

Half Nights of Prayer



**Mobilizing and Multiplying Prayer
for Disciple Making Movements**

More tools at: movementprayer.org

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Half Nights of Prayer

Overview

Half Nights of Prayer (HNP) -- hours devoted to praying for Kingdom saturation -- are very common among Disciple Making Movements all around the world. The benefits of hosting a HNF are numerous. They provide a great opportunity to expose and train people in how to pray for their social networks, community, and city. Also, as people begin to pray for movements, they develop more of a heart for others and want to engage in disciple making. Everyone is encouraged when prayers are answered and tangible spiritual breakthroughs take place.

In some areas, people meet as often as once a week. Others gather once a month or once every quarter. The idea of praying for four hours at one time seems daunting at first, but many have found that these nights can be very exhilarating and even fun. People often leave saying, “I can’t believe the time went by so fast. I can’t wait until we can do this again.”

Getting Started

1. **Invite** - Since HNP are a great way to train people in prayer and give them a heart for others, feel free to invite as many as you are able to host to these gatherings. We have seen how even non-believers have been impacted by experiencing this time of prayer.

Note: You can do HNP with a group of 5 people or 500 people. Generally, if you have a group that is over 15, you will want to break into smaller groups led by facilitators.

2. **Plan** - Below is an example of an agenda with an explanation of why each element is included. Utilize an agenda and the tools that work best for your group. The idea is to mix it up each time so that each gathering is different.

Note: You can find all of the tools listed below at:

https://newgenerations.us/?page_id=722

Half Nights of Prayer Agenda

6:00 pm Start

You will have better results if you start early. Praying 6:00 - 10:00 pm doesn't sound as overwhelming as 8:00 - 12:00 pm or 10:00 pm - 2:00 am.

6:00 - 6:30 pm Food and Stories

Use this time to allow people to catch up with each other and to share stories of where they see God working. Sometimes ask everyone to bring a dish to share, and other times ask everyone to pitch in to buy pizzas.

6:30 - 6:35 pm Vision

Since prayer times have many different focuses, it is important to remind people of the main purpose for this prayer time.

Say something like: "There are many important things that we can pray for, but the main focus for tonight is to pray that the people in our neighborhoods, community, and city would know their Heavenly Father and begin to follow Him. We want to see Disciple Making Movements being unleashed. We also want to pray for those who are partnering with God in raising up disciple makers.

6:45 - 7:15 pm Prayer Triangle Tool

This tool promotes group participation and allows individuals to introduce various topics that can be fully supported in prayer by others. It works best with groups of 5-15 people.

7:15 - 7:20 pm Small Break



7:20 - 8:15 pm Sticky Note Prayer Tool

This tool promotes group participation and allows for everyone to pray simple prayers for the locations God impresses upon their hearts.

8:15 - 9:00 pm O² Prayer Tool

This powerful tool is used to pray *for* the opportunities and *against* the obstacles confronting individuals and teams who are focusing on specific target areas. Since there is not time to pray for everyone, you might want to focus on only two individuals or teams each time you gather. Oftentimes, those who are prayed for feel greatly encouraged and are touched by the Holy Spirit through the prayers of others.

9:00 - 9:25 pm Scripture Prayer Tool

This tool orients the group around a passage that focuses on the importance, purpose, and process of disciple making (Matthew 28:16-20, Luke 10:1-11, Colossians 1:9-14).

9:25 - 9:30 pm Small Break

9:30 - 10:00 pm Prayer Walking

Bless the home where you are meeting by ending with a short prayer walk in their neighborhood. This is a simple way to pray for their neighborhood and to ask God to open the hearts of everyone who lives there.

Be flexible and have fun. You will often have to adjust the schedule as the night progresses. Feel free to adapt the schedule as needed. Remember that one of the main HNP goals is to expose people to different ways of praying and engage them in a fun and joy-filled environment.



Additional Ideas

Rotate among different locations. This allows everyone to experience the impact of having a HNP in their neighborhood. For many neighborhoods, it will be the first time any group has ever gathered together to pray for the people who live there.

Include Children. Children are able to engage in many of the activities throughout the night, and they enjoy participating.

Encourage and mentor others to launch their own HNP and contextualize it for the specific group they will be inviting.