



**OUR  
WAY  
OF  
LIFE**

**MCBC  
SUNDAY PRAYER TEAM**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

That our church will be ignited to be a house of prayer and we will be with one mind and one purpose continually devoting ourselves to prayer. Acts 1:14

## **WHAT IS THE PRAYERTEAM?**

Here at MCBC, the prayer teams are a crucial part of our Sunday Services. At every service our prayer is that people have an encounter with Jesus. For every person this happens differently. Encounter can look like conviction, healing, deliverance, joy, freedom, salvation and transformation. Our role is to get alongside what God is doing and comfort, encourage and lead the person as Holy Spirit does all the work. It is such an honour and a privilege to be part of what God is doing in someone's life through prayer.

## **PURPOSE**

Prayer engages God and us. Jesus taught us to pray and exemplified prayer through his life both personally and for others. To pray is to serve those in need and to ask our Father, in faith, to move in a person's life and situation.

Is anyone among you sick? He must call for the elders (spiritual leaders) of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another [your false steps, your offenses], and pray for one another, that you may be healed and restored. The heartfelt and persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much [when put into action and made effective by God—it is dynamic and can have tremendous power]. James 5:14-16 (AMP)

First of all, I ask you to pray for everyone. Ask God to help and bless them all, and tell God how thankful you are for each of them.

1 Timothy 2:1 (CEV)

## **OUR CONGREGATION**

Our church is over 85 years old. We have a multi-generational and multi-ethnic congregation who meet together weekly on a Sunday in person and online.

# OUR VALUES

## INTIMACY WITH GOD

Abiding in God's presence individually & corporately is crucial to our lives and ministry. We dedicate ourselves to a life of obedience to God's word, prayer, worship and fasting both personally and collectively to see God's kingdom come.

Psalm 84:1-2, Ephesians 6:18, Romans 12:1, Matthew 6:10

## HONOUR

We will honour the Lord in all things and delight in honouring others. Romans 14:8, Romans 12:10, 1 Peter 2:17

## INTEGRITY

In all things we represent Jesus, and Manukau City Baptist Church. We will conduct ourselves as sons & daughters and ambassadors of the King of Kings. Our life is based off the Word of God!

Galatians 3:26, 2 Corinthians 5:20, 1 Corinthians 11:1

## PASSION

We are committed to Jesus and his mission! We will live & serve with enthusiasm and zeal knowing we are truly blessed. Romans 12:11, 1 Corinthians 15:58

## SERVE

It is our joy to serve others with humility following the example of Jesus. We choose to be servant hearted at all times. Romans 12:16, Philippians 2:5-8, Matthew 23:11

## UNITY

We are a team! Each of us is crucial to the kingdom of God and our unique gifts are honoured. We will encourage each other at all times as we serve the Lord together.

John 13:34-35, Ephesians 4:3, Romans 12:5-6, 1 Thessalonians 5:11

## **OUR NORMS**

Our “norms” are the expectations we have for each other as we serve together.

### **SPIRITUAL NORMS**

- Walk closely with the Lord
- Have an active prayer life
- Prepare for Sunday spiritually
- Be completely reliant on Holy Spirit when praying for someone
- Remember you are a representative of MCBC, and an ambassador for Jesus!

### **BEHAVIOURAL NORMS**

- Be active in the life of the church and look for opportunities to serve
- Be engaged in the whole service
- Be committed to the church and to the prayer team, even when not rostered on
- Communicate clearly with other members of the team
- Care for, and always look for the best in others
- Respect those in leadership as well as our congregation
- Be teachable and soft-hearted

### **PRACTICAL NORMS**

- Turn up to meet and pray for each other at 9.50am
- Consider appropriate standard of dress, hygiene etc
- Have your bible with you
- Find someone to cover you if you can't make it
- Minister in pairs if possible (set up team before church)
- Pray with the same gender

### **PRAYING**

- Introduce yourself and be warm and encouraging
- Ask a few questions: Their name, what they would like Jesus to do for them, what they would like prayer for?
- Listen carefully to all they say and repeat back to them if you are unsure. Some people don't want to say why they have come forward for prayer. If this is the case just be sensitive to what Holy Spirit is saying and remember to be loving and encouraging.
- Encourage the person to close their eyes - This helps focus on God.
- Pray in the name of Jesus!

