



Community Prayer Treasure Hunt

A 60-minute adventure outside of your church building praying for your local community.

- Begin inside the church building. Prepare your hearts and minds before you start.
- Put people into small teams of different ages. Give each team a colour.
- Explain that there are clues hidden in plastic boxes around your local community. Colour coded envelopes, one for each team, are inside these boxes. No stealing or tampering with other team envelopes!
- Explain that each team will be on a different route around the game, so their first clue will take each team to different starting prayer boxes.

Select from the following Prayer Box ideas to design your own prayer time or make up your own! Five or six boxes will probably be enough for a 60-minute time frame. Teams will need time to walk between prayer stations. Choose carefully the geographical area to be used. Walk and time it ahead of time!

Box 1: Faith like mustard seeds

Put this box outside a school or key building of influence. Inside, place mustard seeds in small bags, one for each team participating. Put an instruction sheet that says:

‘Take the packet of seed for your Team and equally divide it among yourselves. Jesus told us all we needed was faith the size of mustard seeds to remove obstacles to the Kingdom! Examine the seed. Now each one of you spend 5 minutes sowing your prayers of faith for the school [or other place] where you are. Plant the seed or throw it to the wind. What will you dare to pray?’

Box 2: Jesus, the Bread of Life

Place this box in a park or on a piece of grass. Put in enough slices of bread for each team. Either scatter bread in your local park for the birds or eat it yourself!

Spend 5 minutes praying that there would be a growing hunger for truth in your community and to know the purpose of life. Ask God for opportunities to share this bread - and hope - with others.

Box 3: The Lord’s Prayer!

Make a photocopy of the famous model for praying that Jesus gave His disciples.

Each person must choose a phrase or a line from it. Turn this line or phrase into a prayer as you walk to the next box. Teach the younger ones how to do this.

For example, ‘Our Father’ – ‘Thank you for being our Father, for being the Dad who loves the people in the home I am walking past. Bless them Father...’

Box 4: Prayer Shapes!

In this box write this instruction: 'Your task as a team is to make the word HOPE with your bodies!' (Take a photo on your mobile to prove it later to the other teams!)

Read out loud the Scripture from Romans 15:13, 'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.' You could say this scripture a few times and make it a prayer for your community, changing the word 'you' for the name of your town, village or city.

Box 5: Egg-Timer Blessing

Place this box close to another church in the town or community.

Write a note that says: 'Use the egg-timer! Turn it over to start the prayers. Pray all together as one, for as long as the timer lasts. Pray heaps of blessings upon that other church (leaders, youth, families, children etc.) and see if you can last the time!'

BOX 6: In the Bag!

In this box, place two or three pairs of rubber gloves and one black bin liner per team. Place this box in a street where there will be some minor rubbish to pick up.

Instruction note: 'For 5 minutes use the gloves and bin liner to pick up bits of rubbish from the street. As some of the team do this everyone is to ask the Lord to send the Holy Spirit to convict the community of the rubbish in our lives and to make people aware of the consequences of their sin and God's wonderful gift of repentance and new life in Jesus!'

*Idea provided by Andy Kennedy of Kings Kids, YWAM England. Published in **Hope for Harvest, 2012** available from www.hopetogether.org.uk*