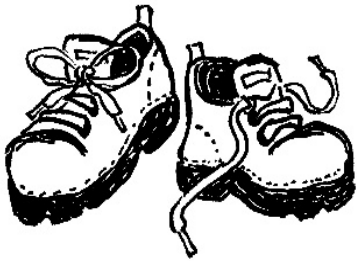


PRAYER WALKS

What is a Prayer Walk? A prayer walk is exactly what it sounds like. You get outside and pray as you walk around. There is a strange power when you connect your spiritual life to your body (in this case your feet). God is already up to some amazing things outside your door. Feel free to explore, pray and ask God lots of questions. Don't forget to listen.

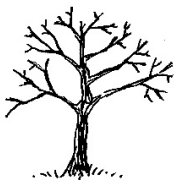


Where should I walk? Try starting where you have a connection. It could be around where you live, work, volunteer, or where your church meets. If you are practicing prayer walking as part of a group, you may want to pick out a route together (even if you are walking at different times or start in different places then meet up). Try walking the same route more than once and think about what changes and what stays the same. It may also be helpful to debrief with the rest of your group. There might be something God is saying in what you all shared in common. You may also see God in the uniqueness of each person's journey.

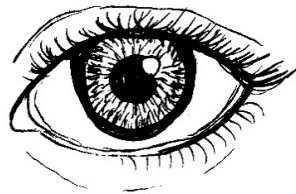
Dress for the weather! Try not to cancel if it is a little colder or wetter than you hoped. God may have something to show you that you would not have seen otherwise. That being said, be safe. You don't need to travel in an ice storm, or head down every dark alley at night just to say that you did it. Be aware of yourself and your surroundings.



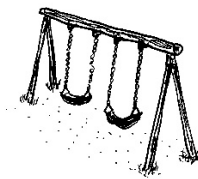
How to use this visual guide: The drawings & prompts in this guide are meant to spark your imagination. The goal is to get you thinking about all the ordinary things you might see on a walk that could prompt a small time of prayer. Try looking through the ideas in this guide before your prayer walk to see what inspires you. If one of the drawings gives you a different idea than suggested, that is wonderful! When you are out walking, let God use your surroundings to shape your time of prayer.



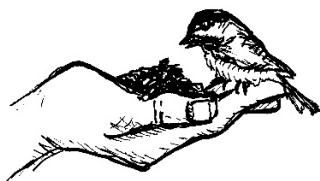
Choose a tree. Thank God for the person who planted something others could enjoy. Thank God for the life this tree brings. Try asking God, *"What can I plant for my community?"*



Keep your eyes open! What do you see around you? What might God be showing you? Every prayer walk is unique. Be open to respond to what you see.



Pray for the kids! Watch for parks, schools, and gardens where children spend their time. Pray for the safety of the kids in the neighbourhood. Pray that they would each grow up knowing they are loved.



Pray to be shown a Person of Peace. Every neighbourhood has one. They often have a natural gift of hospitality. They seem to know everyone. A person of peace isn't a Jesus follower but they are open to honest & safe conversations about God.

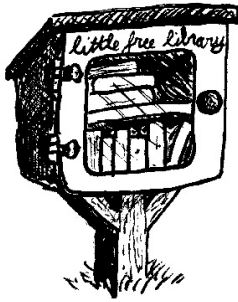


Do you see a property for sale? Pray for the people or business that will be moving in next. Pray for the health & safety of your future neighbours.



God's gifts come in all shapes and sizes! Thank God for any animals you encounter. What might God be teaching you through pets, wildlife, and even the creatures we call pests? Pray into any thoughts that come to mind.

PRAYER WALKS



Libraries (big & small) are places of connection & sharing. Pray for the people who keep the shelves stocked and the doors open. Pray for all the people who visit seeking knowledge, stories, and belonging.



Pray for Churches in your neighbourhood. Some might own a building, others might meet in a home or a rented location. Every church tradition holds a unique gift. Ask God to show you something special about each church you encounter.



Watch for the small gifts. Even the smallest objects in creation can point us to the Creator of the universe. If something small catches your attention, take some time to wonder at the things that God has made.



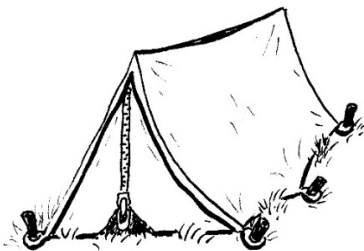
Watch for Abandoned Spaces. Ask God, *"What are you dreaming for this location?"* Pray for a kingdom-minded venture or a person of peace to catch God's vision for this neglected space.



