**CedarCreek Prayer Team—Student Hub Event**

**PRAYER TEAM’S GUIDING SCRIPTURE**
*I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. (1 Timothy 2:1)*

**TEAM VISION**

To compassionately intercede for the needs of our guests, helping them to experience the love of Jesus so that they can connect with Christ through prayer, and to supportively intercede for the ministries, staff, and leadership of our church.

**HOW WE DO THIS**

We let the G.U.E.S.T. principles guide every opportunity and interaction:

* God’s Heart—*We want every guest to know they matter to God and to us.*
* Upbeat—*We are fun, positive people who make an amazing first impression.*
* Excellence—*Our attention to detail shows our guests we care.*
* Seize Wow Opportunities—*Make their experience something they can’t wait to share with others.*
* Take a Next Step—*We are always looking for opportunities to help guests take a next step.*

**SCHEDULE**

* During sessions: Arrive 20 minutes before each session for a team huddle.
* During sessions, you will be given a side room with a live feed from the session.
* If the event is a multiday event, arrive day one at the given time to pray over the spaces as well as for students, parents, and guests who may be on their way to the event.
* If you are unable to serve, please communicate with your Prayer Team Leader in advance or through Planning Center so they can find substitutes. This will ensure there will be someone available to serve our guests through prayer after it is announced from the stage at the end of service.

**OUR TEAM ROLE**

* Intercession is praying on behalf of the person the request is for and lifting their need to God. As an intercessor, you are often the first one to hear how the Holy Spirit has impacted the heart of our guest through our service/message.
* We have an opportunity to serve our guests in a powerful way, helping them connect to the heart of Christ, which can give them hope, comfort, and peace.
* As a part of this team, we begin our serving experience at home, preparing our own heart, praying for the impact of the service and for those God is going to send to us for prayer.
* Serve while authentically representing Jesus. You have been entrusted by our church to serve our guests through prayer, interceding for them and their family members, friends, and co-workers, who may not yet know Jesus.
* We greet our guests cheerfully and compassionately. Using their name, pray for them and for their requests, all in order to show the love of Jesus to each individual who comes for prayer.
* Following prayer, we offer words of encouragement, hope, and next step suggestions, so they will feel they matter to God and to us, and will desire to get connected in our church body.
* We are also a part of the Email Prayer Team and continue to pray for our guests during the week, as well as for other guest requests, our staff, our leadership, and the ministries of CedarCreek Church.

**TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES**

* Communication is crucial for building community and carrying out effective ministry, so please let your Prayer Leader know your availability to serve or when you aren’t able to serve for a scheduled time. Scheduling will occur through a computerized program called Planning Center. You will receive an email on how to utilize Planning Center and respond to scheduling requests.
* Dress in a manner that would honor Christ. What we wear can sometimes speak louder than what we say. Be mindful to not dress in a manner that would distract others or cause them to stumble. Use discretion. If you think your attire is questionable, that it could potentially distract someone, then simply do not wear it. We may even provide you with an event shirt to wear. We also have a lanyard with a name badge for you to wear when you serve so that the team and guests can know who you are.
* Prepare your own heart first before praying for others to connect with Christ. When we want to be like Jesus more than we want anything else, then our prayers for others will flow out of a surrendered heart.
* Pray for God’s heart for people each and every time you serve. Ask God how you can put someone else at ease, for the Lord to use you that day, and how you can most authentically demonstrate his love.
* Be attentive during the message to gain an understanding of the ‘Big Idea’. It may be what has prompted our guest to seek prayer. You can incorporate it into part of your prayer and also use it to give encouragement after you have prayed for our guest.
* Smile, give the guest your name, and ask for theirs. Then ask, “How can I pray for you?”
* Attentively listen to their prayer request, but if they start giving too much detail, gently break in and say, “Why don’t we go ahead and pray. God knows the details.” Then pray for their request.
* Not everyone is comfortable being touched, so please honor their space. Ask if it’s ok before holding hands or touching their shoulder. While a brief touch on the shoulder is nice in conversation, during a whole prayer it can be uncomfortable. Be mindful of their comfort and space. You should not pray in a hugging embrace, nor should you allow the guest to embrace you in that manner.
* If you are concerned about someone’s behavior or if it is inappropriate, look for the Safety Team volunteer (black lanyard) stationed in the front of the auditorium. It would be good to identify him/her ahead of guests coming up for prayer.
* If you suspect they are not a believer, ask them if they have ever prayed to accept Christ. If not, invite them to and guide them through a simple prayer of acceptance, then pray for their request. You can ask for help from another intercessor if you are uncomfortable doing that.
* Use clear, everyday language in a normal tone and volume while praying, allowing our guest the opportunity to understand the prayer regardless of their spiritual background.
* Refrain from “speaking in tongues,” praying prayers of healing and prophecy, using a loud or frenzied voice, or using “churchy,” hard to understand words (i.e. justification, sanctification, righteousness, holy redeemer, etc.).
* Always be aware that others may be waiting for prayer. Spend no longer than 3-5 minutes with our guest. Long prayers make people uncomfortable. Long talks after prayer turn into counseling and advice.
* Give a few encouraging words from the message, but do not counsel or give advice. Pray and let God have the glory. You can, however, make some possible next step suggestions.
* Take the opportunity to lead guests into a next step connection. Direct them to their Group Leader, where they can get information on Groups, DreamTeams, Celebrate Recovery, counseling referrals, baptism, etc.
* You should not commit to following up with our guests outside of church, as your role is not counselor or problem solver. It is prayer and encouragement. Don’t advise them how to deal with their situation outside of our ministries like Celebrate Recovery, Care Ministry, etc. If they are looking for more, have them go to their Group Leader or connect with their Student Director, but make no promises. If you guide them to an outside organization and it is a bad experience, it can negatively impact our church.
* If our guest wants to talk with a pastor, direct them to their Group Leader or connect with their Student Director at the following weekend.
* Tell them you will add them to our church prayer list using just their first name. Assure them our Prayer Team will be praying for them and help them understand how to submit a request via prayer box or CedarCreek.tv/prayer.
* If they prayed to accept Christ, direct them to their Group Leader to get a Bible and information on next steps.
* If no one comes for prayer, don’t feel that you didn’t serve that day. Leading people to come front for prayer is the work of the Holy Spirit. Your job is to be available to be used by God. If no one comes for prayer, you intercessors can pray together for our church, its leaders, a specific ministry, etc.
* If there are several intercessors but only one or two requesting prayer, it is ok to double up intercessors to pray with them, but one intercessor should pray out loud and the other, silently praying, should keep an eye out in case someone else comes front for prayer, at which time the silent intercessor should move to pray with the new guest.
* After prayer time is over, write out a Care Card for each guest you prayed with and put it in the Care box on your way out.
* Your Prayer Leader will connect you to receive our prayer list email. You will receive the list several days a week. It lists all the prayer requests we receive for all of the campuses and from our website. Pray for these requests during the week, as well as the ministries, staff, and leadership of our church, as God leads you. Your Prayer Leader can give you suggestions.
* Serve with heart, commitment, and excellence. We want you serving in your gifts and passions; in ministry, that should be an overflow of love that is enjoyable to you. If this ministry is not a fit, if you would like to investigate a new ministry team, or if you need a break from serving for a season, do not hesitate to let your Prayer Leader know. This is why they are here, to walk through life with you!

**TEAM RESULTS**

*Through attentiveness, prayer, and encouragement, guests are shown how much they matter to God and that he cares about them, that their prayer request is important to us, and that prayer is a central part of our church.*

**HOW TO JOIN THE TEAM**

* Complete GrowthTrack.
* Complete a Background Check.
* Complete a Confidentiality Form.
* Complete a Ministry Liability Form.
* Choose a day and time for your first serve.
* Meet one-on-one with a ministry leader.