

Prayer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We recognize that Prayer is the bedrock and foundation of any ministry including RCCG HOG. Therefore, as a church, ministers, workers and members have to develop a culture of prayer as a corporate body, in our units and as individuals.

We have identified strengths in this area in HOG which include: the existence of the intercessory group, the regular prayer meetings and the prayer sessions of the different units e.g. Ushers, GV, MOF, and DOZ.

In spite of these strengths, we have seen weaknesses and threats that undermine the effectiveness of these strengths such as poor attendance of meetings, lack of discipline of leadership and the workforce, lack of training of workers prior to joining the workforce and non engagement of members or apathy as regards church prayer events and prayer as a whole.

We have placed emphasis on the following to getting to the end goal of making our prayer ministry as a church more effective

- Discipline
- Workers training
- Time management
- Communicating the reason behind the prayer activities we organize to people (such as Gethsemane Summit, Turning Point, prayer meeting, and intercessory meeting) and getting leaders to engage their members as well
- Improved logistics of getting people to attend the prayer events/activities. Logistics such as awareness, reminders, bus transportation, carpooling, etc.
- Effective intercessory ministry

We recognize that the workforce is the model for the entire congregation and if our workforce lacks discipline, it is ultimately impossible to engage the entire congregation.

Our recommendations and path to execution is outlined as follows...

RECOMMENDATION

The following is the recommendation for the Prayer Group. These recommendations can be applied from a short-term to long term basis.

Recommendation	Goal	Execution Path	Range (short-, mid-, long-term)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Workers and ministers have to be trained to understand the importance of prayer in their service in HOG -Discipline in attending workers meeting on Sunday morning - DOZ, MOF and Synergy leaders work hand in hand with the leadership to encourage their members to pray and be more committed -Get all the church members committed to praying for the house 	To strengthen the prayer life of HOG as a whole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a formal workers training for members of HOG either centrally or via the units where emphasis on prayers and attending the church prayer meetings are part of the requirements of their service. These requirements should come with penalties for not obeying. • Ministers and workers should be mandated to attend the workers meeting on Sundays • Ministers and workers should be encouraged to attend at least one weekly meeting. If a worker does not attend a weekly meeting, appropriate disciplinary measures can be communicated and taken. Also if unable to attend, you should be accountable to your HOD or minister in charge. • The monthly prayer meeting of MOF and DOZ should to be revitalized and members should be encouraged to lead these meetings which will encourage ownership. • Prayer Department/ Intercessory group should send a prayer text to members on behalf of the church 	Short-term Mid-term Long-term

		once every month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide regular teaching on prayer and the benefits of corporate prayer on Sundays 	
- The timing of events should be considered and emphasis should be placed on time management - Awareness of programs need to be improved and the purpose of such programs revisited - Means of transportation to programs need to be more effective	To make prayer meetings and events more effective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting turning point earlier can be considered • We should accurately stipulate meetings durations and start and end punctually (e.g. People leading Hour of power should be conscious that it is from 7-8 pm and it shouldn't exceed the time) • A digital flier for Turning point and Prayer events (Gethsemane summit and Peniel encounter) should be made and projected several weeks prior to the event as people remember things visually • Reminders should be sent via text messages and emails 2 days prior to an event and the day of the event. The church email and phone directory need to be updated regularly as some members do not get reminders • A person has to be designated to be in charge of transportation that will be the liaison for all members that need transportation to get to church. If we have a coordinating center then the church bus will be more effectively utilized. 	Short term Mid-term Long-term
-We recognize that we have a set of committed members but believe we can still encourage our	To have a thriving Intercessory group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a timetable for members to lead 	Short term Mid-term

members to be more committed -Time conscious -Continue to reach out to recruit new members - Have an avenue to engage the church members to pray and testify to answered prayers		intercessory prayer times such that members are encouraged to grow. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer Department/Intercessory team should have a coordinated guideline for prayers over the course of a quarter or year so that members are moving towards a common goal or merged focus. • Be more time conscious except for instances when the Holy Spirit leads us to pray longer. • Have members reach out to other members who have a heart for prayer to join intercessory. • Prayer department should introduce a prayer points slip for each week that will be given to people on Sundays to pray about for the week and submit prayer points Encourage people to testify to answered prayers • Intercessory prayers prior to church service can be merged with workers meeting which will be coordinated by the intercessory team. 	Long-term

WORKSHEET

Append your “cleaned up” worksheet below.

