

guide hearts and minds in the direction of His Will. Use the Scripture much—that is where God speaks, revealing truth, reminding of His promises, and keeping your focus on the person, character, and will of God.

You must be sensitive to His Spirit in your prayer times together. As He speaks, **you adjust** your praying, spending longer or shorter times on the burdens He gives you. You may often find that the burden you intended to spend much time over is quickly lifted and a new burden is placed on your hearts. You must ever be in prayer with a child's heart responding to the Father's voice, eager to follow your loving Master with a servant's heart.

A—Asking, Humbly Acknowledging the Needs You See. God has chosen to train us and grow us and provide for us as His children through the relationship of a child **asking** a Father. Ask Him concerning the needs you face individually and as a Family/Body/Building/Army/Flock. Ask humbly, never arrogantly. Walk in the Fear of the Lord, honoring Him as Lord and remembering He understands your needs—He is the Perfect Father, worthy of honor, wanting a trusting heart in each of His children, and deserving the deepest respect.

R—Rejoicing Before the Lord for Receiving Direction from the Lord. Spend time thanking the Lord for His presence, His guidance, and His specific care for the needs you have brought to Him. Thank Him for His abundant mercy and great grace. Allow those with whom you are praying time to give thanks, to praise the Lord for His ways and His work, for His timing and for the ways He will answer what you have prayed.

T—Time Spent in Prayer. How much time you spend in prayer as you meet together will vary according to the **intensity** of the burden, the **unity** of the group, the **purity** of the hearts in prayer, and the **sensitivity** of the believers to God and His directions. You may pray for minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, even years, lifting the burdens before the Lord. He will answer, sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly, according to His perfect timing. His timing will determine your time in prayer. Whatever the case, learn to *Pray Together* with the **S.A.M.E. H.E.A.R.T.**

Pray
Together!

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S.A.M.E. H.E.A.R.T.
*DISCOVERING THE DYNAMIC OF
PRAYING TOGETHER*

Biblical Guidelines for Corporate Prayer



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There is a **Pattern** we can follow in praying and in **Leading people to PRAY TOGETHER...**

S.A.M.E. H.E.A.R.T.

S.A.M.E. H.E.A.R.T. is a Guide to Praying Together designed for the small group or for a church prayer meeting in which *time in prayer* is the main purpose. Read over these guidelines. The **first four** in “S.A.M.E.” help **center attention** on the Lord both in preparation time and in the prayer time. The **final five** in “H.E.A.R.T.” give tracks for the **activity of prayer**. Attention set and Active Prayer carried out—that is the goal of S.A.M.E. H.E.A.R.T.

S.A.M.E.

Four Actions that Help You Pray with One Heart/One Accord

S—Set or Center Attention on God, not on your needs. As you gather together, you need His mind and heart about the burdens you have. We must be God-centered, not needs-centered.

First, Prepare for Prayer—**Spend some time in the Word Together** as you prepare to pray together. To center your attention, use scripture, testimonies of answered prayer, and/or hymns and songs of worship (quoted or sung). As you come together for prayer, call to mind who God is, how God thinks, what God likes or dislikes, what God is up to now and how important it is to join Him.

As a Leader, remember that as you spend time **in the Word and in prayer together**, you are investing time in that which *Touches, Trains, and Warms* the heart to see God and His mission of bringing many into His Kingdom and then bringing those “*many sons to glory*” (Hebrews 2:10).

A—All Agendas Surrendered...All Hearts Involved and In Tune. As you lay aside personal “agendas” you can more readily pray the will of God and involve all the hearts gathered together. If you are to pray with one heart/one accord, you must build hearts together. That takes time **in Scripture and in Prayer TOGETHER**. As you walk in a common relationship you will grow a common heart. Spend time together. You can be assured that the Spirit of God will build unity; oneness, and “one-accord” praying and He will encourage and build up believers. He will also convict of sin and uncover “fleshly” agendas so that you can walk with a cleansed heart in oneness with Him and one another and pray with the confidence of an uncondemned heart. First John 3:21-22 reminds us, “*Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.*” Note: Surrendering our agendas does not mean you cannot pray personal heart burdens. You can certainly do that as well as pray for one another, as long as you are following the Lord’s direction.

M—Magnify the Lord. Make Much of Who God Is. To help keep the focus on God, spend time blessing the Lord, magnifying His name—speak His Names—Lord, King, Savior, Friend, Holy One, Lord of Hosts, God of Heaven, Provider, Healer... **Ask those gathered** to tell who God is... “God is _____,” “_____,” “_____.” Quote Scripture. This builds faith and helps place your hearts where they should be, in humble dependence on the Lord.

E—Expect to Meet God—to Hear God—to See God Answer. This is the essence of **Faith** in Hebrews 11:6—When you believe **God is** who the Scriptures say He is, you **Come Expecting** to Meet Him, you diligently **seek** Him expecting to **find** Him, to **hear** Him and expecting to be **rewarded and given answers** by Him. Look for the **working of the Spirit** of God as you pray. ... Then...

H.E.A.R.T.

Five Heart Attitudes/Actions That Help You Pray the Will of God

H—Heart Burdens Lifted Before the Lord. As you pray, the Lord directs and joins hearts in line with His Will and His Word. As you are gathered together, the **Prayer Leader** can begin in a number of ways such as by telling a particular **NEED**, or **EVENT**. He or she can make a **CONNECTION** of prayer to some need in the life of an individual, family, church, city, or nation. He or she can point to an **ACTION NEEDED** for which prayer is essential. These may be **KINGDOM** needs, **CHURCH** needs, or **PERSONAL** needs that you lift before the Lord.

As the prayer time continues, remember the Spirit of God directs or redirects hearts about a particular burden. This also means you must learn **HOW** to **hear** God and how to **respond** to Him. Remember, He guides into Truth, gives insights from Scripture, and focuses your hearts on God’s interests. He may intensify the burden or give a simple release from that burden. This is all part of the relationship you have with the Lord and with one another. Look for the Spirit’s working. Pour out your heart burdens, the things weighing on you. Bring your burning desires to the Lord. Unveil your deepest longings, and never forget, **GOD RESPONDS to the HEART**, not formulas or outlines.

E—Eager to Discover His Will, His Burdens, the Things Burning in His Heart. First John 5:14 promises, “*And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.*” This means continually magnifying the Lord, continually surrendering any “agendas” to the Lord, yielding your will to know His will. This also means ever remaining sensitive to uncover the Spirit’s Burdens, to join together in **ALL SEEKING** the **WILL OF GOD**. As you pray, you can **Encounter God Together**—God will