

Prayer Walking: A Few Ideas to Get Started

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Prayer walking is a powerful tool for you to see Gospel change in your life. In years past the BCM at UTK has hosted a community prayer walk the week before students return to campus. Calling on local churches, WMU groups, and alumni, we invite them to come and pray for specific requests on campus. We have placed this calendar event in our associational newsletter and sent email invitations to our church pastors and WMU leaders nearby.

Here are some of the specific elements we have when we host our prayer walk in August:

- Welcome people with an introduction to where your ministry is currently and where you are prayerfully heading.
- Give them statistics on the lostness of your campus. The numbers give a sobering reality check to the need of the gospel.
- Bring your students and staff along to pray in the groups so they can share specific prayer requests and answer questions.
- Send people to different spaces on campus with very specific prayer requests. This may look like praying for housing, RAs and residence life near the dorms. Around the stadiums praying against idolizing sports and safety on game days. On EVERY route, pray for lostness of the campus and workers for the harvest from within the students.
- Give them a map and prompts for their route. We have actually laminated ours for use over and over again.
- Give a prayer card/bookmark so they can continue to pray for you as you leave. The more specific the better. Some ideas from the past are names of leaders they can pray for specifically, a calendar of our welcome week events that they can pray for daily, and others.
- Thank them for the spiritual work they are stepping into WITH YOU by being your prayer warriors in the battle for this generation's souls.

An example of answered prayer: We have had our campus police share that there was a decrease in violence against women on campus. As our staff considered this, we remembered we had coordinated a prayer response to the increase of violence, and we believe we saw the Lord answer that prayer in provisions of safety and wisdom for these female students.

Lastly, I would encourage you to follow up with those who have come to pray with stories of how those prayers are being answered. I don't know about you, but my fervor for prayer increases

each and every time I see God work through those prayers.

P.S. don't forget to do this for yourself on your campus regularly both on your own and with your students. Prayer is powerful!