

## Week of Prayer

***At DPC we plan to have a week of prayer about every three months. During this week we ask all of our home groups to stop what they normally do and spend the night in prayer.***

### Why do it?

1. good in itself to pray: God does things when we pray.
2. Church is especially a strategic point in the spiritual battle. We are dealing with spiritual issues: eyes might be opened, hearts softened, minds renewed, resolve to repentance - things that only God can do.
3. we model the importance of prayer. It oughtta be a priority in the life of believers. And so it should be in our corporate life.
4. we model what things are important to pray for.
5. we model how to pray for various issues (political leaders, Tsunamis) - an important way of training & discipling others...equipping the saints.
6. It is another opportunity to reflect upon the word. We model how to respond to the Word in how we pray.
7. It is an expression of unity and solidarity.
8. An expression of our gifts – esp. if its not just the minister who prays, it highlights the priesthood of all believers.
9. We remember that God is in charge... prayer is about changing us, not changing things.
10. Commanded...or at least assumed by Jesus.

...Most people find it daunting but usually pleased to have done it.

### How to do it?

Preperation!

Set the tone, maybe open the word, but don't turn it into a Bible Study.

Rotate between Big group, individual, small groups

A simple format (an example, no right or wrong):

|  |                                                        |                                                                                                                                               |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | Pray for yourselves                                    | (break into boys and girls with the direction to share each one thing to pray for, one thing to give thanks for. Maybe break girls into two.) |
|  | Pray and give thanks for our mission in the Inner West | Pray in the big group                                                                                                                         |
|  | Think back over our studies:                           | On your own in silent prayer - identify one thing you've learned and thank God for it, one thing you've been challenged to change.            |
|  | mission all over the world                             | Big Group Again                                                                                                                               |