

SHINING THE LIGHT IN DARK PLACES



PFC
PRISONERS FOR CHRIST

**White
Paper**

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How to Conduct an All Night Prayer Meeting ©

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Women required to bring their children to prison with them

How is it possible to spend all night doing nothing but praying and worshipping the Lord?

Should everyone be expected to stay for the entire duration of the prayer meeting?

Prison ministry volunteers constantly encounter spiritual warfare and should thus take full advantage of the tremendous weapon of prayer that Christ gives believers to combat the enemy. This paper outlines the practical steps to follow in order to successfully organize and conduct an "Around the World" All Night Prayer Meeting. Among the topics covered are: setting the best time and date, choosing the best location, invitations, reminder notes, listing prayer requests, and organizing the flow of the evening.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PRISONERS FOR CHRIST OUTREACH MINISTRIES, CALL (425) 483-4151 OR VISIT WWW.PFCOM.ORG

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Introduction

Prayer is a tremendous weapon that Christ gives to all believers to combat the enemy, his principalities and demonic influences. We must never take for granted the incredible power of a believing KNEELING Saint!

PFC is a ministry dedicated to taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ into the jails, prisons and juvenile institutions of the world. We go where very few believers dare to go and thus are constantly being attacked by demonic influences. We are, in effect, stomping and trampling on Satan's playground.

In the ensuing training we will attempt to outline some steps that will help educate, train, equip, and multiply our PFC "Around the World" All Night Prayer Meetings (ANPM) for prison ministries throughout the world.

6 Steps to Conducting an All Night Prayer Meeting

1. Have a Passion for Prayer:

Without a passion for prayer, an All Night Prayer Meeting (ANPM) will only be an exercise in walking in the flesh, causing frustration and discouragement. The leaders and organizers must understand the power of prayer and commit to praying on a daily basis for the needs of the ministry. One must never stop traveling in prayer for the souls of man through the power of prayer.

2. Setting a Date and Time to Pray:

We have found that the best time for this ministry to conduct an ANPM is on Friday night starting at 8 pm that evening. Since Saturday most likely is a day off for many around the world, having it at this time will give people an extra day to recuperate from the lack of sleep.

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3. Finding a Place to Hold an ANPM:

We have always held ANPM in private homes. We feel a home environment is much more conducive to this kind of praying than a room in a church. However if the local church is the most adequate place to hold one, then so be it! Prayer meetings can sometimes get loud, so it is important to have a home with few neighbors or have neighbors who do not care about loudness. Some prayer meetings seem to do well when held in churches but the preference is a relaxed environment in a private home. Such an atmosphere can also help people to go beyond certain inhibitions that might keep them from crying out to the Lord with all their heart.

4. Inviting People to Attend:

One should never exclude anyone from an invitation to attend an ANPM, especially prison ministry volunteers. Invite everyone you know with the hopes of having 10-20 core people attending for the entire evening. Invite them through personal invite, email, or an announcement at church. Get the word out at least 4 weeks prior to the event with a “Save the date” announcement.

In America many believers will have never attended an ANPM and therefore will be very apprehensive about staying up all night to do nothing but pray and worship the Lord. You should put their minds at ease and share with them the incredible blessing of participating in an ANPM.

However this is not the case of our brothers and sisters in other countries who are more in tune with ANPM.

5. Reminder Notice:

It is vitally important that you remind people of their commitment either in person, by email or by giving them a phone call. Things happen in life and people are distracted or become forgetful. A casual email or a gentle phone call will help remind them of this very important event. Remind them at least 5 days prior to the event and make sure they know the address and have directions to the place it is being held.

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6. Prayer Requests:

This all night prayer evening will focus on praying for the specific needs of the Prisoners for Christ Prison Ministries [Around the World](#). If you are participating in a foreign country in one of our ANPM, the PFC home office in the United States will email you out a list of prayer requests at least three days prior to the event. However, if you are the leader, it is important for you to:

1. Make copies of the prayer requests from the home office in America for each person participating that night and hand them out at the prayer meeting so that the participants will have a copy for the evening. They can also take this list home with them to pray throughout the week.
2. Allow each participant an opportunity to share their own personal prayer requests. We handle this by giving each participant a separate piece of paper on which they are invited to write their own personal prayer requests. We then collect those lists of prayer requests and then randomly pass them out to other participants to pray for these requests throughout the evening. We have people make the list of their own personal prayer request at the beginning of the meeting or at each break.
3. Include a sheet of prayer requests for your own specific country or region regarding prison ministry in addition to the list from the home office in the United States.

Important: You will want to divide the prayer requests into three sections, as the evening will be divided into three sections as you will see below. This allows the participants to focus in on praying for those requests for that certain section.

