



Ten Tips...for engaging your HC in prayer

Simple suggestions from years of experience

1. **Prepare to Lead.** Prayer is often spontaneous. However, there are times when you may want to have a devoted time of prayer. Think and pray through how you want to lead this time
2. **Coach the group.** Give a bit of direction about the 'style' of prayer time (ie. Short, thanks-giving, pray more than once, etc) This can encourage new people to begin with small steps.
3. **Listen.** Coach people that prayer is also 'listening' to Jesus speak to us within the group setting. Regularly give people opportunity to share what they 'sense' the Lord has spoken
4. **Share prayer requests.** Sharing needs or requests are a great way to engage in prayer and build trust in the HC. Having 1 or 2 people pray after each request keeps the focus on prayer
5. **Mix it up.** At times, invite silence and be still. Other times you may want to listen to music and pray quietly. Other times you can try having everyone pray at once out loud, etc
6. **Change position.** Most of the time people pray sitting down, but sometimes you should try standing, or even kneeling (for those that can).
7. **Pray in different places.** You can ask people to go to quiet places around the home to pray, or out in the yard, or lead them on a prayer walk around the neighbourhood.
8. **Pray 'over' people.** When appropriate, lead the group to gather around a person. Ask if its 'okay' to lay hands on their shoulders or back. Invite the group to be still and listen and then to pray, to share a word, a scripture or lead in a song. Allow the Spirit of God to lead
9. **Include the kids.** It is a very special moment in the life of a HC when the children join in prayer. Ask them to do so regularly. Pray FOR them, OVER them, and WITH them.
10. **Pray together outside of HC.** Through social media, offer coffee, on the golf course, make prayer a normal part of the life of your group.