the Faith.

Praise: Eternal One, Keeper of my Soul, Quieter of My Soul, Strength, Zeal, Zion.

Week 6: Justice Issues

Petition: Homeless, Hunger, Missionaries and Ministers, Nature Care, Persecution, Refugees, Trafficking, Violence, Zero Prejudice.

Praise: Deliverer, Infallible God, Justice, Light, Righteousness, conQueror.

Week 7: Spiritual Growth

Petition: Idolatry, Knowledge of God, New Believers, Obedience to God, Temptations, Unbelievers, Ugly Thoughts, eXamination, eXemplifying Christ, Warfare.

Praise: Dwelling Place, Greatness, Holiness, Redeemer, Name above all Names.

Week 8: Community Life

Petition: Joy, Kindness, Neighbors, Ordinary Life, Revival, Suicide, Unity, Yieldng, Wisdom, Zest, Zodiac.

Praise: Majesty, Omniscience, Prince of Peace, Yahweh, Way

Week 9: Finances

Petition: Bankruptcy, Finances, Generosity, Gratitude, Job Seekers, Qualms, Quandaries, Vocation, eXcessiveness, Yearnings.

Praise: Abundance, Bread of Life, Jehovah-Jireh, Trustworthiness, Worthiness

However you choose to use the book, allow God's Spirit to draw you closer to each other and Himself as you pray through your community's most challenging situations and give praise for His mighty work.