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7. Agenda and Flow of the Evening:

Section I of the Evening

8:00-8:30 p.m.: Arrival, introductions, passing out sheets of paper for people to use to write out their own personal prayer requests.

8:30-9:15 p.m.: Approximately 45 minutes of spontaneous song worship. *It is important to note that there should be an accomplished worship leader with either a guitar or keyboard at each ANPM that can stay the entire evening.* It is also important to note that the songs should be typed out so that everybody can participate if they don't know the songs.

9:15 p.m.-12:00 a.m.: Prayer time for Section 1 prayers and spontaneous Bible readings from participants. It is important to note that people should allow the Holy Spirit to move throughout the prayer time, Scripture reading, and worshipping through song.

12:00 a.m.-12:45 a.m.: This is a time to allow people to get up and move about, go to the bathroom, or go outside to get some fresh air. If funds are available, light refreshments should be served. At this break, we often times will show a video on the movement of God in other parts of the world.

Section II of the Evening

12:45-1:30 a.m.: Song worship

1:30-3:30 a.m.: Prayer time for Section 2 prayers and spontaneous Bible readings from participants.

3:30-4:15 a.m.: This is a time to allow people to get up and move about, go to the bathroom, or go outside to get some fresh air. If funds are available, light refreshments should be served. At this break, we often times will show a video on the movement of God.

Section III of the Evening

4:15-4:45 a.m.: Song worship

4:45-6:00 a.m.: Prayer Time for Section 3 prayer requests and spontaneous Scripture reading.

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Remember:

- 1. Have printed prayer requests for each of the three sections.*
- 2. Allow people to come and go. Some people arrive at 8 p.m. and others arrive at 1 a.m. Some people may need to leave prior to midnight.*

If you have never been to an ANPM you will find this a wonderful and fruitful time for the body of believers to come before the throne and lift up the Name of Jesus higher and higher. This time will bond prison ministry workers together for the co-laboring of the harvest of souls around the world. Be blessed and please report into us the following week on how things went for you. Gods speed!

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In Closing

Let me take just a few more minutes of your time and tell you a little more about Prisoners for Christ. PFC is a ministry dedicated to taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the institutions of the World. As of the close of 2011, we currently have over 1,200 volunteers world wide and growing everyday. Last year our volunteers conducted an average of 267 church services per month, almost 9 per day. PFC had over 611,507 inmates attend our services last year with over 179,621 men, women and children accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

The Lord has seen fit to expand our territories by allowing us to go to the four corners of the world with field offices in 8 different foreign countries, including Russia, Kenya, Burundi, Congo, Uganda, Ghana, Rwanda, India with more countries soon to come on line in the next 18 months.

Our major objective is to win souls to Christ. Our secondary objective is to equip the saints. Whether you are a single volunteer going into an institution, or whether you are a part of a group of a larger team, or even perhaps a volunteer in your church's prison outreach, we are interested in you!

We are interested in your development as a minister of the Gospel. So please avail yourself of our training and printed resources!

If the Lord should ever tug on your heart to be a part of the PFC Team worldwide, we have a number of opportunities of involvement for you.

First, if the Lord should tug on your heart to jump on board with us as a financial partner, please do so. We would be very excited for you to share in the rewards of this ministry. Our faithful committed monthly partners are the lifeblood of this ministry. We do not charge for any of our training material. Our hearts desire is to equip the saints to do good works. All that we have, and all that we are, are gifts from God to be used for His glory. Our resources are to be released back to the church body for His use through you.

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you were blessed by this course, you can donate either through mailing a check to our PFC offices or on line through our web page.

The second way you can become involved is to become a volunteer:

1. You can be a PFC Volunteer anywhere in the world. You can join the PFC team whether you are here in the United States or elsewhere in the world.
2. You might consider becoming a PFC Area representative or church leader in your geographic metropolitan area. This is for those who have been in prison ministry for three or more years and have the hearts desire to take their leadership to the next level.
3. Or perhaps you have been doing prison ministry for some time and now the Lord is tugging on your heart to become a Full Time Prison Missionary. By all means, please get in contact with us as we have a training course for those who are interested in going into full time ministry.

Regardless of whether you are here in the United States or a person in another part of the world, please consider joining the family of PFC.

However, if you are a part of another prison ministry, stay where you are at and be the best prison ministry volunteer for that organization, in other words “Bloom where you are planted!”

Feel free to connect with us in one of 4 ways:

1. **Mailing address:** Prisoners for Christ (PFC)
PO Box 1530
Woodinville, Wa. 98072
2. **Web Page:** www.pfcom.org
3. **Phone:** 425 483-4151
4. **Fax:** 425 487-1680