Strengths	Sub headings		Notes
	Prayer	Intercessory	The Intercessory team in house of glory is made up of members who are dedicated to seeing the vision of the pastor for HOG as inspired by the Holy Spirit come to pass. The primary aim is to stand in the gap for HOG as a church as we pray the will of God to pass. Meeting times are Thursday after hour of power and

			<p>Sundays before service. Aim to start quarterly prayer chains among members this year.</p> <p>Prayer focus this year has been on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Love (1 Corinthians 13) -Enlargement (Isaiah 54: 2-3) -Prosperity (Zech 1: 17) - Being a testimony of Christ (Isaiah 43:21) -Spiritual maturity (Heb 5: 11 -14; Heb 6: 1 - 2) -Project Haggai <p>Way forward: Continue to ensure that as a unit, focus is primarily on the vision of God for the church as revealed by the Pastor and the needs of the congregation as led by the Holy spirit.</p>
		Prayer	<p>The church has several Prayer meetings and groups that are separate from the Intercessory meeting; These meetings include Yearly meeting: Gethsemane summit and Peniel Encounter Monthly: Turning Point night vigil, DOZ, MOF Weekly: Hour of Power, Glory Voices, Ushers</p> <p>Way forward: These meetings are essential to the health and growth of the church and its members and it should continue to hold.</p>
Weaknesses	Relationship	Favoritism tends to occur	<p>We essentially identified this as a problem of relationship and disconnect with leadership.</p> <p>Way forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A church divided against itself cannot stand and members need to understand that they are loved and the primary focus should be to withstand all avenues of strife and seek meaningful loving relationship with the leadership and fellow members -Leadership needs to cautiously look inward to establish good relationship with members of their teams and treat all members with love and openness. -Love should be emphasized and be our watchword in HOG
	Logistics	Prayer times, membership	<p>Problems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sunday morning intercessory prayer has not been consistent -Low attendance to all meetings. <p>Fact findings identified... Apathy, transportation issues, lack of finance/fuel for cars, awareness, non optimal reminders, job schedule /hours are the primary reasons why people do not attend the meetings</p> <p>Lack of Discipline</p> <p>Way forward:</p>

			<p>-Discipline is needed and it has to begin with all leaders and workers in HOG. It is encouraged that all workers and leaders should be mandated to attend at least one weekly meeting and if unable to attend should notify their HOD or leader who is held accountable for the absence of his/her members</p> <p>-In terms of Awareness: fliers should be made for upcoming programs (e.g. Gethsemane summit, Peniel Encounter and Turning Points) which should be projected regularly on Sundays prior to the day of the meeting. This will keep meetings in the forefront of people's mind especially as people remember things visually as opposed to dependence on church bulletin and announcements. Also the theme and prayer focus of the meetings should be expounded to the congregation before the meeting.</p> <p>-Reminders: Church member phone directory need to be updated as some people do not get phone reminders and the text reminders for Turning point need to be sent out 2 days before the meeting and the night before/morning of the meeting</p> <p>-Members of MOF and DOZ need to do a better job of reminding their members of their prayer meetings and meeting consistently to pray</p> <p>-Time: Turning point should be moved to 10:30 pm</p> <p>-Transportation: Assign a minister/ leader that will be in charge of transportation issues /bus in the church who will be the go to person for members that need transportation to church meetings and prayer meetings</p> <p>- Prayer before service; Combine both workers meetings and intercessory prayer meeting before Sunday service to one meeting that holds at 9:30 am that is overseen by the intercessory group.</p> <p>-Make Workers meeting compulsory for worker and leaders of HOG and absence should be punishable or if unable to attend, let their HODS know who is held accountable</p>
Opportunities		Consistent prayer	<p>Below are some invaluable opportunities and recommendations to inspire consistent prayer in HOG</p> <p>-Provide regular teaching on prayer and the benefits of cooperate prayer on Sundays</p> <p>-Introduce the mix of musical worship and praise during prayer sessions</p> <p>-Encourage people to testify on answered prayer that was a request during prayer meetings</p> <p>-Appoints some people that will always send a prayer text to members on behalf of the church once every month</p> <p>-Introduce a prayer slip for each week that will be given to people on Sundays to pray about for the week and also add a space for individual to write their personal prayers for the week and another space to record Gods answers to their prayers. this is to build our personal prayer life and overall increase the interest of people for prayer meetings</p>

Threats		All listed weaknesses	Continue as a body to pray for all listed and identified weaknesses in the church
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