

# Praying in Groups

## Talking About Time

Pass round a clock and ask questions such as: How do you feel about time when you are at work/school? Which is your favourite time of day? Which is your worst time? When does time seem to fly? When does it drag?

Identify particular times of the day which people would like prayer for and pray in pairs or for each person in turn.

## String Connections

Group throws a ball of string to each other, so they end up all connected. Pray (aloud or silently) for the people at the other ends of the bit of string they are holding.

## Thank You Alphabet

Have sheet of paper with letters A-Z. Everyone to add to sheet until it is covered in words (and pictures). Prayers of thanksgiving together.

## Being Melted

Give each person an ice cube in a bowl. Hold the ice in your palm and watch as it begins to melt. Assure them that God holds them in his hands; encourage them to let his love warm their hearts and melt the frozen places deep inside.

Can also be done by holding a stone to warm it.

## Overflowing Blessings

Put a large glass in the middle of a cloth with marbles around it. Each person chooses a marble to represent something they want to give thanks for, and puts it into the glass. Continue until the cup overflows (Psalm 23:5-6)

## Knowing One Another

Everyone to make a collage using word and pictures from magazines about who they are & what is important to them. Share as much as they like and pray for each other.

## Bark

Spread out large pieces of tree bark and ask everyone to take a piece of bark they identify with. Imagine the outer surface represents their public, outer life - how they think others see them - and the inside represents their more private, inner life. Are there contrasts or contradictions between the two aspects? Share about themselves and pray specifically for each other.

### **Hopes & Fears**

Each person takes a cube net (A4 card) and writes some of their dreams and worries inside. Then tape shut. Hold cube before God and entrust dreams and worries to God.

### **Money**

Handle coins and banknotes - imagine their history and their meaning, and think about what money means to you. Discuss relevant Bible verses and pray about what comes out of discussion.

### **Fragile People**

Think of some people who are unhappy - ill, lonely, hungry, at war... Take a paper person and pray for the fragile people they are holding in their hands and hearts.

### **The Next Step**

At the end of a session, everyone draw round one of their feet on a sheet of paper. Allow silence to pray for discernment about their next step(s), then write it on the footprint. Lead a prayer of self-offering (Galatians 5:25).

### **Scrabble Letters**

Take a letter out of the bag and choose someone whose name begins with that letter to pray for.

### **The Compass & the Magnet**

Lay out a map and put compass in the middle of it. Demonstrate how the compass always turns to magnetic north - liken to Christians needing to point our lives towards Jesus. Discuss what pulls you or people generally away from following Jesus. Demonstrate with magnet to 'distract' compass. Give distractions to God and pray for forgiveness.

### **Stones Have Sharp Edges**

Choose a stone each, and discuss how they can represent our uniqueness and strength, but also tough experiences or your 'sharp edges' that continually get you into trouble. Give them to Jesus at the cross and receive forgiveness and strength.

### **Jigsaws**

Cut a large piece of card into jigsaw-type shapes with a clear middle piece that hold the others together. Ask group what they want prayer for; place pieces together as each prayer is offered. Central piece can go in first to represent Jesus around whom our prayers take shape, or last to hold our prayers together and take them to the Father.