



# BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER WALK

University Avenue Baptist Church

July 31, 2021

## PRAYER WALKING

### THE GOAL

Today we will be prayer walking in groups around a school campus, giving to God the children & adults connected with the school. The goal of this time is to quiet your mind and heart so you can pray and better understand God's heart and work for this school.

**"The immediacy of context can fuel prayer and offer a way for listening more deeply to God, to what His concerns for this place might be. Prayer walking is a way of saturating a particular place and people with prayer."  
(Adele A. Calhoun, Spiritual Disciplines Handbook)**

### WHY PRAYER WALK?

*Prayer Walking is a spiritual discipline God can use to help us:*

- + See places through His eyes
- + Quiet ourselves so we can listen to His prayer for a particular place
- + Connect our body, mind, & heart in prayer
- + Grow in our understanding of the larger activity of God
- + Pay attention to people/places we often ignore or don't care about (and repent)
- + Explore God's vision for places & people who gather there

**"Our [prayer] walks through our towns and communities can be marked as steps of faith, believing that God has called us, sent us, and has purpose on every street and around every corner."  
(Shauna Pilgreen, Love Where You Live)**

### Ephesians 6:18

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people

### Matthew 18:20

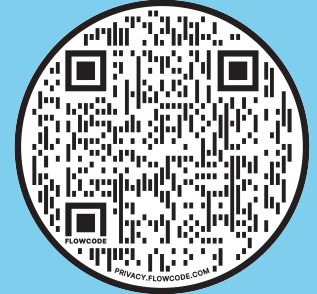
For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

### Psalms 67:1-3

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

## EXTRA RESOURCES

*Below are some prayer walking resources from one of our LIVE SENT Weekend teachers, Shauna Pilgreen*



### PRAYER WALK PLAYLIST

*A short worship music playlist you can listen to as you pray*



### PRAYER WALK AUDIO

*Join author & teacher, Shauna Pilgreen, on a 6 minute (podcast-like) prayer walk*

### PRAYER FOR SCHOOLS

*"Father, You are the Giver of wisdom and You tell us to ask for it. So we ask that You give wisdom to every teacher, administrator, school board member, and student [on our island]. We also pray they will know this as a gift from You.*

*Fill minds with truth. Give faculty and students courage to stand up to anything opposing truth. Open minds to creativity, innovation, discovery, and purposes You have for everyone of those who are teaching and learning."*

*-Shauna Pilgreen*

# READY, SET, GO!

## READY

### **Ephesians 4:1-6**

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, being diligent to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you also were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

### **ARE YOU READY?**

Is your heart ready for prayer?

- + How is your relationship with Jesus? Spend time in prayer with God before you begin the prayer walk. Confess any sin & ask God to prepare your heart to pray for others.
- + Is there anyone you need to forgive?
- + Is there anything you need to surrender to God?

## SET

*Not sure where to start? Invite the Holy Spirit to join you, guiding your steps & your words.*

### **Romans 8:26-27**

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

### **ASK GOD TO:**

- + Open your eyes to see the campus as He does & better understand His heart for those who work, play, & study there
- + Protect your mind from any distractions
- + Understand better the spiritual & physical needs of the adults & children connected with this school (and the neighbors who live near the school)

### **1 Timothy 2:1-6**

First of all, then, I urge that requests, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made in behalf of all people, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.

## GO!

### **Psalms 24:1**

The earth is the LORD'S, and all it contains, The world, and those who live in it.

## AS YOU GO...

### LEARN

What do you see/observe? Imagine what might take place in/on different parts of the campus, inside and outside the building, as you walk. As spiritual & physical needs of those who learn & work at the school come to mind, talk to God about them. Then quiet your heart & listen to God. Ask God to deepen your understanding of His heart for & work in/through this campus.

### CELEBRATE

What is something about this school (the age of the students, location, familiarity, campus) that you enjoy? Thank God for these things and ask Him to grow your love for the people connected with this campus. Quiet your heart & listen to God. Ask Him to show you some things you may have overlooked that He cares about.

### SURRENDER

How good it is to know that the building, staff, students, conversations, studies, and families of this school are in God's hands?! We know God is at work in this campus. Spend time praying for the Christ followers who work, study, or send their children to this school. Ask God to help them be a light for Him this school year. Quiet your heart & listen to God. How might God want you to continue to pray/join the work He is doing in and through this campus?

**“When we pray ‘through Christ’ more is involved than merely asking God in heaven to make some kind of intervention. The community too, and we ourselves, must be involved not just in the petition but also in trying to bring about what the petition pleads for.”**  
Ronald Rolheiser

## NOT SURE WHAT TO PRAY FOR?

Pray for school safety. Ask God to surround the campus & protect those who study & work there. Ask Him for protection against illness, bullying, and any physical harm.

- + Pray for the mental health of students, teachers, & staff
- + Pray for relational health between friends & co-workers
- + Pray for protection against any form of abuse on the campus or in homes
- + Pray the love of Jesus would be shared & shown by Christ-followers who study or work at this campus.
- + Ask God to give them boldness to share the gospel with others
- + Pray for any Bible studies that may happen before or after school
- + Ask God to provide for the physical needs of the students, teachers, & staff of this school.
- + Thank God for the warm meals provided to students who depend on them
- + Pray for those who are lonely and are longing for friends. Ask God to help the Christ-followers on this campus to see this need and to be a loving friend to others.
- + Ask God to help Christ-followers on this campus to see the physical needs around them, and to glorify Him through helping to meet those needs

## NOT SURE WHO TO PRAY FOR?

- + Pray for the students who study there. What grade levels are at this school? Pray for students by grade level. Pray for students who are followers of Jesus to be a light for Him this school year. Pray for the salvation of teachers who do not yet know Jesus.
  
- + Pray for the teachers of this school. Think of all the school subjects that may be taught here. Pray for teachers in each subject/grade level. Pray for teachers who are followers of Jesus to be a light for Him this school year. Pray for the salvation of teachers who do not yet know Jesus.
  
- + Pray for the school administrators. Pray for principals & vice principals who are followers of Jesus to be a light for Him this school year. Pray for the salvation of any principals/vice principals who do not yet know Jesus.
  
- + Pray for other people employed by the school. Here are some ideas:
  - ++ Office staff
  - ++ Support staff
  - ++ Counselors
  - ++ Bus drivers
  - ++ Traffic crossing guards
  - ++ Coaches and their assistants
  - ++ Security guards
  - ++ Cafeteria staff
  - ++ Substitute or temporary teachers and assistants
  - ++ School nurse
  - ++ Student resource officer
  - ++ Parent/teacher organization
  - ++ Janitorial staff
  - ++ School board
  - ++ After school group leaders
  - ++ Volunteers