Lighthouse of Prayer

What is a Lighthouse of Prayer?

A Lighthouse of Prayer consists of a group or an individual committed to intentionally pray for, care about, and share the gospel with individuals in their neighborhood or community. Lighthouses of Prayer are evangelistic prayer cells that are extensions of a local church's evangelistic prayer ministry.

Pray, Care, and Share

You don't need specialized skill and training to begin a Lighthouse of Prayer. The only requirement is a passionate commitment to a threefold mission—pray, care, and share Christ with neighbors, where you live and/or where you work.

Pray

Prayer makes a difference. United, specific, biblically-based prayer for individual believers and unbelievers will result in open hearts and golden opportunities for evangelistic witness. A strong prayer foundation is vital to the effectiveness of your Lighthouse (see 1 Tim. 2:1-4). Praying through lists, taking prayer walks, and asking neighbors to share prayer requests are ways to maximize your prayer effectiveness.

Care

Beginning a Lighthouse of Prayer means caring for your neighbors. Offering "a cup of cold water" in Jesus' name (see Matt. 10:42) can take many forms. Taking a meal to a sick coworker or offering to take a short walk with an elderly neighbor will show that you care. Look for creative and intentional ways to care for others. Caring involves being present and connecting with people in their daily lives. God's love shown through acts of kindness and compassion opens the door for forming genuine, accepting, and wholesome relationships.

Share

All believers have a mandate to be a witness of Christ to a lost and dying world (Matt. 28:18-20). It is not enough for Lighthouse participants to only pray and care for their neighbors. The verbal sharing of Jesus Christ is essential if Lighthouses are to provide true light in a dark world. As you intentionally share the gospel, do so with sensitivity to the person and situation. Use different methods or approaches to share the gospel (e.g., share a gospel tract, give a marked New Testament, or invite your neighbor to an evangelistic event). Remember to ask God for opportunities, to share when prompted by the Holy Spirit, and then to leave the results to God.

Lighthouses of Prayer – Everywhere

Lighthouses of Prayer can be started anywhere by devoted believers who desire to intentionally pray and care for, and then share Christ with those in their sphere of influence.

- A family can be a Lighthouse of Prayer in its community.
- Believers can unite in a home to form a neighborhood Lighthouse of Prayer.
- College students can meet in a dorm room to form a Lighthouse of Prayer on their campus.
- Prison inmates can even form a Lighthouse of Prayer in a correctional facility.
- Co-workers can meet together to begin a Lighthouse of Prayer to pray for fellow workers, and watch the atmosphere at work change.

Getting Started

It is simple and easy to start a Lighthouse of Prayer in your home, neighborhood, or workplace.

- 1. Commit to pray, care, and share for people around you on a daily basis. Pray for the Lord to identify prayer partners to meet and pray with you regularly. Identify and start praying for a few people at a time. For example, start small by taking prayer walks through your neighborhood.
- 2. As you begin to pray, start looking for opportunities to care for your neighbors. Ask the individuals you are praying for to share prayer concerns with you. Follow up prayer requests with visits, calls, or ministry.
- 3. As relationships grow, look for times to intentionally share Christ with the people you have been praying and caring for.
- 4. Share with your pastor or church prayer leader how the Lord is working through the Lighthouse of Prayer. Continually seek prayer support from your local church. Encourage your church and other believers to get involved in the Lighthouse vision.
- 5. Link your Lighthouse of Prayer with your local church's total prayer plan. For more information visit <u>www.namb.net/prayer</u> or contact your Southern Baptist state convention office.