

## **Prayer Walking - Seeing with God's eyes in order to minister with God's heart!**

What are some key reasons for prayer walking, what is the Biblical basis of prayer walking and how can prayer walking help us advance God's kingdom and the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Guatemala and the village?

### **1. To claim our community for Christ and to help usher in His Kingdom**

*The Lord said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, "Lift up your eyes from where you are and look north and south, east and west. All the land you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you." (Gen.13:14-17)*

Why did God tell Abram to do "lift up his eyes" and "go walk through the land"?

What application can we make for our mission team as we begin to work in a Guatemalan village and commit to reach the community with the Gospel and to make more disciples of Jesus?

Which phrase of the Lord's Prayer comes to mind as we think about the first reason for prayer walking?

### **2. To access the situation of the village and prepare for the spiritual "battle" to come**

*"Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel." (Numbers 18:2) Moses gave the twelve men he sent this direction: "See what the land is like: whether the people who dwell in it are strong or weak, few or many; whether the land they dwell in is good or bad whether the cities they inhabit are like camps or strongholds; whether the land is rich or poor; and whether there are forests there or not. Be of good courage. And bring some of the fruit of the land." Numbers 13:18-20*

Why did Moses give these orders to the 12 spies?

After their prayer walk, ten of the spies gave this report to Moses: *"The land which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants..."* Numbers 13:32 while Joshua and Caleb saw the same land, yet they saw it differently and said to Moses: *"Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it."* (Numbers 13:30) What accounts for this difference in the way ten spies saw the land and the two (Joshua and Caleb) saw it?

What lesson can we take from this as we prayer walk today and as we begin this new chapter of ministry in the village?

### **3. To begin to see with God's heart and to begin to formulate a mission strategy**

Three days after his arrival in Jerusalem, Nehemiah says, *"Then I arose in the night, I and a few men with me; I told no one what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem; nor was there any animal with me, except the one on which I rode. And I went out by night through the Valley Gate to the Serpent Well and the Refuse Gate, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem which were broken down and its gates which were burned with fire."* (Nehemiah 2:12-13)

After his prayer walk and assessment of the terrible situation of the city Nehemiah gathered the Jewish leaders together. ***“Then I said to them, ‘You see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire. Come and let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer be a reproach.’”*** (Nehemiah 2:17)

What did God help you “see” on your prayer walk today? What did He put in your heart?

What steps could we take and how could we organize ourselves to address any challenges we may have identified on our prayer walk?

What “walls” might we need to build or rebuild?

What are some ways you can think of for our CALMS TEAM to help protect the village and build up the community?

#### **4. To help us see barriers and connections, and a way forward, and to grow in faith**

***“See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. Do this for six days. Have seven priests carry trumpets of ram’s horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in...(Joshua 6:2-5) ...the wall collapsed; so every man charged straight in, and they took the city. They devoted the city to the Lord...”*** (Joshua 6:20 b – 21 a)

While Nehemiah helped build walls to defend the city and restore the city, we will no-doubt need to tear down some walls as we share the Gospel with this community. What walls did you observe that need to be torn down in the village in order to help more people enter “the promised land?”

What are some bridges or possible connections God helped you see to help us engage our community and make disciples?

***“By faith, the walls of Jericho fell.”*** (Hebrews 11:30)

What role does faith play in our own goal to “conquer” the village for God and extend His kingdom (rule) over the community?

What is the relationship between our personal and corporate spiritual life and our mission to reach the village for Christ?

#### **5. To open doors for the Gospel to be preached and to hasten Christ’s return**

Jesus said: ***“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”***

In order to hasten His return, what resources has God given us to promote the Gospel throughout our community?

What special role do you think prayer and additional prayer walking might have for helping our CALMS TEAM reach the village for Christ?