

tearfund

# Neighbourhood Prayer Guide



Neighbourhood  
PRAYER.NET

## Welcome to Neighbourhood Prayer Network

*Bringing Prayer to our Neighbours, Bringing Community Back to our Streets.*

We hope you will join an increasing number of people, in praying for your neighbours, living on your street.

We are aiming to get every street in the UK covered in prayer, and to encourage people, if they are able, to get to know their neighbours.

We believe prayer changes things for the better. We expect to see, as more people pray, loneliness falling, crime falling and community returning.

Anything is possible with God, are you willing to take up the Neighbourhood Prayer challenge?

You might want to follow us on Facebook, just click the 'like tag' at the top of the home page of our website- [www.neighbourhoodprayer.net](http://www.neighbourhoodprayer.net) You might also have a prayer group already praying for your community, just click the 'Get involved' tab at the top to let us know.

Much Love and blessing

The Neighbourhood Prayer Network Team

In Partnership with :-



## Introduction

'When I say "hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come", I should be adding in my mind the words "in and through me", and so giving myself to God afresh to be, so far as I can be, the means of answering my own prayer.' – J I Packer, theologian

At Tearfund we have always held to the belief that prayer and action go hand in hand. They are intrinsic to one another. When we pray for something, not only are we calling on the Lord to intervene, but we should also be offering ourselves to God as his servants on earth – ready, willing and equipped to act.

Tearfund are pleased to partner with Neighbourhood Prayer Network, as we join with them to pray for our own neighbours and communities to be transformed. This call is echoed by our partners, churches and staff across the world as they confront big issues of global poverty and injustice in their own communities.

At Tearfund we are exploring the themes of Micah 6:8 as we reflect, pray and act. And just as prayer leads to action, we must start with reflection. And by 'reflection' we mean a deep searching. Micah 6:8 says 'He has shown all you people what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God!' (TNIV)

We search scriptures for truth, we search God's heart for how we should respond and we search our own thoughts to see if they correspond with the Lord's. And if they don't, we ask God to renew them.

But reflecting also requires us to seek earthly knowledge. What locks so many people into poverty, and what can be done practically to release them? Once we have a divine perspective combined with earthly knowledge, we can pray specifically and effectively. And those practical, Spirit-filled prayers will inevitably lead to action – because if we share God's concern and know how things can change, we are stirred to do something.

Our actions may be in our communities: we may be led to write to our MP, volunteer or offer support and encouragement to local charities.

As we pray together, we do so with one voice, as part of a Global Poverty Prayer Movement. Be encouraged to think about ways that you can reflect, pray and act in response. Because, when we pray, we're transformed, and – with God's help – we can transform our streets, our nations and the world around us.

Sara Kandiah

Tearfund Prayer Co-ordinator.

Visit [www.tearfund.org/pray](http://www.tearfund.org/pray) for more ways to keep connected in prayer.

## Neighbour Statistics

- 59% of us feel we neither have a lot in common with, or share our neighbours values<sup>(8)</sup>.
- 56% of people over 65 retain a sense of community spirit, enjoying spending time with neighbours<sup>(7)</sup>, being more likely to chat to neighbours and trust them to look after deliveries in their absence<sup>(7)</sup>.
- 20% of younger people (25-34) do not know the names of anyone in their street<sup>(9)</sup>.
- Across age groups a survey from insurance firm “Legal and general” shows us that most of us would only immediately recognise one in three people on our street<sup>(8)</sup>
- Thirty seven percent of us have never done anything for a neighbour and this rises to 47% in the 25-34 age group<sup>(9)</sup>.
- 61% of the nation never volunteer for a charity or community initiative<sup>(9)</sup>. The main reason given is a lack of time (63%) followed by work commitments,
- The average Briton watches 14 hours of TV with 17% watching more than 30 hours.<sup>(9)</sup>

## Spiritual Statistics

- 69% of the churches in the UK do not have a dedicated weekly prayer meeting.
- A typical church in the UK is open less than 15 hours per week.

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8. Neighbours, no one really knows their neighbours survey 16th august 2010, Rebecca Smithers, The Guardian
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## Sunday - Church and the Community

Focussing on our Church leaders, including deacons, elders, parish church council, greeters, ushers, worship leaders, choir, technicians, department leaders, maintenance and administrative staff. The other focus is where Christianity is found within the community; other churches in our area, hospital and prison chaplains, undertakers, street pastors, Christian charity leaders and prayer ministries.

My Church	People to Pray for
Minister and/or Leaders	
Elder's, Deacon's & P.C.C.	
Choir & Worship Team	
Mnistry and Teaching Team	
Youth Team	
Mission Team	
Children's Work	
Admin & Maintenance Staff	
Greeters, Ushers and Servers	
Community Outreach Team	
Denomination Leader(s)	
Others	
Within the Community	
Other Local Churches	
Hospital & Prison Chaplains	
Christian Counselling	
Street Pastors	
Local Christian Ministries	
Christian Retreat Centres	
Other	

## Monday - Work

Work life can be a cause of stress and frustration, so it is important to pray for work colleagues, supervisors, managers and owners that God would prosper the work; that relationships in the work place would be strong and positive for everyone involved. If you are currently out of work, then please consider praying for the people in your last place of employment or for the work place of a loved one.

