

Praying Together

FOR YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD by Kath Wells

WHY?

- Where we live is part of God's plan for us. God intends for you to be a doorkeeper to his presence and his power in where you live. Everywhere we, his people are, is both a sacred place and a mission centre.
- We are assigned to be priests for every area of our influence: 'For you are a kingdom of priests ...' (1 Peter 2:9). We are priests for our street and our workplace!
- God wants all to be saved, to come to know him and enjoy his favour. We cannot be selective about who we share his love with. *Everyone* deserves an opportunity to know God.
- Somewhere in your street are people hungry to know God. *What percentage can you believe for?*

TIPS

- Ask the Lord to give you the heart of a priest for your neighbourhood so that prayer for them will become instinctive.
- Ask for God's compassionate, shepherd heart for the lost and needy. Read Luke 15 and pray: 'Let my heart be broken with the things that break the heart of God'.
- Pray to 'the Lord of the Harvest' to provide other workers, prayer partners in your family and in your local community who will join you in praying.
- Seek the Lord as to the extent of the area you are to pray for. It could be just five or six houses, or a whole street. Begin to 'prayer walk' that area regularly, bringing God's presence, and speaking his blessing and his favour over people.
- Be open to the prompting of the Spirit to visit, offer help, or speak an encouraging word to someone. Methods have limited value—being led by the Spirit is essential.
- Have a simple pattern of prayer if that helps you. You can pray as you walk or pray in your home. Create a map, write in names as you learn them, or keep a notebook.
- Have a quiet and tidy place in your home where an enquirer could come and talk and pray with you about their spiritual journey. Have a few Bibles or leaflets ready to give away, and keep tissues handy!

RESOURCES

Articles from www.prayerchangeslives.org.nz

→ *Get Ready for the Harvest; Neighbourhood Prayer: Getting Started; Pray to the Lord of the Harvest; A More Excellent Way.*

Other ideas

- Get a poster or sticker from www.prayerchangeslives.org.nz to identify your home as a place of prayer.
- See www.neighbournetwork.org.nz for information about a new venture in setting up praying homes that has started in the Hibiscus Coast.