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Newsletter Update


Friday 1st February 2013

Stats

1,100 Streets being prayed for [See Map](#)
 111,100 Houses on those streets (101 per street)
 264,000 People living there (240 per street)
 **[Click here to see our research sources.](#)



Our New Book



240 pages of stories, ideas, prayer guides and practical advice to help mobilise prayer for your street. A great resource for prayer groups and local Church.

Order the book from our website and Rebekah will sign your copy.

Profits from the sale of books helps to run Neighbourhood Prayer Network

[CLICK HERE TO ORDER](#)

£10 + P&P

Dear Carl,

Thank you to all of you for continuing to pray for your streets. We are very grateful to those of you who have already ordered over 16,000 Father's love letters from [UCB](#). We have also heard from a number of people that they are setting up prayer triplets in their church or starting the forty days of prayer for lent in their churches. These stories are always very encouraging.

Reverend Karl Relton from the Countess Free Church, Ely, tells us his experience of encouraging prayer for streets in his local church.

"IPODs - Intentional Prayer on Our Doorsteps

A desire to get ordinary members of the church praying - praying for their own local neighbourhoods, and (hopefully) to get excited about it! Yet how to do this? Everyone is so busy. Prayer seems to slide to the bottom of the 'ought-to' list, not because we don't think it works, but because everything else crams in. Plus we are a friendly bunch, good at asking after one another- good characteristics for a Christian but having the downside that we might simply chat to each other, forgetting the streets around us.

Then an idea - suggest people form small groups, maybe even just starting with two, with the express intention of praying for the local area. Set a key principle from the outset with some simple rules:

** Pray for the neighbourhood rather than each other*

** Make it local - if you can't walk to it in less than 10 minutes you can't join!*

** Make it short n sweet - e.g. just 20 minutes at a mutually convenient time and place: the home, the park, whatever*

**Be imaginative - walk together, find simple liturgies, draw your own prayer maps, whatever it takes to inject freshness*



The second (unstated) principle was to advertise and then wait to see what happens, i.e. don't specify how many, who, where ... instead let people in the church take the hint and form their own groups (with some gentle encouragement here and there!).

From this our church now has 6 regular IPODs - groups meeting intentionally to pray on their doorsteps across the city. Some meet bi-weekly, some are more ad hoc. Some have naturally become ecumenical (why not?). All have ordinary Christians praying for their local area, on the look out for fresh ideas, as well as watching and waiting to see how God may move."

Government legislation on marriage: We invite all Christians to visit the www.worldprayercentre.org.uk website to consider praying about this upcoming legislation. You will find more information on their website under the news section.

Every Blessing



Rebekah Brettle

Today is Neighbour Friday

PRAYER

Psalm 133:1

Lord, I pray that You would help the churches in my area to live, work and worship together in unity. As we serve our community, please multiply our efforts, so that we have even greater impact for good.

Prayer Challenge: This week, bless a church you don't go to.

CARE:

In the media there is a lot of concern about immigration and people of other cultures. For us as Christians, this is an opportunity to show love to our neighbours. Ask God to give you an opportunity to get to know a family from a different background over the next few weeks.

SHARE

Could you consider ordering copies of the Father's love letter

from UCB (our partner), to give out to your neighbours on Valentine's day, Father's day or over the Lent/Easter period? See pages 218-220 in "Neighbour's, Transform Your Street" for more details. Phone 0845 6040401, to order your free copies from UCB, you will have to pay postage costs only.

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