

5. Invite people to pick up a Bible and for a couple of minutes look in the book of Psalms and find a verse of praise that says something about the Lord's character eg. *"Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies."* (Psalm 36:5)
 - a. Once people have found a verse, invite people to read them out one at a time, leaving a pause between each one.
 - b. Follow this by singing a song of praise together.
 - c. You could then encourage people to be still in the Lord's presence and wait upon Him, asking Him to speak to the group through the power of the Holy Spirit
 - d. Share and then pray any words of knowledge etc.

Praying Together Resources (PTR002)

Opening Worship Ideas for a Prayer Meeting No.2

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Opening Worship Ideas

The following are worship ideas to begin a church prayer meeting.

Choose one or more of these ideas which might be helpful in your setting.

1. Invite the Holy Spirit to lead people into the presence of the Father.
 - a. Encourage people to sit quietly and listen to their breathing.
 - b. Then invite people to imagine that their Heavenly Father is standing in front of them.
 - c. As they take in a breath encourage them to pray: “*Abba Father*” and as they release the breath pray “*I belong to you.*” Repeat a few times, slowing down until people begin to sense His presence.
2. Give people a piece of chocolate as they arrive. Explain that they are going to spend some time focusing on the Lord’s goodness.
 - a. Invite people to savour the chocolate slowly in their mouths as you read through Psalm 103:1-5.
 - b. Now pass a Bible around the group and encourage people to say a one sentence prayer of thanks eg, “Thank you Lord for my family” etc. If people feel unable to do this, tell them to pass on the Bible.
 - c. Now pass a Bible around the group and encourage people to simply pray a one sentence prayer of praise eg, “I praise you Lord for your forgiveness” etc.

3. Read Psalm 100:4-5 and sing together two to three worship songs without a break between them.
 - a. If you don’t have a guitarist or pianist, make a playlist on an ipod/mp3 player and worship together. (Tip: play the songs quite loud so that people aren’t embarrassed by hearing their own voice)
4. You could use a more liturgical beginning to the prayer meeting, for example the following prayer from www.northumbriacommunity.org:

**All: One thing I have asked of the Lord,
 this is what I seek:
 that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
 all the days of my life;
 to behold the beauty of the Lord
 and to seek Him in His temple.**

Leader: Who is it that you seek?

All: We seek the Lord our God.

Leader: Do you seek Him with all your heart?

All: Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Do you seek Him with all your soul?

All: Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Do you seek Him with all your mind?

All: Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Do you seek Him with all your strength?

All: Amen. Christ, have mercy.