

Prayer Ministry Guidelines

Before praying:

- Ask for permission before praying for, or sharing a word with someone
- Ask the person what they are seeking to receive from God
- Ask for permission before laying on of hands (and only in an appropriate place e.g. shoulder/arm)
- No physical contact or one-to-one situations when praying with U18s or vulnerable adults
- If a one-one situation (although always in a public space) then men pray for men / women pray for women
- Breath mints
- Have tissues available
- We can suggest to the person being prayed for that it can be helpful for them to close their eyes and/or hold out their hands in a posture of receiving, but it's up to them
- We always aim for confidentiality, but we cannot promise it. If someone shares something that reveals that someone is at risk of harm then we have a legal duty to report it

During prayer:

- Keep your eyes open and on the person being prayed for especially while you are praying
- Focus on Jesus, not on the problem - we generally pray for the light rather than against the darkness
- If you're not sure what to pray for then: simply wait / pray for more of Jesus / ask for the Holy Spirit to come / pray in tongues
- The person is there to hear from God, not you. Don't talk too much and avoid counselling or preaching
- Be aware if someone looks like they may fall over - ask someone to be ready to catch them or for the person being prayed for to sit down
- Prayer should always: agree with the bible, be edifying and encouraging and never condemning

After praying

- Prayer that requires follow up should be passed on to their relevant pastoral covering (usually church or homegroup leader)