

Prayer Ministry

Prayer ministry at New Wine is something we are passionate about and have an expectation that we would see prayer ministry being offered at every possible opportunity.

We see Jesus sending the disciples to proclaim the coming kingdom healing the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the leper, drive out demons, to give freely what they have received in the Gospels (Matthew 10: 7-8 and Luke 10:9). We continue to see the disciples doing miraculous things right through the New Testament until present day.

We would encourage everyone to have a go at praying for people whether it's your first time or whether you have prayed for hundreds of people.

Guidance is provided below and you can watch New Wine's training [here](#).

Guidance for Praying with other:

- **Find out what you are praying for** – Its always worth a quick chat to ask what they would like prayer for. It's best not to assume that whatever you think is the issue the person being prayed for might have something else they would prefer prayer for.
- **Laying on of hands** – Through the New Testament we see the followers of Jesus praying for people laying a hand on the person being prayed for. In today's world the only appropriate place to touch someone is on the shoulder having asked their permission first.
- **Wait and wait some more** – sometimes we often rush between people and miss opportunities to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the person being prayed for. Try not to say too much, less is more. Only say what you sense the Holy Spirit saying. After all Jesus only did what he saw the Father doing.
- **Sign-post** – Sometimes as we pray and minister some deeper things may come up in someone's life. Our role in the moment is to pray and to listen if we are concerned about a situation that has come up, please direct the person to pastoral prayer. They will spend further time praying and helping the person in a more professional capacity and may link them with someone closer to home. This avoids spending overly long time with someone.
- **Tissues** – Sometimes as we pray and people encounter the work of the Holy Spirit they may cry, laugh, fall over, sway back and forth, their eyes may flutter or their bodies may twitch. These are all very normal and may give us some clues as to what the Holy Spirit is doing in their lives. Once they have finished with their encounter with the Lord, offer them a (fresh) tissue if needed. Thrusting one into their hands can be very distracting before they are ready.
- **Eyes and ears open** – Please keep your eyes and ears open for what the Lord is doing in someone. It will mean that you can appropriately care for the person you are praying for. Sometimes the person leading the celebration or seminar may have a specific thing to say about what's going on, please do be aware of what is going on.
- **Two is best** – Jesus sent out the disciples in twos to pray for people. This is of course best practise. Where there are too many to pray for and we do need to pray individually, please can we pray for people of the same gender.
- **Be gentle**- A great model for this is Jesus being gentle and lowly. In our enthusiasm to see the Holy Spirit at work we need to remember that we are caring for the person being prayed

for. Please do not push, stroke, poke, prod, caress, or touch (Other than the shoulder) as permitted.

- **Be expectant** – Regularly we hear stories of the Lord doing amazing things in people’s lives, healing, and restoring hope. Sometimes we pray and nothing seems to happen. That isn’t the person being prayed for or the prayers’ fault. Ministry is down to what the Lord does by the Holy Spirit which means that whatever is being prayed for is in his time not ours.
- **Directives** – Prophetic words directing people’s lives around, work, relationships, money, children, are particularly difficult and should never be given lightly. They should never be framed as God says.... If it’s a picture, please share it but leave the interpretation to the person receiving prayer. You could frame a word like this, ‘I have a sense of God saying, or, I feel like the Lord might want to do this.’ It’s worth inviting them to process these sorts of words with their church leader or pastoral prayer.

Things to be very aware of

- **Safeguarding** – There is a safeguarding team on site who are best placed to give advice around safeguarding and further action. Should a disclosure be made to you by someone you are praying for around any form of abuse (Physical, Emotional, Financial, Spiritual.) please speak to a member of the prayer ministry enabling team, Venue manager, or a member of the New Wine staff (At info desk) immediately.
- **Deliverance ministry** – Please never say to someone that they need deliverance from the demonic, or Evil spirits. Often this will leave people confused and scared. Jesus always treated people with love and care and so should we. Should you feel unsure about a situation there will be people in each venue who have been involved in this type of ministry before and have been trained in an appropriate way to deal with the situation. They may invite you to pray too and explain what is happening.
- **Conversion therapy**- Should someone ask for prayer about their sexuality or gender, please refer them to pastoral prayer or one of the prayer ministry leaders. We do not condone the practice of conversion therapy at New Wine. Our experience is that the practice can cause huge and lasting damage. We need to ensure that we are directing people to the right individuals who can provide the support they need at New Wine and when they return home.
- **If you are worried** – Please speak to a member of the venue teams who will be able to help or point you to the right person.