Poop is gross, but we can flip the script! Is it dog poop? Pray for the dog walker. Perhaps they feel like, *"No one cares so why should I?"* If you think, it might be human poop, that is an invitation to pray about homelessness, addictions, and inequality.



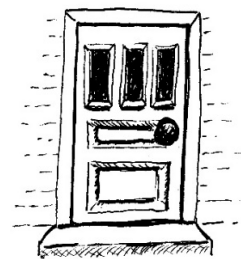
What do you see that gives you hope? It might be a building, a garden, a person, or an animal. Pray for where you see hope, so that it might grow and spread.



Watch for people "Living Rough." The shelter system isn't safe for everyone. Be respectful, this is their home right now. Remember they are beloved by God. Pray for their safety & wellness. Pray that they would obtain housing. Pray that you would see with God's eyes.

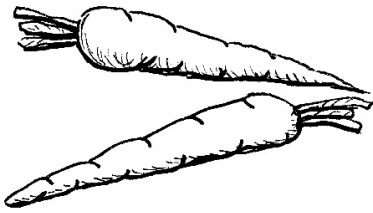


Pray for Ministries & Charities that are the hands & feet of Jesus in your community. Pray for the people that are served. Pray for the volunteers & staff. Pray for a beautiful dignity in both the giving & receiving.



Pray into John 10:9-10,
"I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it in all its fullness"

PRAYER WALKS



Do you see any places to buy food?

It could be a supermarket, a restaurant, a corner shop. Pray for the staff, they are frontline workers. Pray for access to affordable healthy food. Pray for the farmers & workers you can't see.



Businesses can shape a community.

Pray for owners & managers, that they would seek the shalom (peace & wellness) of the neighbourhood. Pray for sustainable employment. Pray for good businesses to prosper.



Watch for open spaces! Depending on your neighbourhood, these could be big or small, natural or concrete. Use this open space as an invitation to pause for a minute and be open to God (even if it is just a car park).



Watch for health care spaces.

It could be a big hospital or a small clinic. Pray for the staff & patients. Pray for wholeness & wellness for all. Pray for a spirit of wisdom & grace in the care given and received.



If you hear a siren, pray for the safety & wellness of all. Pray for first responders. Pray for the person who called 999. Pray for people without power or voice. Pray for the help that is needed. Pray for peace & life.



Pray for Affordable Housing. It could be a brand new project, a repurposed building, social housing, or an individual home with an extra room.



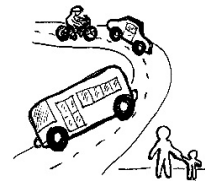
Watch for lights! Let each light spark a quick little prayer. Feel free to meditate on John 1:5, "*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*"



Use a stop sign to ask God a question. Without any blame or shame ask God, "*Are there any stop signs from You that I'm running through?*" If God brings something to mind, ask a follow up question, "*Lord, what is Your invitation to me in this?*"



Every piece of graffiti (welcomed or not) was made by a person who was made in the image of their Creator. Pray for this person, that they would feel seen and known by their creator. Thank God for this person's creative spirit.



How are people getting around?

Pray for people using a mode of transportation different than you would typically use. Think about the advantages & challenges. Use this to guide how you might pray.

PRAYER WALKS

Suggestions:

- Prayer walk in pairs. It allows for two people to pray out loud in a conversational manner. Larger groups may find it difficult to hear the prayers of others and may limit the time each one has to pray. If you have a large group, divide into smaller groups.
- Begin with a prayer asking for openness, that God would open your eyes, ears and heart as you walk. Allow God to direct your walk and focus your thoughts. You may feel a need to stop and linger for a while, discerning what God is speaking over a house, a family or a business. Ask Him that you would see beyond the physical to the spiritual realities that exist in that place.
- Pray Scripture as you walk. Simple prayers like “Have mercy, Lord” or “Your kingdom come, your will be done” take on new meaning as you walk and pray.
- Be prepared that God may prompt you to speak to someone you come across in your walk. Trust that the Spirit will give you words to say.
- If you are unable to walk outside, use technology like Google Maps street view to enable you to prayer walk in different areas. Google Earth enables you to walk through a variety of buildings (government, universities, etc...).

Online Resources:

- OCC Prayer Page: occ-stratford.org.uk/pray
- 24-7 Prayer PDF: [Prayer Tool – How To Prayer Walk](#)
- Navigators website: [30 Days of Prayer Through Your Neighborhood](#)
- Go2020 on Prayer Walking video: https://youtu.be/VgCjz_1T27U
- Stephen Hawthorne & Graham Kendrick book: [Prayer Walking - Praying On Site With Insight](#)