

TRAINING SESSION #1: PRAYER MINISTRY AND RESPONSE TEAM

SECTION 1: WHO YOU ARE

- Your position and authority in Christ;
 - The same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in you;
 - You are a son/daughter of the King; an heir and an overcomer.
- Mark 16:16-18 Jesus has commissioned you to do the things He and the disciples did in His name.

SECTION 2: HOW YOU ARE TO BE

- Phil.2:5 Your attitude must be the same as that of Jesus; humble, compassionate, not self-promoting but servant-like.
 - God wants us to be totally dependent on Him – those who know full well we can't do anything in our own strength.
 - We don't have any authority or power on our own; it is all from Jesus.
- 2Tim.2:24-26 Servant heart; not quarrelsome; kind; patient; gentle; able to teach simple truths simply.

Servant heart:

- Your role is to reassure and encourage the process of what God has already begun.
- So it's nothing to do with YOU or YOUR giftedness, position in the church etc. it is all about what God is doing. You're there simply to be there!
- Any child of God is qualified to do this.

Not quarrelsome:

- In evangelism easy to win arguments but lose converts.

Kind, patient, gentle:

- Compassion that comes out of a real and deep relationship with God is the one essential prerequisite
- It takes as long as it takes. You can't hurry what the Holy Spirit is doing.

- Don't get ahead of God's timing by trying to push an issue because you think it should be dealt with now. Let God be God.

Able to teach:

- Know the key stages of the gospel. Be prepared to share the message again if needed.
- Be aware you are up against the father of lies; be prepared to affirm the Truth of what God's Word says about someone if necessary. It is the Truth that sets people free.

SECTION 3: WHAT YOU ARE TO DO IN THE PREACHING MEETINGS

1. As people move forward to make a response, also come forward:

- a. Be aware of other members of the ministry also coming forward and look for someone of the opposite sex to team up with.
- b. Together make your way to stand alongside someone who's come forward to make a response.
- c. Just stand with them until Steve (or whoever else is speaking) has finished.

2. Talk to the person:

- a. Introduce yourself.
- b. LISTEN to what they say. Keep listening to the Holy Spirit.
 - i. Why have they come forward?
 - ii. What is it they want?
- c. THINK and PRAY before you speak: if you feel God gives you a 'word' for them this can be a bit freaky for a brand new believer; therefore how we communicate this word is extremely IMPORTANT.
 - i. If the Lord shows you something negative about the person's life (e.g. they're in an adulterous relationship) say something like *"Is it possible the Lord might be saying something to you about relationships?"* Then listen to their reply. If they affirm the word as true then assure them that Father God loves them. They are often over-awed by this especially that God appears to have singled them out which proves to them how special they are to Him
 - ii. Do not try to force a confession and repentance at this stage; God will do what He will do and it will all come out in the end.
 - iii. Do not use *"The Lord says..."* Be less dogmatic e.g. *"I have a sense that..."* or *"It is possible the Lord might be saying..."*

- iv. Ask them if they would agree that the prophetic word or insight you have is actually for them.
- v. Listen very carefully to what is being said to you. Trust the Holy Spirit to lead the conversation. Continually keep an ear open to the Spirit.
- d. PRAY with authority into whatever situation is before you. It does not have to be complicated and you do not need to preach a 3 point sermon in your prayer! Remember it is NOT about you but about you just being a willing, meek, humble, servant-channel e.g. *Father, let Your Kingdom come in this leg. Let it be restored now in Jesus' Name.* Then watch carefully for signs of God's activity.
- e. in the Kingdom of God into their life:
 - i. Affirm that God loves them.
 - ii. Pray releasing the presence of God's Kingdom.
 - iii. Command a healing in Jesus' name.
 - iv. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill them.
 - v. Pray for God's love and peace to be experienced and received.
 - vi. Pray a blessing.

3. When God has finished what He is doing:

- a. Show them the ASK bookmark and re-iterate the words in the text on the front: *"To all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God"*.
- b. Get them to sign the Statement of Commitment to follow Jesus on the reverse of the ASK bookmark.
- c. Give them a copy of the following materials:
 - i. ASK bookmark.
 - ii. John's gospel.
 - iii. Just the Beginning.
- d. Fill out the Response Form.

4. At the end of the evening give all your response forms to Sarah W.

SECTION 4: WHAT YOU ARE NOT TO DO

- 1. Do not assume anything about a person based on prior knowledge, how they look or dress. Remember God is at work and will already be changing them.

2. Do not pray aloud in tongues or make strange noises (ho! etc).
3. Do not wear sunglasses that hide your eyes.
4. Do not use spiritual jargon or archaic language.
5. Do not do anything that looks odd to a brand new believer e.g. sticking your arm out like a policeman on traffic duty!
6. Do not touch the person unless you have previously asked permission to do so. Even then make it just a light touch on the head or shoulder. If you feel the need to touch a part of the body that is 'personal' e.g. chest, then ask the person to place their hand their first and you place your hand on top. NO PUSHING; NO PRESSURE; NO STROKING.
7. Do not preach another sermon.
8. Do not try to impress with your bible knowledge.
9. Do not promise them anything or to do anything for them. Don't get over-involved. Remember it is all about what God is doing in someone's life; so we have to ensure we don't get in the way of that. We're simply there at a vital first stage to encourage and reassure.
10. Do not keep them unduly long. 5-10 minutes for each respondee should be sufficient.