

# *Welcome to Our Listening Prayer Group!*

## **Orientation and Guidelines for New Participants**

**Welcome.** If you have a heart passion for God – to become fully devoted to Jesus Christ, and to share His heart for people in intercession – you’ve come to the right place. Here we are free to chase after God, to “*press in*” to experience His loving heart, His glory, His healing touch, His wisdom and His redemptive plan for this broken world all around us today. We are not “formal” here, just hungry and thirsty for God. So, come when you can. Leave when you must. Be free to enter in as God leads you.

**We are passionate in prayer!** Our church is pleased to host fellow believers from many churches and backgrounds who share the same heart-hunger for God, and want to experience His manifest presence, love and power, just the way He longs to lavish these upon His bride, the Church.

**We are a “laboratory” for learning:** We partner to experience God’s full anointing that comes when brothers dwell together in unity (Psalm 133:1-3). Specifically, we are intentionally working together to heal the breach between *Evangelicals* and *Charismatics*, welcoming the Holy Spirit to manifest Himself as He chooses (1 Cor. 12:7). And we measure all that we experience together by the Word of God. We accept and welcome His diverse gifting in each believer. Here is where we mature in our gifting. Also, we are bridging the gap between generations, and partnering in unity with people from a wide range of Bible-believing, Christ-centered churches.

**We desire to be Holy Spirit led!** We come to discover the heart and mind of Christ through a Spirit-led process of listening prayer. (See: *Hearing the Spirit: Five Questions.*) This is a place of focused inquiry and active faith in our Lord Who is faithful. Specifically, we want to share Christ’s heart . . .

- ✓ For renewal of each child of God, and each church,
- ✓ For salvation for lost people,
- ✓ For insights for people struggling for answers,
- ✓ For healing for hurting people,
- ✓ For deliverance of people in spiritual bondage,
- ✓ For a revealing of God’s grace and power in our churches, city, nation, and world.

**We are intentional:** Here are ten values we wish to embrace as we walk in the Spirit together.

1. **Giftng:** All true manifestations of the Spirit are supernatural, valuable, and welcomed here.
2. **Fruit:** The spiritual qualities of love, patience, and humility help keep us working together in unity.
3. **Learning:** We’re open to fresh experiences of God’s Spirit in this practical laboratory of prayer.
4. **Acceptance:** We love one another without judging (i.e., in a “religious spirit”). You’re safe here!
5. **Scripture:** It is both the foundation of prayer and the means of testing all prophetic expressions.
6. **Listening:** Ask, “Lord, what?” “Lord, really?” “Lord, why?” “Lord, when?” and “Lord, how?”
7. **Silence:** Quietness is always appropriate and encouraged. Let Jesus lead you to His secret place.
8. **Submission:** The Holy Spirit is welcome to lead us in any direction He chooses in each gathering.
9. **Respect:** The “mice” is open, to be shared. Yet humility, clarity and brevity are important values.
10. **Freedom:** Use the space to sit, stand, kneel, lay prostrate, or move about as you respond to God.

**We are served by a trained “Listening Team:”** It is in everyone’s interest to safeguard the Spirit’s gentle guidance, without overly controlling the meeting. Therefore, there is a “Listening Team” of mature, trained, biblically grounded folks who quietly shepherd us. They listen, observe, and pray for what the Holy Spirit is unfolding. Feel free to approach them any time for wisdom and guidance.