

Safer Prayer Ministry

At New Wine, we believe that praying for others in times of ministry is one of the most important things we can do as the church to see God move in power in our lives today.

In this video, we're going to look at four key aspects of prayer ministry at New Wine: how we pray, what to watch for, when to hand over, and how to look after yourself.

How To Pray

At our large events, we recommend gathering two people - ideally of the same perceived gender - to pray together for someone also of the same perceived gender, to support each other and the person asking for prayer.

Before praying for someone, always ask something like "How can I pray for you?" Please don't assume anyone's situation. Take a moment to listen to them and understand what they would like prayer for.

Appropriate Touch

As you begin, you may choose to place a hand gently on the person's shoulder.

Laying on hands during prayer is modelled throughout scripture, expressing God's care and power at work. To ensure this is done respectfully and safely, always ask permission before placing hands. A hand should be placed gently only on the shoulder and never anywhere else. Remain attentive and be ready to remove your hand at any point.

Create space for the person to engage with Jesus in whatever way is most comfortable for them.

Eyes Open

Whilst praying, please keep your eyes and ears open. Pay attention to what God is doing and what the person is experiencing, both spiritually and physically.

Leaving Space & Respectful Prayers

As you pray, keep things gentle, simple, and respectful. Use few words in your prayers and leave time and space for God to be at work.

After a time, it may be helpful to occasionally ask questions like, "Do you sense God saying anything?" or "Are you feeling anything as we pray?" and pray into what the

person shares.

Prophetic Words

If you feel led to share a prophetic word, offer it humbly and tentatively, using phrases like, “I sense God might be saying...”.

Encourage the person receiving to test and weigh any words and hold on only to what is good.

Only share words that are strengthening, encouraging and uplifting. Do not give strong directives as prophetic words, particularly about relationships, finances, careers, or children.

Ending Well

When the person indicates they wish to finish, please do stop. Do not continue to pray against their will.

What to Watch For

As we pray, there are also some important things to be aware of:

During prayer, people may cry, laugh, sway, or feel overwhelmed. These are normal responses. Stay calm, give space, and avoid drawing attention to the person. Offer a tissue or a seat if helpful.

Do not try to control or intensify emotion. If someone is very distressed, please pause and ask the Prayer Overseer for support.

If someone discloses abuse or anything concerning, please ensure that you report this to our Safeguarding team as soon as possible, who will handle the appropriate response in line with our procedures. All concerns must be reported, including low-level worries or issues you think may already be known.

You can do this using the QR codes at our venues or through our online reporting system. Take any disclosure seriously and please don't promise confidentiality to the person.

Please never use language that causes harm or fear such as telling a person that they need deliverance or have a demon, as this can leave people confused and scared. Jesus always treated people with love and care, and so should we.

Praying for deliverance should only take place in a safe and appropriate time and space, not within the context of prayer ministry at a New Wine event. If anything arises

relating to deliverance, please pause and refer the person to the Prayer Overseer as they can ensure the person is supported and directed appropriately.

Never offer conversion therapy through prayer. We do not condone the practice of conversion therapy at any New Wine gathering, nor do we work with churches that condone it, as this is illegal. If someone asks for prayer about their sexuality or gender, refer them kindly to the Prayer Overseer so they can receive appropriate support.

In summary, pray gently, respectfully and in the power of Jesus' name.

When to Hand Over

Some prayer requests are complex or emotionally heavy.

At our events, a prayer 'overseer' wearing a purple prayer lanyard will be on hand to help with difficult or intense situations or to direct the person to receive further care.

You don't need to handle everything yourself.

Looking After Yourself

Supporting others in prayer can sometimes affect us too – and that's normal.

If you're unsure about anything whilst praying for others or would like support for yourself during or after prayer ministry at New Wine, please speak to a Prayer Overseer, member of the team or one of our staff or leaders.

We are here to support you, to help you minister safely and confidently, and to ensure that in our times of prayer ministry, the Holy Spirit can work with freedom and care to bring transformation at New Wine.