

ALTER MINISTRY GUIDELINES

1.)Have Good Breath!

- It's hard to receive what God has for you when the person praying for you has rank breath!

2.)Pray in teams

- No one prays for anyone alone. Praying in team is mandatory no matter who you are. This keeps us accountable and safe. The last thing you want is someone accusing you of saying something crazy during a prayer and you don't have any way to defend yourself. We also don't want someone saying something unbiblical to the person they are praying for without accountability.

3.)Protect the Stage (and the microphone)

- Just like any other service, we have to be careful who we allow to speak to the entire group and what they might say. If someone gets on stage and says something that is contradictory to the word of God, it puts the leadership in an unfortunate position where they have to correct what was said in front of everyone. It is very difficult to do this without humiliating the person who made the statement.
- Anything that is going to be said from the stage must be cleared by the Youth Pastor.
- Please know that our heart is for each person to encounter the Holy Spirit! Worship continually being interrupted to give words could potentially be more distracting than helpful! We want you to be obedient to the Holy Spirit, we just ask that you make sure you seek confirmation on if it's for everyone or for someone in particular

4.)Confidentiality

- Always respect the privacy of the person you pray for. Never repeat what they say to you without their permission, even if you leave their name out. If you want to share their testimony, ask them: “You have an awesome testimony, is it ok if I share it with others?”
- Exceptions – There are a few situations where you need to break confidentiality and alert your Youth Pastor
 - o Intent to commit suicide
 - o Intent to hurt someone
 - o Reports of physical abuse
 - o Unreported crime

5.) Never push or press on someone to try to get them to “Fall” out

- Everyone’s encounter with the Holy Spirit is different and unique, and we don’t want to take away what the Lord specifically has for anyone by encouragement them do something that is not Him.

6.) NEVER use guilt as a tool. •

- Bad Example: “If you really want to speak in tongues, you won’t quit now!”

7.) Don’t dig for personal issues •

- Example: “Have you been sexually abused? Do you struggle with homosexuality?”
- If they want to share something with you, they will. If the Holy Spirit is revealing something to you, it will be to edify and bless them, not to blindside them in public with personal questions.

Common prayer requests:

1. Salvation

- Romans 10:9(NIV) If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
- Sample Salvation Prayer: (To be prayed aloud by the one receiving salvation): Jesus, I confess that You are my Lord and Savior and I believe in my heart that God raised You from the dead. By faith in Your Word, I receive salvation now. Thank you for saving me!
- If someone receives Christ or is filled with the Holy Spirit, that is cause to celebrate! Don’t be put off if the person isn’t reacting the way you want them to. Don’t miss the supernatural because you are seeking the sensational!

2. Receiving the Holy Spirit

- Acts 19:6(NIV) And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.
- Sample Prayer for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit: Father, I recognize my need for Your power to live this new life. Please fill me with Your Holy Spirit. By faith, I receive Him right now! Thank You for baptizing me with your Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, You are welcome in my life!

Tongues:

- Make sure they understand that they receive the Holy Spirit because they have accepted God’s gift by faith, not because they are or are not speaking in tongues. Speaking in tongues is a sign of receiving the Holy Spirit. The absence of speaking in tongues does not mean they have not received Him.
- Let them know that syllables or words from a language they don't recognize will rise up from their heart to their mouth. As they

Speak them out loud by faith, they're releasing God's power from within and building themselves up in the spirit. Let them know that they can speak in tongues, even if it is only one or two words over and over. Just as a baby develops his vocabulary by continuing to speak, so they develop as they continue praying in the spirit for the rest of their life.

- You can pray with them in the Spirit/tongues and encourage them to start praying in their prayer language. (tell them you are going to do this before you do!)

3. Healing

- It is the will of God that all of us walk in health. Our healing was already paid for at the cross.
- Encourage the person not to own sickness with their language. They are being attacked by sickness, it doesn't belong to them; isn't something they own. (it's not "my" asthma. It is "this" asthma") Explain this to them before you pray for them so that they don't give away their healing later. It's only yours if you feed it!
- Proverbs 18:21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.
- Don't beg for healing, Speak to the problem!
- Sample prayer: Sickness I rebuke you in the name of Jesus! This [sickness] doesn't belong to them, it's an attack from an already defeated enemy and we refuse it! Body, I command you in the name of Jesus to fall in line with the word of God! Amen
- Jesus is the healer not you. Pray a prayer of faith and let God be responsible for the outcome. We don't get credit for success OR failure.
- Healing is not to be judged with the 5 senses. It is to be believed by faith, and when the time is right, witnessed by your senses. That may be 5 seconds or 5 weeks, the healing begins immediately either way. Isaiah 53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions,

he was crushed for our iniquities, the punishment that brought us peace was on him and by his wounds we are healed.

4. Suffering from fear

- Fear is Satan's version of faith.
- Nothing in your ministry time should create or foster fear.
- Rebuke the attacks of the enemy with authority: I rebuke that fear in Jesus name!
- Isaiah 54:17(NIV) No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me," declares the Lord.
- James 4:7, 8a Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you
- 1 John 4:4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.
- Some people may try to give power to evil:
 - "I have a bad temper because my father does, it's in my DNA" (1 Cor 5:17)
 - I have nightmares because I was cursed by a witch".
 - I have prayed for this problem before and it keeps coming back so your prayer cannot defeat it.
- Help them understand the power of Christ. If you need to, pray first that they would see through the lies of Satan and take hold of the power of the cross.
- Confirm before praying for their request that you are praying a prayer of agreement with them. If they are just "shopping prayer warriors" till they find one that somehow has the power to set them free or change their situation, they may never break free. They have to understand 1 John 4:4...greater is He that is in you, than he who is in the world.