

# WALL OF PRAYER

*Some Kids Don't Have a Prayer*

- A ministry of committed prayer warriors who pray daily for individual Junior and Senior High students
- A ministry that provides individual prayer support for each prayer warrior involved
- A ministry that uses the Word of God as prayer guide

## HISTORY

In January of 1998 the mother of 4 boys ages 6-13 and her husband were becoming more aware of the evils that plagued our society and the effect the enemy was having particularly on our young people. The many teen pregnancies, STDS, abortions, not to mention the substance abuse, and escalating teen crime rate, were staggering. Our nation was trying to put Band-Aids on gaping wounds with its safe-sex programs while the media bombarded kids with images, dialogue and music that encourage base activities.

As she began to look for ways to make a change in the behavior of the youth in her town of Denton, Texas, she came across the program “True Love Waits.” Through this program, many teens had been encouraged to make commitments to remain sexually pure until their wedding day. Yet, one youth minister’s assessment was that those kids who remained most faithful to these commitments or vows, were those who had someone who really cared for them, prayed for them and kept them accountable to their promise. He shared that he felt it was the consistent prayers of his grandmother that brought him out of a broken home with many heartaches into a joyful and vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ.

In that moment a thought came to the mom. What if we got the name of each child in the Denton 7<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grades and find someone to pray for them every day. Knowing that “..our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness..,” the only way to combat the enemies hold on our teens was on our knees in prayer. Every praying friend and prayer group she knew was enlisted to ask God for direction in carrying out this enormous task. She was encouraged by God’s promise in IIChron 7:14 as well as the story of Jesus taking the boy’s loaves and fish and feeding 5000.

Within six weeks, just in time for the local prom season, approximately 600 prayer warriors were committed to pray daily for a student. In 18 months God has led over 1000 believers to pray for over 1300 kids in Denton. To date, six other communities in the country are praying for their teens in the same way.

## DISTRIBUTION

- Once matches are made, labels are prepared or the information is written on each prayer guide. We use Avery 5163 labels (containing the prayer warrior’s full name in the upper left corner, the student’s first name in the middle and the prayer partner’s first in the lower right corner) on the Warrior introductory folder when the prayer warrior initially signs up. We insert the prayer guide inside this folder. On subsequent prayer guides, we use Avery 5160 labels containing the same information on the front of the prayer guide itself. There is enough room for 4-5 labels on the prayer guides, should a warrior adopt more than one student to pray for.
- The materials are divided according to the sign-up sheets. Those who listed themselves as a contact person will be given the materials to distribute to those on their list. It is important that the materials are in the hands of the warriors before each prayer calendar begins.
- In areas where large numbers have adopted children, you may consider mailing the materials. A church or group of churches may want to use their non-profit bulk mailing status. The materials are divided by warriors’ zip code and mailed. In this case, keep the original sign-up sheets handy. If there are any materials returned in the mail, you will be able to have some way of contacting them for an address change.

## MATCHING

- List the students' names and begin assigning a prayer warrior to each child. Once that is done for the initial group, assign a prayer partner for each warrior from the list of warriors that has now formed. (This may be done by copying the warrior list and placing the copy beside the original list. Then move the list down so that the first name on the copy is matched to the second name on the original. The last name on the copy is then matched with the first name on the original.) It is not necessary for 2 warriors to pray for each other. Only, that each prayer warrior has someone praying for him or her.
- These are the matched student/prayer warrior/prayer partner combinations. These combinations will remain until July 31 after the student graduates from high school. In August a new child will be assigned to the warrior. If all 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are covered in prayer, those warriors who have been praying for seniors will be assigned to the new 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Otherwise, those who have been praying for seniors will be assigned to the next students in line. Prayer partners will change only if a prayer warrior leaves the ministry.
- You will want to have one person doing the matching and keeping those records. This information is **confidential**. While the first and last names are used in the matching records, **only the first names** of the kids and prayer partners should be printed on the prayer guides. The first and last name of the prayer warrior is printed on the materials for ease of distribution.

