

House Blessing

There are two ways in which a prayer team can help a person and/or family by praying through their home. The first approach – which is usually the initial step and only takes up to an hour – is a House Blessing. The second – which is called for when someone is experiencing intense battle in their home and/or sensing an evil spiritual presence – is a House Cleansing. What follows are some guidelines for the first of these.

- 1) Gather everyone together in the front room of the home – prayer team and family members. If any family member opts to stay out of the circle, that's ok. Encourage them to stand to the side and listen or join in as they feel comfortable. Open with a brief prayer of praise and thanksgiving.
- 2) Read aloud a Scripture or two of dedication. Psalm 127:1 and Joshua 24:14-18 are two possibilities. It's best but not necessary if everyone can recite them aloud.
- 3) Describe what you're about to do:
 - a) Thanking God for the gift of your family and home
 - b) Dedicating yourselves and your home to God for His purposes and use
 - c) Asking that He bless all that occurs in your home and all who enter
 - d) Praying for and with the family
 - e) Being open to how the Holy Spirit might guide us in prayer
 - f) Asking God for guidance re: future need for prayer
- 4) Encourage the family to join in and be a part of this time
- 5) Begin the prayer with praise – either in song or praying a Psalm or spontaneous praises. Move on to pray for the items listed in #3 above plus anything impressed by the Spirit on anyone's heart.¹
- 6) When finished, divide into pairs and spread out through the house. Enter every room (including bathrooms) and pray a shorter version of the above prayer in that room.
 - a) Move around the room as you pray, touching each item you pray for.
 - b) Items that should receive your special attention in prayer:
 - i) Doors and windows (entry points into the room)²
 - ii) The couples' bed (pray for the one flesh union to be fully realized in their lives, etc.)
 - iii) Protection around and inside the kids' rooms
 - iv) Note any items that raise any spiritual red flags – e.g.,
 - (1) Occult games, statues, books, pictures, music, etc.

¹ This is not intended as a time to go after heavy spiritual forces. If you encounter them, ask the Lord to bind them and pray later about what to do next.

² Consecrated oil can be used during this time around the doors and windows.

- (2) Pornographic magazines, books, videos, etc.³
 - (3) Anything you get a bad “spiritual vibe” from, no matter how innocent or beautiful or harmless it looks
 - v) Mirrors – that those looking in them will only see in them what God sees and not the distorted images Satan presents
- 7)** When finished, move back into front room. Share whatever the Lord impressed on you as you moved through the house. Always begin with the positive and take it easy on sharing any negative concerns.
- a) Bring up anything that raised a spiritual red flag (see above) and discuss their history and significance.
 - i) If obviously not in God’s will, encourage them to throw away (pray over it first, breaking any spiritual effect it has on the family)
 - ii) If unsure of it’s spiritual effect or a treasured item, pray first that God will break any negative powers attached to it and use it for His purposes. If you sense a release, put it back. If not, encourage them to throw it away.
- 8)** Close with a song and prayer of praise and thanksgiving. Talk about any future prayer if appropriate.

³ This includes women’s pornography – i.e., sultry romance themes