My work life	People to Pray for
Owner(s), CEO's, Directors	
Management	
Supervisors	
Receptionist	
Sales & Marketing Staff	
Production Staff	
Finance Staff	
Administration Staff	
Human Resource Staff	
Union Representatives	
Suppliers to the workplace	
Customers of the workplace	
People making Deliveries	
Window Cleaners	
Office Cleaners	

## Tuesday - Government & Economy

We should always remember to pray for those in Authority. The leaders of our Nation and our locality. We might disagree with their politics on occasion, but this should not stop us praying for them. Praying also for the Economy. When God blesses a Nation we have the opportunity to be a blessing to other Nations. Praying for a Healthy Economy helps us and others in many ways.

For those in Authority	People to Pray for
Leader of the Nation	
Leader of the Government	
Political Party Leaders	
Members (MP, Am, SMP, MHK, TD)	
Civil Servants	
Local Councillors	
Mayor	
Army, Navy, Airforce leaders	
<b>Economy and Public Services</b>	
Chancellor of the Exchequer	
Gas Supply Leaders	
Electricity Supply Leaders	
Leader of Tourism Board	
Unemployment Centre Leader	
Credit Union Leader	
Debt Counselling Leader	
Regional Development Leader	
Bank Manager	
Post Office Manager	
Telecoms/Media Provider	

### Wednesday - Social Justice & Order

For Being such wide subjects, Social Justice and Order can mean very different things to different people. We have covered some of the institutions which ensure the provision of social justice and order. Please consider these wide ranging subjects when you pray and through the year review who you are praying for as you identify other facets of social justice and order within your community.

Social Justice & Order	People to Pray for
Head of Police Services	
Neighbourhood Policing	
Local Magistrates	
Local Judges	
Local Council Leaders	
Citizen Advice Centre Leaders	
Probation Service Leaders	
Youth Offending Projects	
Housing Association Leaders	
Victim Support Services	
Prison Visiting Organisations	
Drug Rehabilitation Centres	
Paramedic & Ambulance Staff	
Fire Fighters	
Coastguards & Lifeboat Crew	
Alcohol Abuse Counsellors	
Neighbourhood Watch Leaders	
Homeless Shelter Leaders	
Meals on Wheels	
Soup Kitchens	

### Thursday - Arts, Culture & Media

Society is driven by the Media and shaped by Arts & Culture. Society is constantly fed news of disasters, issues and problems, so it's important to pray for truth, righteousness and hope to feed through the Media to society. Pray also for the Art and Culture, that a constant recognition of the creativity God afforded us would be expressed there.

Arts, Culture & Media	People to Pray for
TV Channel Leaders	
Newspaper Editors	
Radio Leaders & Presenters	
Museum & Gallery Leaders	
Internet Website Leaders	
Local News Reports	
Local Advertising Agencies	
Local Library Managers	
Club, Pub & Bar Managers	
Concert Venue Providers	
Art & Craft group Leaders	
Drama & Theatre Leader	
Music Teaching Leader	
Book Club Leader	
Cinema Managers	
Rural Festival Leaders	
Agricultural Show Leaders	
Village Fete Leaders	
Language Teachers	
Heritage Centre Leaders	

## Friday - Family, Neighbours & Environment

Prayer for the family is a fundamental for the Christian faith, praying for loved ones, young or old. We have also included friends in this section as close friends often feel like family members. The environment is also an important issue to pray for, we should do everything in our power to protect God's creation for future generations.

Family & Neighbours etc.	People to Pray for
Grandparents & Older	
Mother & Father	
Husband or Wife	
Brothers & Sisters	
Children	
Uncles, Aunts, Cousins	
Other Relatives	
God Children	
Close Friends	
Neighbours	
Family Help Organisations	
Family Counselling Helplines	
Christian Counselling	
<b>Environment</b>	
Local Farms	
Environmental Projects	
Countryside Management	
Climate Change Projects	
Animal Welfare Organisations	
Recycling Centre Managers	

## Saturday - Health, Education & Sport

Health is a subject that can affect everyone of us. You might have loved ones in Hospital or nursing and illness. You might be providing a care service yourself. Think about everyone you might pray for. Within Schools for instance, there are Boards of Governors, Headteacher, Teachers, Support Staff, Admin Staff, Cooks, cleaners, gardeners etc. And then of course there's Sport!

Health, Education & Sport	People to Pray for
Hospital Leaders & Staff	
Surgery or Clinic	
Doctors, Nurses & Mid Wives	
Nursing Homes	
Residential Homes	
Carers	
Social Workers	
Counsellors	
Slimming & Diet Clubs	
Secondary Schools	
Special and Primary Schools	
Special Needs Units	
Nursery, Playgroup & Creche	
Local Colleges	
Universities	
Specialist Training Groups	
Sport Teams	
Sports or Leisure Centre	
Health Club or Group	

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