## THE NAME

There was a time in our country when we truly were a “Christian nation.” A wall built with stones formed by the convictions of humble, God-fearing, disciplined, honest, hard-working Christians, and fired by the trials of poverty, war, and survival, protected this country from Satan’s influences from without and fleshly temptations from within.  
The wall of Christian values is crumbling

Like Nehemiah, who got word that the walls of Jerusalem were in ruins and the enemy frequently entered that sacred city, a mom was burdened. After surveying the damage with a few confidants and after much prayer, God’s people were enlisted to help in rebuilding the wall. As in Nehemiah’s experience, Satan assailed with obstacles. Yet, God was faithful to raise up zealous workers to build night and day; some building with a tool in one hand (teacher, parents, and youth leaders) and a weapon in the other (Biblical prayer), while others stood in the gaps with only their weapons of God’s Word and prayer. When fears and doubts came, Nehemiah’s encouraged them not to be afraid but to “remember the Lord Who is great and awesome and to fight for our brothers, our sons, and our daughters..”

From the time the idea came to the day the initial 600 prayer warriors began to pray for kids was approximately 52days. They recognized that “this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.”

In studying the spiritual armor of the believer, they discovered that soldiers carried shields 4 ½ feet X 2 feet which virtually protected their entire body. When approaching the enemy shoulder to shoulder, the shields formed a protective wall against the enemy’s fiery darts. They picture 4600 shields forming a wall to protect Denton’s youth with their faith that our God is greater than any enemy hold on them.

## THE NEED

Today, our spiritual poverty stands in stark contrast to our economic wealth and our scientific and technological abundance. With out a Holy God at the helm, our moral center is gone; our kids have no idea of right and wrong. The promise of acceptance and fulfillment through entertainment, material gain, drugs, sex, and violence in the U.S .has resulted each month in approximately:

30,120 teen abortions,  
15,120 teens experimenting with drugs for the first time,  
180 teen suicides

In the 1998-99 school year 28 students and teachers were killed and 74 wounded on school campuses.

## PRAYER

### Getting Started

The key is prayer:

1. Ask God to lead you to someone, who will begin praying with you about beginning this ministry. Frequently pray together and individually. Also, take the Wall of Prayer brochure and following prayer requests to prayer groups that you know of: Mom's in Touch groups, Wednesday night prayer groups, Bible study groups, Sunday school classes, etc.
2. Pray:
  - For hearts to be prepared to pray for a student
  - For zealous committed leadership team who has a mind to work—someone to lead and someone to organize
  - For Provision—obtaining the students names, enlisting prayer warriors producing the materials,
  - The assurance that this is His will for your area.

## SETTING UP

**Let us know how God is leading.** We will need to have the permanent address, phone number, e-mail, fax number, etc. of your leader. We will send all original documents to this person.

**Obtain the students names,** listed by grade and school. DO NOT request phone numbers or addresses. We made our request through the central offices of our local school district on a Public Information Request Form. This request was in accordance with the Texas Open Records Act. We were never asked the reason for our request. Pray fervently about obtaining these names.

**Request Wall of Prayer materials.** These include introduction brochure, quarterly prayer guides and letters, and signup sheets. We will provide originals of quarterly prayer guides and letters at least two weeks before the prayer guide is to begin in February, May, August, and November.

**Reproduce the materials.** Initially the cost is pretty minimal. Unless you have all your kids covered immediately (which would be great!); the cost to any organization or business that has a Xerox machine would be minimal. Hopefully different churches will be involved. You may want to divide the year of materials between them, each taking a different quarter. God has always provided for us financially.

**Share the idea** and the Wall of Prayer brochure with as many believers as you can think of. Ask God to lead you to those He has chosen for this ministry. There will be some who will want to share the ministry with other believers. Give them **sign up sheets**. All those who want to adopt a student will need to **PRINT** the information needed. Be sure that the Contact person listed on each sheet is familiar with those who have signed up on that sheet.