



## Mission Prayer Team Guidelines

**No partner is more important than prayer partners.** Planting a church is a big deal. Satan does not want your church to succeed in being missional or in planting a church. Surround your church and your leadership team with a group of mission prayer partners who will pray for discernment, wisdom, boldness and openness to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit

Many churches underestimate the amount of spiritual warfare they will face as they ponder the possibility of planting a church. Satan will work to discourage your church from reaching out with the Gospel or from planting a church. Prayer must be a priority for the process of considering the planting of a church. This team can later transition into being a Prayer Team for the new church plant if God leads your church to participate in planting one.

Your congregation should seek a group of 8 – 10 people who are known to be consistent prayer warriors for this effort

To recruit the first 10 prayer team members, consider the following:

- Brainstorm at least 10 people who would be committed to praying for church leadership and for the emerging Parenting Team
- Contact them about being on the Mission Prayer Team
- Initiate some form of weekly communication with them with specific prayer requests.
- Encourage them to invite others to join them as members of the team.

Suggested initial prayer requests:

- Pastor and church leaders – You need God's wisdom, patience and strength
- Your congregation – that they will be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit through God's Word to seek to be part of God's mission to the world
- Protection - Satan will attack you, your family, and anyone who wants to join you
- Vision - that God would guide your congregation's planning and give you a clear vision for the new church
- Parenting Team – that they would lead wisely and not lose momentum
- Planter Search Process – that God would direct the congregation to the right person to lead the effort to plant a church
- Launch Team - that God would provide the right people to form the core of the new church
- Finances – that God would provide the resources to make the church planting effort possible.
- Inform – the congregation about what issues the Mission Prayer Team is specifically praying

Prayer partners should pray for the specific needs faced as the congregation moves through the various steps in the planting process. A group email program is usually the most effective way to do this. It is imperative that the prayer team emails clearly communicate the prayer needs of the congregation in this effort.