

PRACTICALS FOR PRAYER ON CAMPUSES

UP-OUT-IN Model

First we go UP: sing songs that focus our hearts on the Lord and His nature, goodness and ways. Then we go OUT: we pray for our school the lost etc. Then we go IN: ask the Lord to do things within our own hearts and within our community (healing , finances, personal struggles etc.

This is a sort of model that will help keep our hearts engaged with God and make our prayer meetings enjoyable.

Practical #1

INCORPORATE MUSIC INTO YOUR PRAYER MEETING.

Music engages all of our being in a way that nothing else does. The human spirit is musical; we were made that way by God because He is a musical being (Zeph 3:17, Prov. 8). The music dimension is helpful as it engages our affections toward God by softening the heart and lifts our eyes to Him so that we can focus on His heart for our lives, friends, families and campus context.

When we sing/pray biblical prayers, we can all pray the same thing at the same in full agreement with what God wants to do.

Practical #2

PRAY BIBLICAL PRAYERS.

Biblical Prayers are best to use in corporate meetings because they are prayers that the Holy Spirit and the majority of the people at the meeting will agree with. *Apostolic Prayers* are prayers in the bible that the apostles prayed for the church and thus prayers that are inspired by the Holy Spirit. We can be confident that these are prayers He wants to answer.

i.e. Eph. 1:17-19, Eph 3:16-19, Phil. 1:9-11, 2 Thess. 3:1-5, Col. 1:9-12

Practical #3

SING SONGS ABOUT GOD, TO GOD, USING THE BIBLE.

As we sing the bible over our hearts and back to God, we will become more and more connected to the point and the story and we will find our place in it. When we sing songs that exalt Jesus above our emotion and circumstance it helps us to stay focus on the point of the prayer meeting and connected to God's heart.

Practical #4

LESS IS SOMETIMES MORE.

All it takes is a willing heart and an instrument to lead worship. It helps to be skilled and to have the extra elements but don't make that the focus. Give to God what you have while asking for more people and more instruments.

Practical #5

SING SONGS PEOPLE KNOW.

Though it can be redundant, the goal of the prayer meeting is corporate engagement. Try to pick songs that are well known and easy to sing. It helps not to sing new songs every week. If you do bring a new song, use it in a consistent rotation so that people get used to it..

