

# Prayer Pointers for Non-Believers

## REACHING OUR WORLD - Small Group Resource

As a small group, praying for non-believers can be a simple yet essential aspect of Reaching Our World. Whether praying for a group of people in a foreign country or for the friends and relatives connected to the members of your small group, here are some specific things that small groups can pray for non-believers.

### Small Group Dialogue

- What do you think hinders people from hearing or believing the gospel message?
- What spiritual conversations have you had recently? Share a bit about how it went.
- How are you pursuing spiritual conversations with non-Christians?
- Who do you think was praying for you to hear and receive the gospel message?
- Are there specific people in your life (or even a particular demographic) that you hope will come to Jesus?
- How can we as a small group support one another in praying for non-believers?

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### Small Group Activity

“Lord, who would you like me to pray for this week?”

Break out in smaller groups to pray specifically for those God has brought to mind. Encourage the group members to continue to pray for them during the week. In the following weeks, report back any observations of answered prayer to the group.

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### **Prayer Pointers for Non-Believers:**

- Pray that God would draw them to Himself (John 6:44).
- Pray that they seek to know God (Acts 17:27, Deuteronomy 4:29).
- Pray that they would encounter the truth of who Jesus is (John 14:6).
- Pray that they would believe the Scriptures (1 Thessalonians 2:13, Romans 10:17).
- Pray that God would circumcise their hearts (Deuteronomy 30:6).
- Pray that God would give them a heart of flesh (Ezekiel 11:19).
- Pray that God would put His Spirit within them (Ezekiel 36:27) and that they would recognize their need for God, that they would hunger for God.
- Pray that God would open their hearts to believe the gospel (Acts 16:14) and roadblocks to hear the gospel would be removed (pride, unbelief, etc.).
- Pray that God would free them from the slavery of sin (Romans 6:17).
- Pray that God would remove Satan's blinding influence (2 Corinthians 4:4).
  - Pray against any deception that they have.
  - Recognize the distinctness of Jesus from false religions.
- Pray that God would grant them repentance (2 Timothy 2:25-26).
- Pray that they would respond to work of the Holy Spirit (John 16:8-13).
- Pray for their salvation, that they believe and accept Christ (John 1:12, John 5:24).
- Pray that they turn from sin (Acts 3:19, Acts 17:30-31).

### **Prayers for You in Ministry to Non-believers:**

- Pray that you will develop relationship with them (Romans 10:14).
- Pray for opportunities to minister to them (Matthew 5:16).
- Pray for them faithfully and persistently (Colossians 4:2).
- Pray for a burden to plead for their souls (Romans 10:1).
- Pray for boldness in generating and taking opportunities to speak the gospel (Ephesians 6:19).
- Pray for other believers to encounter them (1 Corinthians 3:6).
- Pray that God would use any circumstance to do His work in them (Psalm 119:67).
- As you pray for the unbelievers you love, always pray to God, "*your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven*" (Matthew 6:10).
- Pray that God would extend His mercy to them (2 Peter 3:9).
- Pray with confidence (James 5:16).

### **Additional Leader Resources**

- "Prayer: Small Group Prayer" Leader Training Workshop.
- *Pray Big: The Power of Pinpoint Prayers* by Will Davis Jr.

*Adapted from <https://www.challies.com/articles/how-to-pray-for-unbelievers/> by Tim Challies*