

The Encouragement of Prayer Partners



“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” (Matthew 18:19-20).

Praying with others can have a dramatic effect in your own life. We need each other. God never meant us to walk through life alone. Prayer partners are God’s secret agents of blessing. In fact, it is not good to be always praying alone. We need to pray by ourselves, but at times we need the encouragement that comes from praying with a prayer partner.

Praying with others is necessary for our growth in intercession. You can develop two-by-two prayer in a variety of ways: getting together with a prayer partner weekly, praying over the telephone with a friend, or praying at a set time daily with a spouse or other family member.

In looking back at my life as an intercessor, I cannot tell you the number of times I have been personally blessed, encouraged, and strengthened through praying with others. Many times it has given me new insight, new determination to go on, or new hope in a dark situation. Praying with others strengthens our personal prayer lives in more ways than we can ever imagine.

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When I had breast cancer another member of our church, Joanie, was going through the very same thing. As we wrestled through this unknown territory of facing cancer, we often would call each other at about 5:00 P.M. and talk and pray together. A short prayer and conversation on the telephone was such an encouragement for both of us. We didn’t talk or pray long - but we were in this trial together - and it made a huge difference.

Both of us wouldn’t trade the experience for anything.

It turned into a powerful ministry for Joanie. For years she sent out a daily email to many sick people - encouraging them, calling them on the telephone, and praying for them specifically regarding their health needs. Through her writings, she taught the Word of God, named those who were ill and how to pray, and gave continual updates and words of encouragement. She had several hundred subscribers and instilled hope for healing in everyone she called. Her words were powerful, faith-filled, and significant. Now she is with the Lord, but her ministry continues on in the lives of those she touched through the years.

See what can happen when you pray for one another - a simple prayer can become a powerful ministry for God's glory. We need to stand together in prayer in order to defeat the enemy. Elmer Towns in his book, Prayer Partners, stresses how prayer partners helped to defeat the enemy. He says:

When Moses lifted his hands in intercession to God, Joshua and Israel prevailed. But because Moses was flesh, he could only keep his arms lifted for a short period of time. When his arms became heavy, he dropped them and Amalek prevailed in battle. But when two intercessors, Aaron and Hur, stood on either side of Moses and held up his hands, God's people defeated the enemy.

By Debbie Przybylski
Intercessors Arise International
Equipping believers to grow in prayer, intercession, and intimacy with God.
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