



Loving

Some Suggestions for Using 30 Days in Groups or as a Prayer Event

Here are some ways of using 30 Days Booklets for a whole day or part day prayer event. They are ideal for Churches, Home Groups, Prayer Groups, Youth Groups, Sunday Schools etc who want to pray through the 30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World booklet – but who may only meet weekly or fortnightly. Below are some options but be creative - make the time slots whatever length suits your group or prayer event.

Whole Day – Option 1: (Good for Churches or Youth)

Have a day of prayer from 6.00 am to 9.00 pm on one day.

This is 15 hours of prayer divided by 30 Days making 30 minutes of prayer for each day of Ramadan.

Maybe call it "30 Minutes for 30 Days" or something catchy and inviting.

Optional – add an extra 30 minutes at the end of the day and pray for the Muslims in your suburb or in NZ.

Whole Day – Option 2: (Good for Churches or Youth)

Have a day of prayer from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm on one day.

This is 7.5 hours of prayer divided by 30 Days making 15 minutes of prayer for each day of Ramadan.

Optional – add an extra 15 – 30 minutes at the end of the day and pray for the Muslims in your suburb or in NZ.

Part Day or Evening – Option 3: (Good for Home Groups or Prayer Groups)

Set aside 2.5 hours for prayer during the day or in the evening.

This is 2.5 hours of prayer divided by 30 Days making 5 minutes of prayer for each day of Ramadan.

Optional – add an extra 5 - 10 minutes at the end of the prayer time and pray for the Muslims in your suburb or in NZ.

Part Day or Evening – Option 4: (Good for Home Groups or Prayer Groups)

Set aside 1.5 hours for prayer during the day or in the evening.

This is 1.5 hours of prayer divided by 30 Days making 3 minutes of prayer for each day of Ramadan.

Optional – add an extra 3 - 6 minutes at the end of the prayer time and pray for the Muslims in your suburb or in NZ.

Suggested Procedure for Whole Day Prayer Events:

- 1. Have one overall event coordinator** with several prayer coordinators who are responsible for overseeing and leading prayer eg 2 hours at a time. This way the load is spread and no one person has to be there for the whole 15 (7.5) hours - unless they want to be.
- 2. Place sign up sheets** in the church foyer etc for the 30 days x 30 min slots (or 30 days x 15 min slots). Encourage people to sign up for however long they want to pray be it 30 minutes or 3 hours, knowing that the prayer focus will change every half hour (or quarter hour).

If they have a particular interest in eg Africa, Middle East or Central Asia etc, they could sign up for the time slots that cover their area of interest.

There are various ways of promoting it - but having a signup sheet means that you know which time slots will be covered and which time slots you will need to fill. See the sample signup sheet below and adjust it for your event.

Some other suggestions for promoting this prayer event:

- posters on church noticeboards
- notices in church newsletters
- powerpoint slides for notices in church
- speaker in church
- invite home groups to run a section of the prayer event
- invite other local churches to join you

3. For the prayer event:

Be creative - there are lots of different things that can be done to set the scene, to encourage prayer and understanding. Here are some suggestions:

- Set aside a prayer room and decorate it appropriately.
- Have plenty of 30 Days Prayer Booklets available.
- Have a central board in the prayer room where the prayer topic is changed each 30 (15) minutes. (This could easily be done by enlarging each page of 30 days from A5 to A3 or by using a Data projector to show the pdf version of the 30 Days booklet found in the folder named '30 Days Booklets from Previous Years'.
- Set up specific prayer stations around the room to pray for the different Focus Areas in the 30 Days booklet, or choose different prayer themes related to the Muslim world.
- Have prayer mats available.
- Have maps available for showing the region being prayed for ie use a data projector, or a large atlas.
- Have a data projector showing a continuous loop powerpoint of images from the Muslim World to assist people in their contemplation and prayer or put posters and pictures on the walls.
- Have a stand with testimonies from MBB's to encourage people that God does answer our prayers.
- Read out testimonies from time to time during the prayer period.
- Have people remove their shoes before coming inside to pray.
- Have plenty of tea, coffee and cold water available for those who are praying or perhaps even some Middle Eastern treats eg dates, Turkish delight, nuts etc.

Suggested Procedure for Part Day/Evening Prayer Events:

For the shorter prayer periods, give the prayer material to those attending ahead of time so they have read the material for the slots they are allocated to lead and are primed to pray for a particular area/people group etc.

30 Days Just for Kids:

The 30 Days children's material could even be used in a similar way, perhaps spreading it over the Sundays during Ramadan. 30 Days Just for Kids booklets are available from MARN or use the PDF file found on the 30 Days Resource CD.

(These ideas came from the Missions Pastor of a church in Auckland, New Zealand.)