



dare 2 share

VALUE 1

# Intercessory Prayer



Best Practices and Ideas

## Intercessory Prayer Wall

Jonathan Phillips | The Crossing Fellowship | Gothenburg, Nebraska

An Intercessory Prayer Wall is a great visual to prioritize prayer in your youth group.

- ◆ You can use a creative display or backdrop like wooden boards or a pallet, but a plain, flat wall works just fine.
- ◆ Hang string or twine on a wall, using thumbtacks or pins to hold it in place.
- ◆ Have students write the names of their friends who don't yet know Jesus on index cards, and hang them up using clothespins.
- ◆ Pray over the names every week. You can have one student lead the group in prayer over all the names, have each student take a name from the wall and pray over it by themselves, or come up with another approach. Changing up the format each week will help keep your students engaged.
- ◆ Regularly remind your students to add index cards for new friends they are praying for.

*“Our students seem to really get excited to add more names to our wall and pray for their peers. It was really exciting when we had someone whose name was on the wall show up at youth group for the first time! Definitely showed our students the power of prayer.”*



## Peer Prayers

Francisco Peña | Vandalia Baptist Church | Vandalia, Ohio

The Cause Circle feature in the Life in 6 Words app is a great way to get students praying for their lost friends. Peer prayers can inspire students to pray for their friends' Cause Circles.

- ◆ Start your Wednesday night or Sunday morning meetings by having your students pull up their Cause Circles in the Life in 6 Words app.
- ◆ Have your students pair up with one another.
- ◆ Have one student share the names of the lost friends in their Cause Circle whom they are praying for. The student they are paired up with then prays for those names out loud.
- ◆ After a few minutes, have them switch.
- ◆ If you are meeting virtually on Zoom, you can break the students into small groups and assign them to a Zoom breakout room, or assign them a partner and have them direct message each other in the chat box. Give them five minutes to share names and pray for each other.

*“The impact is gradual but real (crockpot discipleship, not microwave discipleship). I believe the biggest impact on teens is when they see their peers (not only the youth leaders) embracing the power of prayer with love, faith, and passion. No shortcuts—just a gradual but real change in their prayer life.”*

## Prayer Chain

Jacob Mock | Calvary Baptist Temple | Savannah, Georgia

A prayer chain can be a great visual to remind your students to pray. It will become a fun and practical activity for your students, and it livens up your youth room. As the chain grows, it will serve as a reminder that God hears our prayers for one another and for those who don't yet know Him.

- ◆ Set up a table to serve as a prayer-request station.
- ◆ Put out blank slips of paper for students to write their requests on. You can use different-colored slips of paper for various types of prayer requests (lost friends they are praying for, health-related concerns, etc.).
- ◆ Place a basket labeled "Prayer Requests" on the table.
- ◆ Give students time during your weekly program to write a prayer request on one of the slips of paper and have them put it in the basket labeled "Prayer Requests."
- ◆ Dedicate time during your meeting to pray for the requests. Pass the "Prayer Request" basket around the room and encourage students to take one or two slips of paper to pray over. Have students write their initials on the back of the slip to mark that it has been prayed for.
- ◆ Once a prayer has been answered, take it out of the "Prayer Request" basket and add it as a link in your youth room's prayer chain.

*"The prayer chain has been an excellent tool to emphasize intercessory prayer in our student ministry! The students love being able to 'see' how their prayers are being answered. It encourages them to keep praying, and it's a constant reminder of how good and loving our God is."*

