

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- 1 Venues that are used for prayer watches
- 2 Different approaches on getting people involved
- 3 Frequency of involvement
- 4 Different names are being used for night-and-day prayer watches
- 5 The prayer focus of prayer watches
- 6 Helpful websites

1 *Venues that are used for prayer watches*

All over the world people use nearly any type of venue to establish their watches. The following are examples of such venues:

- homes or flats
- garages or storage rooms
- back rooms, atticks or basements
- a shack
- chapels or church buildings
- dedicated prayer rooms
- an office or a venue in a shopping centre
- inside prisons

2 *Different approaches on getting people involved*

- A number of like minded individuals will take an hour each, filling the 24 hours.
- A local church will commit themselves to cover the week 24/7.
- A number of local churches will unit. Each church will for instance take one day a week and in that way they establish a 24/7/365 watch.
- A community may decide that they need a 24/7 watch. Individuals, local churches, prayer groups and youth groups will then unite and fill such a room with prayer 24/7.
- Young people in high/secondary school or universities/colleges commit themselves to establish a 24/7 on their campus.
- Children (ages 6-14) are sometimes mobilized into prayer watches. They will take slots in an established prayer watch or will commit to take a number of hours per week.
- A growing number of people all over the world will commit themselves for periods of time (a few months, a year or longer) to serve on a full time basis as prayer missionaries in a prayer watch.

3 *Frequency of involvement*

- Some individuals will want to pray an hour a day.
- Some will be able to come once a week or once in two weeks.
- Others will come from time to time.
- Some will come for a one hour slot, others will take two or more.
- Some churches use one hour slots, others use two hour slots or 30 minute slots.
- Children may want to take 10-15 minute slots.
- Some watches will ask a local church to pray for one day a week or one day a month.
- Some watches are quite disorganized and people will spontaneously come and go, others are very disciplined and expect participants to be very punctual and to do a specific slot.

4 *Different names are being used for night-and-day prayer watches*

- Prayer chains
- Prayer rooms
- Houses of prayer
- Boiler rooms
- 24/7 Watches
- Prayer towers
- Power houses
- Prayer mountains

5 *The prayer focus of prayer watches*

Prayer watches are being established for a wide variety of reasons or purposes, for example:

- As centers of praise and worship
- Intercession and warfare prayer
- To pray the Word of God (i.e. Global Prayer Watch, Cape Town, South Africa)
- For solitude, silence, meditation and contemplative prayer (i.e. Taize in France)
- A combination of worship, intercession and warfare (i.e. International House of Prayer in Kansas City, USA)
- Praying for the nations of the world
- Praying for the basic needs of the community
- Praying for the nation: revival, economy, political situation, etc.
- Praying for the local church
- Any combination of the above

6 *Helpful websites*

www.global24-7.com
www.24-7prayer.com
www.fotb.com
www.jwipn.com
www.xtremepayer.com
www.ipcprayer.org
www.globaldayofprayer.com

“For the eyes of the Lord ranges throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him”

– (2 Chronicles 16:9)

I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that
I had absolutely no other place to go.

– Lincoln

Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments,
despise our persons, but they are helpless against our prayers.

– J. Sidlow Baxter