- Time is limited and it is not our place to counsel or go too deep. If you feel they need counselling or more personal or focussed prayer, then refer to a staff member, or take contact details and give to team leader.
- Pray according to their requests. Don't add anything. If you sense Holy Spirit speaking into something then gracefully explain what you are feeling/hearing and ask permission to pray into that.
- Be careful not to make assumptions about a person e.g. ethnicity, tattoos, language etc
- As you pray keep eyes open, watch the person to make sure they are comfortable and be aware of their body language. Helps you also see and sense what Holy Spirit is doing.
- Ask permission to lay hands on the person - usually shoulder, head - sometimes the sick part or get them to lay hands themselves.
- It's okay to ask common sense questions: "Do you understand what is happening?"
- If appropriate get them to pray too. If they are uncomfortable remind them it is just talking to God.
- If the person has never had someone pray for them then explain. This won't take long and will put them at ease.
- Keep everything confidential unless they are going to harm themselves or others. Then inform senior leadership.
- Pray for the person in the same way you would like to be prayed for.
- Speak words of life, with grace, humility and gentleness
- Silence is okay. It allows time to listen to what God is saying.
- Pray in tongues if you feel comfortable but be sensitive.
- Be aware that God often touches someone, and they can display this in different ways e.g. tears, shaking, feeling heat, falling over, laughter, smiling, peace, sweat, heaviness, lightness, speaking in tongues and visions.
- Occasionally people fall to the ground. Make sure they are safe and stay with them if appropriate. Help them to sit up. If you go to leave then let them know you are leaving.
- If people show a demonic manifestation, these can be commanded to leave in Jesus name. Seek the help of a mature Christian or team leader or staff.
- At any point if you are feeling uneasy, politely ask the person to wait and explain you are just going to get another team member to come and be part of the prayer.

## **DON'T:**

- Pray too long. This is not the place for long prayers. People often feel uncomfortable if this takes too long.
- Exert pressure on the person as if to push them over.
- Tell the person they have an evil spirit.
- Tell them to come off medication.
- Prophecy dates, mates or un-encouraging words.

## **PRAYER FOR HEALING ETC**

As a church we believe God still heals today and we will always pray for healing when the opportunity arises. But let's remember:

- Healing happens in God's timing - not ours.
- We are to treat the person with respect and value and if healing doesn't occur straight way encourage them to trust God!

Then Peter said, "I don't have money, but I'll give you this—by the power of the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk!" Acts 3:6

## **CONCLUDING**

- Remember to finish with thanking God for what he has done, and what he is going to continue to do, and pray blessings.
- Remind them of God's unending love for them.
- If they would like further follow-up, take their name and phone number and give to team leader/staff member.
- Remind them that we have an enemy who wants them to believe that the prayer didn't help. Remind them of the authority they have as a child of God, to find some scriptures to pray over themselves and to be in fellowship with other Christians. They have the authority to pray for themselves too.

## **TEAM DEBRIEF**

If you have any concerns after praying for people, please see one of the team leaders to receive prayer yourself.

## **ROSTERS**

Rosters will be made if the size of the team is big enough to put them in place.

Team training meetings are on Sundays after morning church where we have lunch together, pray, catch up and have some training together. The dates for these are given out with the roster.



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## **QUESTIONS?**

If you have any questions about anything in this 'Way of Life' or would like to discuss joining the Prayer Team, please contact one of the Prayer Team Leaders, MCBC Pastors, or the church office:  
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