



## ***Complete Guide***

# What is the Prayer Team?

The Crossroads Online Prayer Team is a group of people who love praying for others. We believe prayer changes things. We believe prayer helps those who are hurting, and inspires people to invite God into everything. The prayer team loves others and will journey with them through the highs and lows of life.

The Prayer Team connects with people all over the world and serves them by praying with them and for them. You'll pray in many ways such as writing prayers, praying on the phone, and praying on video calls. Expect to make the effort to connect with others.

## What is the Prayer Team's goal?

### **Respond Quickly**

We want every person who sends in a prayer request to be contacted within 8 hours. We respond quickly to show we care about the person and are eager to pray with them and for them. As God runs after us, we run after others, demonstrating God's love to the world.

### **Demonstrate Care**

We provide care and not condemnation. We do not judge, we love and have compassion. We lead with empathy, understanding we are caring for people from all backgrounds. Some have experienced judgment from Christians instead of love and we want to remove any barrier that gets in the way of them experiencing God's love. We will choose our words wisely, paying close attention to how we respond. Lead with empathy and use phrases like "Thank you for sharing this with me. I'm sorry to hear that," and provide scriptures provided in the prayer resource.

### **Communicate Clearly**

We communicate with clarity to show excellence and inclusion. We serve people from all over the world and want to do our best to use simple language. Also, if they are using Google Translate, our proper grammar or spelling will help with the accuracy of the translation. Take a moment to check your spelling, use proper punctuation, and brush up on your grammar. A great resource is <http://www.grammarly.com> or Google.

# Expectations

As a team member you represent Crossroads. We ask that you seek to maintain our core values and beliefs.

We respond quickly to every prayer request. We ask that each team member respond to at least four or more requests each week. Take time at least one day a week or during several sessions to contact the person(s). Schedule reminders on your phone or computer to make sure you make time to serve those who submit prayer requests, reminders are helpful.

Stay in touch with your pastor. They are here to support you, pray for you, and give you feedback.

# Common Prayer Topics

Prayer topics can vary but there are a few that come up regularly.

- Health Concerns
- Finances
- Relationships
- Spiritual Guidance
- Faith

Refer to the [Prayer Resource](#) to become more aware of how to pray for each of these.

## Quality Care

We want to set a high standard of care for the people we serve. Some requests may be more complicated than others and they have taken their time to share their private prayer request with us. They deserve to know how much God cares for them and their needs. Take your time to really pray for their request. Ask God to give you the words to pray for them, and as you write, consider how you would feel if you received the response you're writing.

# Quality Care Components

## Care

Greet them in a friendly way. Let them know you care about what they're going through and how it's affecting them. More importantly, let them know God cares, and He is with them through it all.

## Prayer

Use your own words and type out an actual prayer. You can thank God for His love, ask Him to move in power, submit to His authority, and praise Him for what He will do. Think about how you would pray for them if you were with them in person, and type that out.

## Resources & Next Steps

Share applicable Scriptures, suggest they join the Bible Reading Plan Group, offer Bible plans or message series, or encourage them to consider a Group. Also, don't miss an opportunity to invite them to watch church online!

## Check Your Response

Before you send your response, check your spelling, grammar, and the tone of your wording. Will your response make sense to someone reading it? Try reading it out loud to check for clarity.

# ***What's Next?***

When you start serving with Crossroads Online you will never be on your own. You have a community of leaders to connect with and learn from. As leaders we never stop growing and learning because we are committed to serving others with excellence.

Ask questions to your team leader and your pastor.

Here is a great book on prayer: [An Invitation to the Wonder and Mystery of Prayer](#)

## **1 Thessalonians 1:516 - 18 MSG**

“Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live.”